

Goodbye chaos – hello storage miracle!

Practical tips to create more storage space at home

Creating more storage space does not require a huge home. With clever furniture, unused corners, regular decluttering and smart storage solutions, you can make better use of your space – and enjoy a tidier everyday life.

Tip 1: Look for extra storage space

Whether you live in a small apartment, shared flat, studio or family home, you can never have too much storage space. If square metres are limited, use every centimetre wisely – especially niches, corners, walls, doors and the space under furniture.

Important: Start by looking for unused areas. Valuable storage space  is often hidden between a wardrobe and the wall, above doors, under the bed, under stairs, in corners or above kitchen cabinets and wardrobes. Custom shelves, built-in furniture, drawers or stackable boxes help you make better use of these spaces.

Useful tips: Corners and narrow gaps are ideal for clever storage ideas. Corner shelves, slim rolling carts, wardrobes with sliding doors, pocket doors or rotating units create space without overcrowding the room. In small kitchens, it is worth using the full height of the room. Items you rarely need can be stored higher up.

Zebrabox tip: Ask yourself first: Which furniture and items do you really need every day? Seasonal items such as winter clothes, ski equipment, suitcases or garden furniture do not need to stay at home all year round. Things you rarely use but want to keep can be safely stored away.

Tip 2: Use wardrobe storage

The wardrobe is often the first place where storage space runs out. More space does not only come from a bigger wardrobe, but from decluttering, sorting and using the inside more efficiently.

Important: Anything you have not worn for a long time can go – for example to a second-hand shop , a clothes collection, an online resale platform or friends. Ideally, declutter twice a year when switching between summer and winter clothes. Helpful rule: for every new item that comes in, one old item goes out.

Useful tips: Thin hangers, extra shelves, boxes, baskets and a second clothes rail can quickly create more order. Clothes you wear often should be easy to reach. Seasonal clothing, bedding or rarely used bags can be stored in under-bed boxes, vacuum bags or labelled storage boxes.

Zebrabox tip: If your wardrobe is still full after decluttering, store seasonal items  elsewhere. Winter coats, ski clothes, summer shoes, suitcases or sports equipment take up a lot of space at home and are safely kept in a storage unit.

Tip 3: Discover bed storage!

Your bed offers more storage space than you might think. Especially in small apartments, it is worth using the space underneath and behind it.

Important: Choose a bed with built-in storage, drawers or enough height for under-bed boxes. Flat boxes, vacuum bags and garment bags are ideal for bedding, seasonal clothing, shoes or spare blankets. Suitcases can also be used as extra storage under the bed.

Useful tips: Storage is not limited to the space under the bed. If the bed stands slightly away from the wall, you can use the gap behind it with a narrow shelf, rolling container or small storage unit. Make sure everything remains easy to access and does not turn into a hidden dumping ground.

Tip 4: Declutter your workspace

A workspace can quickly become a dumping ground for bills, notes, receipts and documents. Sorting paperwork regularly not only creates more storage space, but also gives you a better overview.

Important: File bills, contracts, receipts, tax documents and important paperwork straight away – either digitally or in clearly labelled folders. Anything you no longer need should be recycled or shredded.

Useful tips: Many documents such as bank statements, bills or contracts can be stored digitally. Personal keepsakes such as cards, photos or letters do not have to stay in your desk: a labelled box on a shelf, in a sideboard or in storage is often enough.

Zebrabox tip: Paper you no longer need belongs in recycling or the shredder. Important documents, keepsakes or archive boxes that you rarely use can be stored outside your home to save space.

Tip 5: Create under-stairs storage

Stairs, platforms and loft beds are ideal storage areas. Especially in small apartments, maisonettes or children's rooms, they can create valuable extra space.

Important: Storage under or inside stairs must be stable, safe and easy to access. Drawers, boxes, shelves or custom-built units work particularly well. Make sure the construction can bear weight and does not create a tripping hazard.

Useful tips: Under-stairs storage can also work as a room divider, shelf, seating area or access to a loft bed. Modular elements are especially practical because they can be adapted or reused later.

Zebrabox tip: Under-stairs storage is ideal for things you need regularly, but not every day. Items you only use seasonally or very rarely do not have to stay at home: an external storage unit is often the better solution.

Additional storage tips

Make your storage space visible first

Before buying new boxes, shelves or furniture, get an overview. Empty cupboards, drawers and surfaces completely and sort everything into categories: keep, sell, donate, dispose of or store. This helps you see where storage space is really missing – and where there is simply too much clutter.

Label and categorise

Boxes, baskets and drawers only create order if you know what is inside. Label storage boxes clearly and sort by categories such as seasonal clothing, documents, sports equipment, keepsakes, tools or decoration. This saves time and prevents buying things twice.

Use vertical space

If floor space is limited, think upwards. Wall shelves, hooks, door organisers, tall cupboards and shelves up to the ceiling create storage space without taking up extra living area. In small apartments, vertical storage is often the easiest solution.

Sort regularly

Storage is not a one-time project. Plan a short decluttering session two to four times a year – ideally when the seasons change. This keeps your wardrobe, basement, workspace and storage areas organised.

Zebrabox tip: Store externally instead of stacking at home

If your basement, attic or wardrobe is full, an external storage unit  can be worthwhile. It is especially useful for things you want to keep but do not need every day: furniture, files, keepsakes, sports equipment, Christmas decorations, suitcases or seasonal clothing. That way, your home stays free for the things you actually use regularly.