

# SMALL-SPACE SOLUTIONS

Live large in a small kitchen or bath with these expert tips.

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## color cues for compact rooms

**Paint walls and trim the same color.** This creates one solid canvas that the eye can take in at once, instead of stopping every time the color changes.

**Warm up your whites.** White is always good for small spaces, but to keep it from feeling dull or sterile, pick warm flooring materials, such as wood, to balance the overall scheme.

**Avoid colored countertops.** A light-color, neutral countertop looks less busy.

**Incorporate reflective surfaces.** Glass-front cabinetry and glossy tile reflect light, making a room feel larger.

**MYTH BUSTER.** You can indeed use dark colors in a small space—but be sure to use white fixtures or shiny finishes to balance the deep color.

—Pam Sather, color expert and designer at Pam Sather Studio, [pamsatherstudio.com](http://pamsatherstudio.com)

## LIGHTING TRICKS OF THE TRADE

- Lighting above cabinets illuminates the space between the cabinets and the ceiling, making the room appear taller.

- With dark walls or cabinetry, simply adding more accent lighting will help lighten the room and make it feel larger.

- Toe-kick lighting visually elevates cabinetry, making the floor area look larger.

- A well-lit space looks bigger, feels more welcoming, and provides a safer place to work. Layer accent, task, and ambient lighting to adequately light a room.

—Jeffrey Dross, director of education and industry trends at Kichler Lighting, [kichler.com](http://kichler.com)



## SMART STORAGE SECRETS

**Open shelving** provides storage without dominating wall space and cramping the room.

**Drawers** give you access to the entire cabinet depth, allowing every inch to be used.

**The insides of doors**—whether on a cabinet, pantry, or linen closet—can be outfitted with clips and hooks for extra storage.

**Stackable racks** maximize cabinet height by adding levels of storage to extra-tall cabinets.

**Adjacent spaces**, such as hall closets, are better than in-kitchen or in-bath storage for items only used when entertaining, such as extra towels or special dinnerware.

—Lea Schneider, professional organizer, [organizerightnow.com](http://organizerightnow.com)