

# Fun TEEN ROOMS on a Budget!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

## Video Worksheet

**Instructions:** Complete the following statements after watching the video.

1. Talk with your \_\_\_\_\_ about redoing your room.
2. Get your \_\_\_\_\_ opinions.
3. Plan a \_\_\_\_\_ with your parents.
4. Begin by choosing a \_\_\_\_\_ to build your room around.
5. An inexpensive way to make a valance or dresser runner is to make them from a coordinating \_\_\_\_\_.
6. A simple and inexpensive way to change the look of a room is to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Use family heirloom \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Add interest with \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Make you room fit your \_\_\_\_\_.

# Fun TEEN ROOMS on a Budget!

## Teacher's Answer Key

**Instructions:** Complete the following statements after watching the video.

1. Talk with your **parents** about redoing your room.
2. Get your **parents'** opinions.
3. Plan a **budget** with your parents.
4. Begin by choosing a **color, comforter or theme** to build your room around.
5. An inexpensive way to make a valance or dresser runner is to make them from a coordinating **sheet**.
6. A simple and inexpensive way to change the look of a room is to **paint the walls**.
7. Use family heirloom **furniture**.
8. Add interest with **details**.
9. Make you room fit your **personality**.

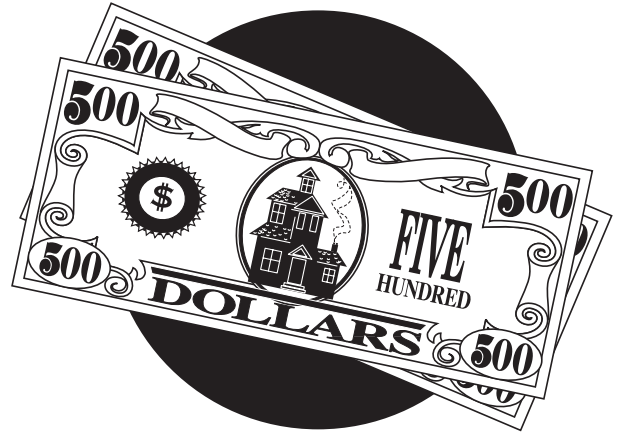
# Fun TEEN ROOMS on a Budget!

## Objective:

Students will create a floor plan and budget for decorating their own bedrooms for \$500 or less.

## Materials:

- Pretend \$500 bills (copy and cut out)
- *Fun Teen Rooms on a Budget!* Video
- Decorating Tips Handouts
- Designing Your Floor Plan Handout & Graph
- Decorating Budget Sheet Handout



## Procedure:

- Give each student a pretend \$500 bill. Tell them this is to be used to decorate their own room.
- Ask students to write down what they would purchase with their \$500 for their room. They should guess at the approximate cost of each item at this time. Anything goes. Give them a few minutes and then ask for volunteers to share what they would purchase. You will get a wide variety of ideas as well as costs.
- Point out how quickly \$500 can be spent and therefore how important it is to set a budget or a plan for spending. A budget is not set in stone, but it is a guide.
- Play the Fun Teen Rooms on a Budget! Video for inspiration. The video will give them decorating ideas from six different teen rooms.
- Distribute copies the Decorating Tips handouts and discuss how students can analyze their own design style while keeping in mind what they have to work with (the size of their room, their \$500 budget, etc.).
- Have students research using decorating magazines, catalogs, and the internet to find ideas and prices of items for their rooms (Use Internet Resources listed, or have students use keywords such as decorating, interior design, teen rooms, etc.)
- Students can also find prices for items at department stores (with sales flyers or on the internet) such as JC Penney, Wal-Mart, Target, etc.

# Assignment: Create a Floor Plan & Budget

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- Distribute copies of the handout Designing Your Floor Plan and the graph. Review with students how they will need to measure their rooms and the things they should consider when designing their floor plan.
- Give students the assignment of using the graph to layout their floor plan.
- Distribute copies of the Decorating Budget Sheet. Ask students to make a list of the materials and furnishings for their room.
- Once they have made a list, they should set an approximate price for each item. Remind them that their overall budget is \$500.
- **Optional:** Have students mount their floor plan on poster paper and include paint color chips, samples of wall and floor coverings, pictures of furniture and upholstery or fabric swatches.
- Have students present their floor plan to the class along with an overview of the colors they chose, the theme for their room, ways they will save money with free or used items, etc.

## Internet Resources

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About: Interior Decorating at <http://interiordec.about.com>

About Decorating.net dedicated to interior decorating and home design tips at <http://www.aboutdecorating.net/>

Better Homes and Garden at <http://www.bhg.com>

Good Home – decorating and color ideas at <http://www.goodhome.com>

Homeadvisor.msn.com

HomeStore.com – decorating ideas at <http://www.homestore.com/decorate>

HouseNet – a good home and garden resource at <http://www.housenet.com>

Lowe's How-To Index at <http://www.lowes.com>

Country Living – Tour a home at <http://www.countryliving.com>

Furniture.com – All types of furniture at <http://www.furniture.com>

Pratt and Lambert at <http://www.prattandlambert.com/>

Waverly –decorating ideas, colors and prints at <http://www.waverly.com>



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# Decorating Tips: Comfort & Style on a Budget!

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There are many ways that you can decorate a room without spending a great deal of money. Following are some tips to help you get more out of your decorating budget:

- **Never overlook using FREE items!**
  - Ask family and friends if you can check their basements and attics for items you might use in your room.
  - Check your neighborhood for free items the day before trash pick up — this is called “dumpster diving” or turning trash into treasures.
  - Many times businesses look for useful ways to dispose of items they no longer need. So ask around at local businesses. A new coat of paint on an old unused table can make a great desk! A flat door on top of two file cabinets works well too.
- Look for inexpensive used furnishings at thrift stores, garage sales, salvage shops, and flea markets. Shop these places early for best selection and late for mark downs.
- Shop at discount stores to find the best deals on new items. You can find discount stores in the classifieds, web pages, and yellow pages.
- Check furniture consignment stores, clearance rooms, and outlet stores for good prices on furniture.
- Carpet remnants, carpet sample squares, and accent rugs make good floor accents without the expense of new flooring.
- An inexpensive way to decorate your room is by using color on your walls. Possible wall coverings are paint, fabric, beaded curtains, wallpaper remnants or samples from decorating stores.
- Use artwork to reinforce your room theme or highlight special interests. Make a collage out of favorite photos (using color photocopies), hang posters, frame photos from old calendars, magazines or books, or make wall hangings from fabric used in your bedding or window treatments.
- Think out of the box for storage! Fun storage ideas don’t have to cost a lot, such as milk crates, plastic storage containers, baskets, peg racks or hanging shelves.
- Other money-saving tips:
  - Ask if there is going to be a sale soon on the item of your interest.
  - Watch for sale brochures in the mail.
  - Bargain on larger items by asking the salesperson for a reduced price.
  - Watch for clearance sales.

# Decorating Tips: Analyzing Your Needs

Start by identifying the things you NEED in the room so that it functions as you intend it to. Then think about other things you WANT to have in the room.

## Larger Spaces

- Do you need an area for doing your homework? If so, you'll want to include that in your plan, and analyze the type of area you need. Your needs may be different if you have a computer, so think about what you will need in your study area.

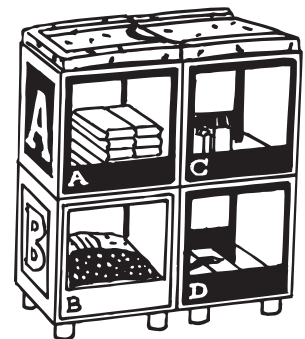


- Maybe you want to include a sitting area for watching TV or entertaining friends. Try a loveseat or futon for that area so it could also serve as a place for a friend to sleep over. A twin mattress on the floor covered in fabric with large pillows for a sofa back against the wall works well too.

## Small Spaces

If your room is a small space with various functions, you will need to think about organization and storage:

- If you need a desk, consider one in an amoire so that it can be closed up when not in use, or put a small desk in an extra closet to utilize space.
- A nightstand that has shelves or drawers will add storage.
- Don't forget the storage space under your bed! Use boxes, or plastic storage bins to store out-of-season clothing, shoes, books, etc. under your bed to cut down on clutter and gain space in your room.
- Take advantage of your "vertical space" by using tall, thin bookcases or dressers.
- Shelving on the walls is a great way to add space for books, photos, knick-knacks, etc.
- Be creative with your storage ideas. If budget is a big concern there are a lot of fun things you can use.



# Decorating Tips: Lifestyle Considerations

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Your room should be comfortable and all about you. When designing your room, you need to be thinking a lot about yourself — your tastes, your goals, your likes and dislikes. Be sure to think about how you will be using the space in day-to-day life:

- Will you be sharing your room with a sibling? If so, how can you compromise to suit both your tastes?
- Do you have friends or study groups over often? If so, you may need to create extra seating. Even extra large pillows, stools, or folding chairs will suffice.
- Really think about your personal lifestyle while living in this space.

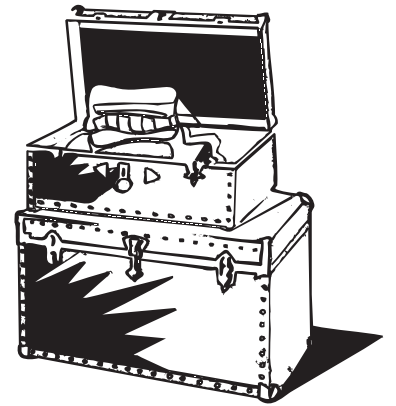


## Personal Style & Color

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Keep in mind to use items and colors that you like and that will enhance the overall feel of the space. For example, if you like antiques, use old suitcases or trunks stacked on top of each other as a nightstand or a table in a seating area. These will also be great places to store off-season clothing, magazines, etc.

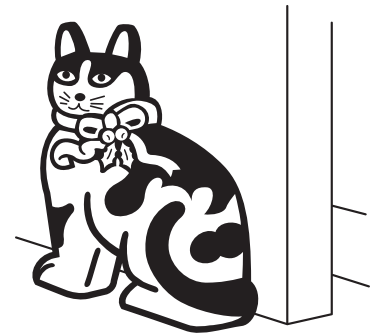
Use color in fabrics of items that you can change, like throw pillows and accessories.



## Discovering Your Design Style

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- When you see a picture of a room or an item that you like, clip it out and start an "idea file." These ideas will give you a head start for finding things that fit your style and personality.
- You can also choose a "Design Theme", such as animals, sports, or stars. Make sure it is not too trendy so that as you get older you wonder what you were thinking.
- If you do choose a theme that you might grow out of, then choose neutral paints, wallpapers, and fabrics then accent with themed pillows, poster and memorabilia. This helps keep costs down and makes it easier to change as your tastes change.
- There may be pieces of the décor that you will not be able to change, such as the walls and flooring. You may have to work with ugly brown, high/low carpeting or wood paneling on the walls. Think carefully about all the items you CAN control. There are ways to work around those things you CAN'T control such as laying a loose piece of carpeting down or using an area rug.

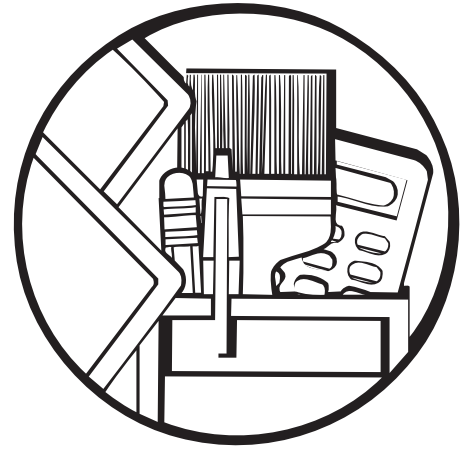


# Designing Your Floor Plan

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Measure the room that you are designing with a measuring tape. Using the graph paper, draw out the room — including doorways, windows, closets, and walkways. Use the scale of  $\frac{1}{4}" = 1'$  (for smaller rooms you may want to use  $\frac{1}{4}" = \text{half a foot}$ , so each square is 6").

Once you have the floor space drawn to scale, then you can insert the furnishings and begin working with the space. You may want to make several copies of the floor space before you start arranging furnishings. This way you can do several and compare them to each other.



Here are some things you want to consider when designing your floor plan:

- Keep in mind that arrangements may appear differently on paper than in the actual space. Try to "visualize" the space in your mind.
- What will the center of interest or focal point of the room be? Will it be a bed, a desk, or a sitting area?
- Be sure to allow for traffic paths. Main pathways require 36"- 48" while minor paths only require 24".
- Allow for space to fully extend drawers and to pull out chairs at desks and even space to make your bed (a bed against a wall at the side is difficult to make).
- Make sure that you can get the larger furniture into the room. Measure the size of the door and the clearance on the outside of the door (is it in a narrow hallway) to allow for bringing in large furniture.
- If you have room to create a sitting or entertainment area, make sure to keep pieces close enough to each other so you and your friends can easily talk.
- Think about what you would like people to think or "feel" when they enter the room. Is it a place to relax? Is it calm and serene? Or is it fun and inviting?
- If you have a small room, consider space saving ideas. Like using bunk beds to save space so the lower bunk can double as a sofa.

Once you have considered some of these ideas, analyze your needs and decide what exactly will be in your room. Draw your final floor plan neatly on the graph provided.

To create a budget for your room, use sales flyers and catalogs or the internet to price the items you want for your room. List each item you are using in the room, including paint or fabric to update your current furnishings. And remember... the total budget cannot exceed \$500!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

# Designing Your Floor Plan

This is a full-page sheet of graph paper. It features a uniform grid of small squares across its entire surface. In the bottom-left corner, there is a small rectangular box containing the text "1/4\" = 1\"", which serves as a scale reference for the grid's dimensions.

# Pretend \$500 Bills

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

# Decorating Budget Sheet

List of Items for Room	Approximate Price
	\$
	\$
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Budget Total	\$