

How to make room for all of your belongings

EXPERT VIEW

Walk-in wardrobes

Simon Tcherniak, senior furniture designer
at Neville Johnson

“ If you have a large bedroom, you could create a walk-in wardrobe with a simple stud wall with (or without) a door opening. Or, if you have a spare bedroom, you could knock a wall through. Alternatively, if you have a really long room, you may be able to create a walk-in wardrobe in between an en suite and the bedroom, so you can dress en route from the bathroom. Whatever the layout of your room, however, you'll need at least 4x3m to create a walk-in wardrobe, giving you the space to organise storage effectively.

Start by looking at how much you want to store and what space you have. You can then decide on the storage that is right for you. For example, two rows for short hanging then a space for long hanging works well. Many of us don't allow enough height for hanging: 2,070mm internal height is recommended.

When creating a clutter-free space, look for ways to keep similar items together and easily visible. Deep drawers are great for objects such as handbags and bedding, while pull-out shelves help you make use of deep spaces. Shoe carousels and tie racks are useful and pull-down hanging rails are a clever way of using the height of a wall as well as being easily accessible.

Internal lighting adds a sense of luxury. LEDs can be recessed or placed in housing and covered with a diffuser to give you an even light while picking outfits. ”

FEATURE SOPHIE BAYLIS



news



Even if you are short of space, you don't have to compromise on looks. Big up a bijoux bathroom with the new Rexa Design Compact Living range at Day True. **From £8,000**

STASH WITH STYLE

Just because it's functional, doesn't mean it can't be eye-catching. (From top) Channel the spirit of iconic Ibiza institution Pikes hotel with this faux-leather **bar trunk**, £595, Rockett St George. Pretty and practical, the Omnioutil **storage bucket** is tough enough for inside and out, £33, Amara. This **terracotta shelf**, £35, is from one of our favourite new online destinations - Artists & Objects, which champions UK-based makers.

**LITTLE BLACK BOOK
THE PLACES TO SHOP**

1 Aram Store London's favourite contemporary design destination never disappoints with its extensive storage offering. Find the smart Montana and practical USM brands here.

2 Calligaris If you, like us, believe that storage should be functional as well as cutting a dash, then head straight to this Italian stalwart.

3 String The iconic modular shelving system is unchanged since its inception in 1949; modern and timeless, it easily adapts to any space.



Kids will need very little (okay, slightly less) persuading to hang up their clothes, thanks to this zingy rail – also in Pink and Mint Green – with sturdy rack for stowing footwear. **£338, Smallable**

Cupboard love

For timeless storage, you can't go wrong with Pinch, known for its understated, brilliantly crafted pieces. Standout designs include its Joyce cabinet, seen here rocking the new Black Out lacquer exterior. **£7,945 with European oak with white oil interior; or £8,150 in black American walnut interior with lacquer finish**



HEAVY METAL
If you're looking for storage with a utility chic vibe, you're in luck. The Mikko small sideboard nails industrial style with its iron body, polished white marble top and glass doors for showcasing favourite pieces. And it's finished off with scroll-shaped legs inspired by more traditional styles. We're crushing on the drawers that open to the side, adding an extra twist. **£650, Graham and Green**

**EXPERT VIEW
Hidden storage**

Interior designer Clare Gaskin, founder of Clare Gaskin Interiors

“**Eye-level options are particularly useful in bathrooms.** Mirrors above basins, mirror walls with a push mechanism or a more traditional hinged opening can be inset into wall cavities. This is particularly useful for situations where the wall needs to be built out for relevant pipework, such as wall-mounted taps and/or a concealed cistern. **Traditional wall panelling can be introduced to a variety of rooms, with panels designed to conceal cupboards or even rooms.** I saw an incredible listed property that had secret cupboards concealed behind the traditional wooden panels so this isn't a new invention. **In kitchens that are tight on space, plinth drawers can be great for storing shallow items such as roasting trays.** Banquette seating can be designed with drawers or lift-up storage – consider what you're wanting to store, how often you need to access it and also how easy it will be to do so. Sometimes drawers can work really well; other times, with a heavy table in the way, access from the top is best. **Any available wall recesses can be used for storage in the hallway, with discreet knobs or push-catches for access.** Larger voids might be able to accommodate a coat cupboard, while smaller voids may offer just enough space for keys. Every little counts! **Ottoman-style beds or beds with drawers are great for stowing bulky items like bed linen and towels.** When a bed is set into the eaves, bedside nooks can be carved out of these spaces.”



WONDER WALLS
The customisable My Suite closet from Porada is truly a wonder to behold. Fashioned from canaletta walnut with pewter and leather details, it's the height of storage sophistication. **From £12,950, Porada at Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour**

RED ALERT

Proving that storage shouldn't be merely functional, Ligne Roset has revealed 13 new lacquer colours for its popular Book & Look sideboard, which still maintains its droolworthy status more than a decade after its launch. This warming shade of deep brick red – which goes by the name of Brisque – gets our vote. **£3,883**



Natural materials bring the warmth and texture to interiors that we're all craving. Rock an effortlessly chic yet bohemian look with the modern-rustic weathered cedar frame and rattan drawer fronts of the Willow chest of drawers. **£795, Loaf**

