



These Are The Best And Worst Small Space Hacks Of All Time



BY KELSEY MULVEY

UPDATED MAY 20 2020

25



Photographed by Angel Tucker.

As dedicated design enthusiasts, we have a complicated relationship with small spaces. In a perfect world, we'd live in a huge home, complete with multiple rooms, a massive closet, and a sprawling backyard. However, small spaces give us the unique challenge of packing in a lot of style into teeny, tiny quarters. All you need is a good vision, some creativity, and a few helpful hacks on hand to make a petite home feel fun and fresh.

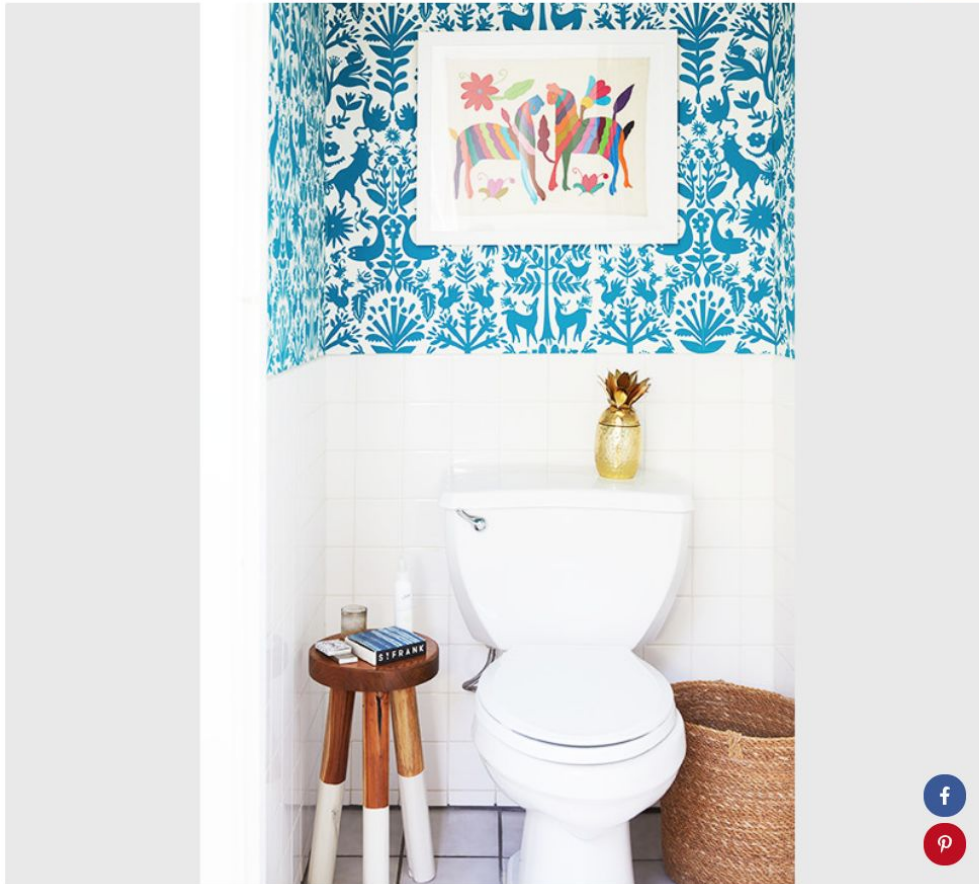
Over the past few years, both professional designers and discerning DIY lovers have thought of easy, affordable ways to make the most of their square footage. Whether you want to turn a shoebox-sized studio into a full-functioning apartment or add some storage to your little kitchen, there's bound to be a small-space solution for your decorating dilemma.

That being said, not all hacks are created equal. While there are some tricks that make the most of your small space, others can inadvertently make your room feel tinier. In honor of our [Small Spaces month](#), we asked a handful of interior designers to share the best (and worst) hacks of all time. From the correct use of mirrors to where to place your furniture to how much storage is *too* much storage, the list below has its fair share of hot takes.

It's important to keep in mind that no two small spaces are the same, so not every designer-approved tip will work in your place. However, if you're looking to take your tiny quarters up a couple of notches, the hacks ahead will offer endless inspiration.

Best Hack: Pattern Play

8 / 25



Photographed by Erin Kunkel.

ICYMI, your small space shouldn't be devoid of all personality.

"Sometimes, people settle for paint on the walls and ceiling," says Genevieve Trousdale, founder of Los Angeles-based firm [Circa Genevieve](#). "Small spaces are ideal areas to pack in a little excitement with wallpaper into an ordinary vestibule or even a laundry room to make your chores easier to endure."

In fact, Trousdale encourages design lovers to pack on the pattern in unexpected nooks and crannies.

"If you have cabinetry filling the walls, use a fun pattern on the ceiling to draw your eye up," she says "While you're at it, complement the pattern with a nice, decorative flush-mount light fixture."

Best Hack: An Organized Oasis

10 / 25



Photographed by Maria del Ro.

We know what you may be thinking: Why does a small home need to be organized to perfection?

"The worst small spaces tend to happen when an organizational system is not consistent," Trousdale says. "If in a mudroom or a [tiny] office, use the same bins to house loose items. Label them so that you or anyone else knows exactly where to find something."

While trends might come and go, this is one small space hack we can certainly get behind.