

Roomy ideas add extra living space

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pose beams to create a cathedral ceiling.

Build a bookshelf just deep enough for paperbacks along a narrow hallway.

LIGHT COLORS are your allies because they make your small space seem larger. Use one color scheme and one floor covering throughout the entire home.

If the carpeting in your living room is beige, tile the kitchen with beige, as well. And if floors are painted, paint baseboards to match them instead of

the walls for another optical illusion.

If you choose patterned wallpaper or upholstery, make sure the pattern is small. Furniture covered in the same fabric as drapes and then positioned in front of them appears to take up less space.

TO CREATE added interest in a monochromatic room, depend on contrasting textures, such as lace, velvet and tweed.

Take advantage of your windows by leaving them uncovered, if possible. For privacy, choose blinds, Roman shades, swag and jabot or balloon shades to avoid using precious space for heavy draperies.

If you do use traditional curtains, matching their color to that of the wall or their print to the wallpaper will make them seem to disappear.

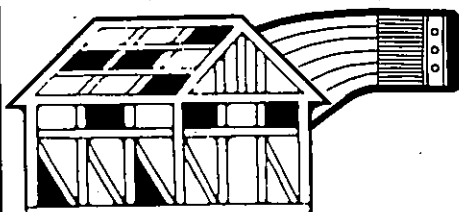
USE ARTIFICIAL lighting to advantage. Pull sofas and chairs out from the wall and put floor lamps behind them. Open up dark corners with can lighting placed behind a potted plant and beamed upward. Illuminate wall hangings.

Use wall-mounted lighting when possible, such as over your bed, to free up space on tables. A lamp suspended over a dining table that shares living room space will draw attention away from the rest of the area.

Try a little *trompe l'oeil*. Mirrors have long been known to create the illusion of doubling space. Cover a whole wall with mirrored squares, or mount one panel behind a shelf of plants to create a conservatory effect. Comb antique stores for a mantle mirror to use as a headboard.

Position mirrors to reflect the most attractive angle of the room, such as a window or a piece of artwork. Hang a cluster of ornamental mirrors for a spectacular effect, or double the length of a hallway with a mirror at the end. It is a good idea to position a table or plant in front of this one for both safety and interest.

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