



Happily Better After Room Redesign & Home Staging

Anyone can have the home of their dreams - sometimes it just takes a little magic!



Creating a Home Office That Works

Whether you work from home full-time or part-time, having an attractive, organized place to work can play a big role in your productivity and professional image. If your home office is cluttered, disorganized, and unattractive, you're likely to feel stress and frustration before you even sit down to do any work! To make your office a place where you can really get down to business, check out these tips for creating an efficient, appealing workspace.

Furniture

Make sure you have the right furniture and equipment so you can easily perform all the tasks your work requires. Multi-functional pieces like desks with hutches or credenzas with shelves or drawers are great for providing the work and storage space you need.



Equipment Placement

The ergonomic principle of the "work triangle" commonly used when designing a kitchen layout can be similarly applied to your office space. Place frequently used items (phone, printer, and light,

for example) in convenient areas on or close to your desk.



Cord Management

The introduction of wireless devices has reduced the number of cords that become a tangled mess on the floor or behind our desks, but managing the few that remain can still be a challenge. Fortunately, there are a variety of inexpensive, readily available products that keep cords neat, tangle-free, and out of sight.

Processing and Storage Areas

If you regularly process a lot of paperwork, need space to write or draw, or need an area where you can pack outgoing shipments, your office should include counter space or a table where you can spread out and work effectively. Also make sure that your office has ample and organized storage space for supplies and equipment that you use often.

Private & Collaborative Work Areas

If you work with a partner or assistant, each person needs their own space in which to perform

Creating a Home Office That Works

their individual duties, and you'll need to designate a common space where you can sit together for meetings or to work together on projects. If space is tight, consider furniture that can expand when you need to collaborate, and collapse or fold away when you work separately.

Reception Areas

Even in a home office, occasionally a client, vendor, or business associate may need to visit, so it's good to have an attractive area separate from your workspace where you can greet them and chat briefly.



Adding Style

Regardless if you're drawn to traditional, casual, modern, contemporary, or eclectic styles, your office should reflect your personality, while looking coordinated and balanced. To achieve a polished, pulled-together look, steal these secrets of professionally decorated offices:

- **Color:** Strong vibrant colors increase energy and encourage creativity and innovation, while muted colors soothe and facilitate concentration and analysis. Combining bold and subtle colors in the right proportions creates a dynamic that achieves both.
- **Finishes:** Your furnishings don't have to match exactly, but they should relate to and

complement each other, especially when you have work areas for more than one person. Your office shouldn't look like you got everything from a garage sale. It's worth the investment to get coordinated furniture; you'll feel more confident, competent, and professional, even if you're the only one who works in your office.

- **Lighting:** Don't underestimate the importance of adequate lighting in your workspace. When natural light isn't sufficient, add desk and/or table lamps to provide illumination for tasks, as well as style and ambience.
- **Decorative Accents:** No one wants to work in a sterile environment that only has functional furniture and office equipment. Adding artwork, plants, and tabletop accessories gives your office personality. When it comes to decorating your office, choose a few significant pieces – rather than several non-descript ones – to deliver visual interest and impact.

If the thought of doing it all yourself seems a bit overwhelming, call us for expert advice. Whether you need assistance arranging your office furniture and equipment, choosing a paint color and the right accessories, or help with the entire process, we'll make sure you are happy with your makeover project.

Contact us at **609.880.9682** to create a home office that works!

Happily Better After works with homeowners who desperately want to change or update their home's décor but don't need or want to purchase all new furnishings. We create attractive rooms that let each client's distinct personality shine through. By working with us, our clients receive a fresh, new look for their home at a fraction of the cost of traditional redecorating.