

# BEDROOM

## SPACE PLANNING & DECORATING TIPS

**Congratulations** you are now ready to embark on an exciting course of space planning and home design. Whether creating the perfect master bedroom, a romantic getaway or a comfortable guestroom, bedrooms are a retreat from today's busy world. When designing a bedroom space here are a few inside tips to help make the process go a little easier and the room function the best way possible. This kit was designed for both the master bedroom and guest bedrooms.

**the inspiration** The first place to begin is with your vision for the space.

- Inspiration can be found in a number of places. Check current design magazines and catalogs for inspirational images and visit design centers and show homes to help you decide which colors, styles and design vision you have for your space. The web is also a great resource.
- Obtain input from those who share your home with you and try to incorporate the design ideas that blend most effectively with your vision for the room.
- Strive to change things that you don't like about the current room with your new design.

**the function** How will the room be used?

- Brainstorm and create multiple versions of the room; edit carefully and combine ideas to create your best design.
- When designing, think about the space for movement, leave adequate room to move between furniture comfortably.
- Do you need room for clothing storage, lounging, reading, exercising or watching TV?
- If this is a guest room, think about the things you would like to have in the space if you were the guest, such as a basket of towels, a space to hang clothes, a rack for the suitcase and even a stack of great books.
- Think about connecting spaces, if you have an adjoining master bath; consider how each room will work visually with the other.
- Extra functional considerations - does your room also need to function as a home office, is there space for a juice bar or will you exercise in the space?

**the bed** Start the space plan with the placement of the most important element in a bedroom, the bed.

- For an updated look, move the bed away from the wall or place on an angle; keep in mind that traditional night stands may not fit.
- For a more traditional design, place the bed against a prominent wall with room for bedside tables.
- For a "new" old look in a guest room, try twin beds dressed with gorgeous linens.
- When space is tight consider a Murphy Bed that can be hidden away during the day; you will want to space plan the full bed size to make sure it fits properly when pulled down.
- To create more storage in the space move the bed away from the wall and add a divider behind the bed or as a headboard to create a lot of storage in a small amount of space.

**the furniture** Today's rooms are more eclectic than ever which gives you so much decorating flexibility.

- For smaller rooms choose fewer pieces of furniture and opt for pieces that provide multiple functions such as a bench with storage or a chair for TV and clothing.
- To update an existing bed, pair it with two different bedside tables.
- If you are working with a bedroom suit, you can change the look with new linens and pillows.
- To create a new look, mix and match furniture pieces to create your own style.
- If you like to read; try a lounger with a floor lamp; if you watch television; place an armoire in perfect view from the bed and if your closet does not have dresser space; locate dressers to accommodate your apparel.
- When designing a guest room include empty storage (dresser drawers, bathroomshelves, closets, armoires); use a luggage rack or trunk for resting luggage. Make sure you have room to store guest linens and accessories (towels, linens, soap, pillows, etc.) include a bedside table with reading lamp, a basket of towels or a desk with internet access.
- Consider creating an eclectic mix by reusing furniture from other areas of your home. A console table can work as a beautiful side table in a grand bedroom and a sideboard can work in the bedroom, perhaps as a place for a flat screen TV or even more storage.

**the accessories & lighting** The accessories can be important to the room design as the bed and dresser.

- If shelving is available bring together like items or colors to create a visually pleasing display, it is best to work with an uneven number of pieces in the group such as three or five.
- Add an oversized framed mirror to sit on the floor or on top of a dresser to make the room appear larger.
- Always ensure proper task mood and general lighting fixtures.
- When determining window treatments think about how you will enhance or block natural light.
- Candles are ideal for mood lighting and can be placed around the space.
- Consider converting from a ceiling light or fan to a chandelier for a dramatic look.
- Bedside lamps no longer have to match; pick two different styles, but make sure the metals or the shades are the same or similar colors.
- To define the space you can place an area rug under the bed or sitting area.
- For bedrooms that require a television, place where best seen from the bed, there are now television stands that house the TV and appear when remotely triggered as well as flat screen TV's that can attach to the wall and be hidden by a piece of art or tapestry.
- Don't forget the ceiling during the decorating process; consider details like a faux finish, trompe l'oeil or rope lighting within try ceilings.

From the CANVAS design team