

# Make the most of your BEDROOM FURNITURE

Whether you have a large master suite or a small guest room to refurbish, we'll show you how to transform the space into a stylish and dynamic design

Words: **Yvette Filer**



Many master bedrooms now have an ensuite, which can be designed complementary to the rest of your home. Draks' Leyford doors start from £1,740.



## Master bedroom

This space should feel like your very own sanctuary, a retreat to unwind from the outside world. "A messy bedroom will not only affect how fast you fall asleep, but the quality too," says sleep expert and owner of Bed Guru, Carl Walsh. "The room should have no clutter, and only include items that help you sleep better." Start by opting for the largest bed that will fit. That's not to say it should entirely dominate – you'll want to ensure you have enough room to walk around – but the bigger your bed, the more likely you are to sleep well. Once the frame has been chosen, the master suite can really be tailored to you. Fitted furniture not only helps maximise every inch of space, it can also be designed around the contents of your wardrobe if you go for a bespoke solution. To customise the space even further, choose pieces in your favourite patterns and colours, like a statement headboard or a stylish chest of drawers. "It's important to also consider the finer details," says Lucy Pascall, director at Pushka Home. "For example, by changing your wardrobe door handles or switching out the drawer knob on your bedside table, you can personalise your furniture and make the space feel truly your own." >



Ridley chest of drawers, £1250, The Dormy House

Valerie ottoman storage bench in Ivory White beech and brass, £219, Cult Furniture



Octavia Luxe Champagne velvet king-size bed with storage, £829, Danetti



Monza dressing table in patina oak, £860, Ercol

Champagne silk pillowcase, £60, Sock & Sleep



## Guest bedroom

Take inspiration from hotel rooms when designing this space, so you can offer guests an enjoyable stay. You have more licence to be creative here, though you'll still want to include obvious pieces of furniture: a comfortable bed, side tables, somewhere for guests to hang their clothes, and a mirror and lighting for getting ready. But it also needs to work well for your day-to-day lifestyle. More often than not, a guest bedroom will be used for multiple purposes. Perhaps this is where you store your bedding and out-of-season clothing, or you may have turned it into a home office. Clever, multi-functional furniture can work well here. Wall beds have come a long way in recent years, with many now offering extra functionality such as desks and shelving when not in use, as well as slim designs that do not encroach into the floor area when folded away. You may want to also consider furniture that can serve dual purposes. Could a dressing table double up as a desk? A bedside light may work as a desk lamp, and while typical office chair might look displaced, a soft yet ergonomic upholstered design could fit right in. >



Hidden storage in a small room can work wonders. Sunday bed, £1,600. Turin bedside tables, £580 each. all [Sofa.com](#)



## Small bedroom

You might not get everything you want into a compact space, but there can be more to these types of rooms than first meets the eye. "If storage is an absolute must, there are two types of beds which can help keep your floor clutter free," says Patricia Gibbons, designer at [Sofa.com](#). "For everyday use, divan styles are best as the drawers are easily accessible – but if you need a seasonal change of clothing, or to store duvets and blankets, an ottoman is the one for you. The storage is vast and can hold countless sets of bedding, Christmas presents and suitcases."

The more floor area you can keep free the better, as this helps create the illusion that the room is bigger than it really is. A lot can be done with the furniture, too. Multi-functional pieces and those with hidden features are ideal – like a bedside table with a place for your books, or a bench with built-in storage. "Pick units crafted from light, organic materials such as natural wood to create a clean, nature-inspired feel," suggests Nick Atkin of Atkin and Thyme. "Mirrors with storage are ideal, too – not only do they add a decorative touch, they can also be used to bounce light around the room and open up dark or cramped corners."



Max storage bed in Alpaca Porcelain, £890. Furl.



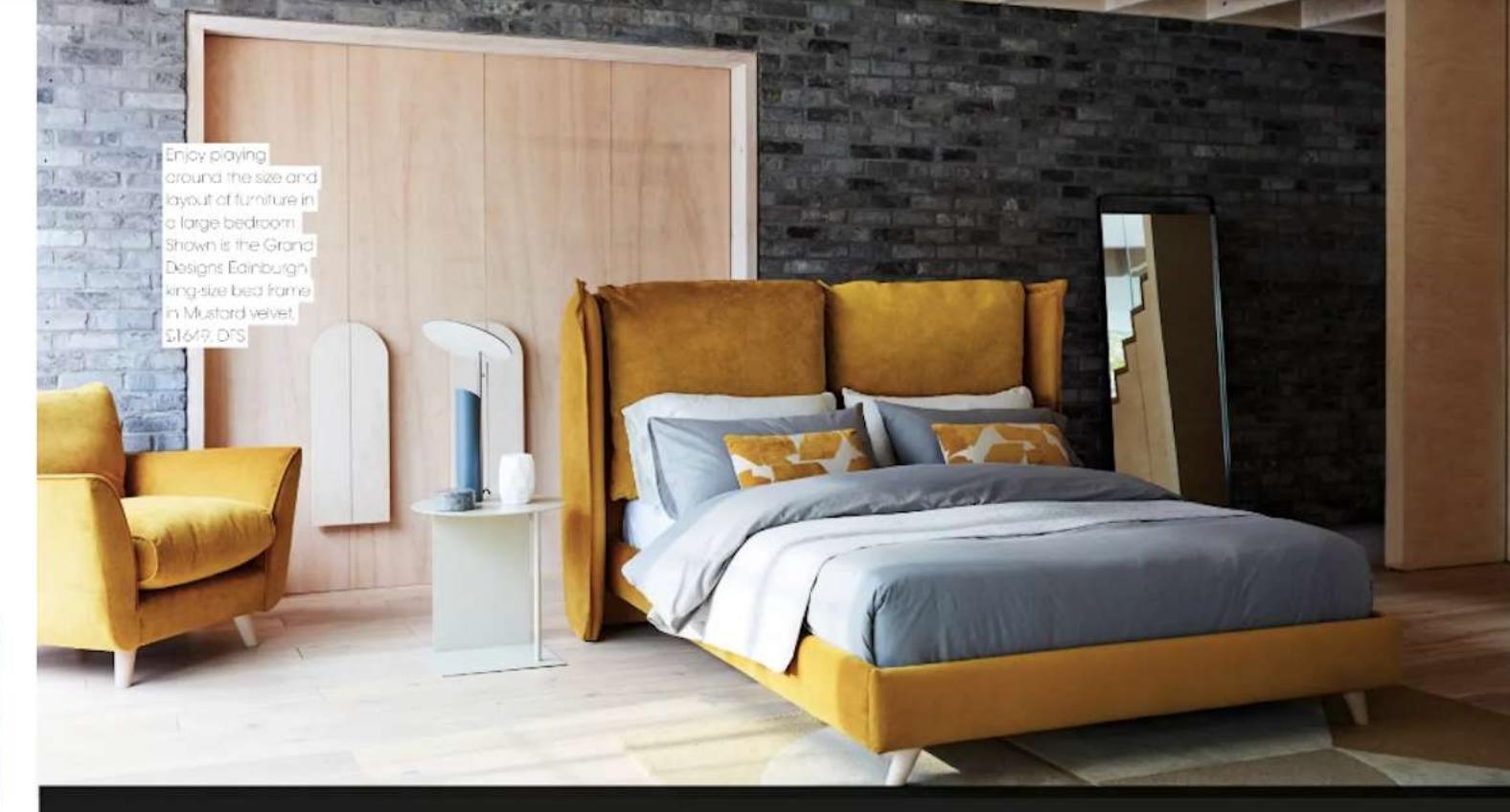
Kanno - Willow wall light, £340. Tom Raffield

Amberley one-door narrow wardrobe painted in Little Boy Blue, £865. The Painted Furniture Company

Industrial mirror with shelf, £49. Where Scents Go



Bloomin' Marvellous wallpaper in Duchess Pink, £150 per roll. Divine Savages



Enjoy playing around the size and layout of furniture in a large bedroom. Shown is the Grand Designs Edinburgh king-size bed frame in Mustard velvet, £1619. DFS

## Large bedroom

The key in these spaces is to zone them with furniture, as Crown Imperial's designer Sophie Devonald explains: "In a large master suite, for example, frame the bed with fitted furniture and a statement headboard to create a stylish focal point." You can also create a dedicated area for getting ready, including a dressing table, chair and valet stand. If possible, keep it close to the windows so you can benefit from natural light, and bring in shelving or a room divider for privacy and to help with zoning.

Larger bedrooms can often afford plenty of freestanding furniture – so you might prefer a standalone wardrobe or a chest of drawers to inject some style and character. You may even be able to fit a comfortable bench at the end of the bed, or within a bay window. Try to pick out pieces that work with its dimensions. That might be an impressive headboard, a large rug, or a freestanding lamp with an oversized shade. >



Salina bed, from £1,350; chest, £1450; bedside cabinet, £430. Ercol



Parquet brushed and glazed solid oak triple wardrobe, £999.99. Oak Furnitureland

Nomad Tarfa rug, £169. Weaver Green

Kramer floor lamp in antique brass, £240. with Oregon Stripes orange washed lampshades, from £220. Mindthegap

Norel low shelving unit in oak, £525. Made

Effe two-seater loveseat sofa in Rose Pink velvet, £495. Cult Furniture



Harris flex bed in Sanderson Sailocats, £1699, The Headboard Workshop



Having essentials close to hand in a nursery can be helpful. Harlequin shelf, £90, Cam Cam Copenhagen.



## Children's bedroom

Designing a kids space can be a fun and creative process – the colours and prints often make it so – but there's also a lot to consider in terms of practicalities. It tends to be one of the smaller spaces in a house, so multi-functional furniture is beneficial. If you are planning a nursery, bear in mind the space needs to work just as well for you as it does for your baby. A changing table with essentials close to hand is a must, and a rocking chair is also likely to be a staple. A cot that turns into a toddler bed will save you on buying both separately, though you'll want to make sure the frame and mattress conform with British safety standards before investing. As your child gets older, the room should be a safe yet inspiring space – appropriate to sleep, get ready, and play. Having bookshelves and toy storage accessible can be great for harnessing their independence, as is creating cosy nooks and reading corners. "Children's tastes are likely to chop and change over time, so try to consider ways to add in flexibility to change things up," says Adam Brown, director at The Painted Furniture Company. [PAGE 78](#)