



TAD STUDIO

- SEATTLE RESIDENTIAL DESIGN & REMODELS -



*A Quickstart Guide:*

**HOW TO CHANGE  
SPACES IN YOUR HOME  
BY STARTING SMALL**



### MAKE A LIST:

Designate a spot (paper, white board, chalkboard, computer or smart phone) to write down all the stuff you want to change.



### ORGANIZE IT BY ROOM:

Don't try to do this all at once. Do it over the course of multiple days or weeks as you move about the house. This will be a constantly evolving list. Lists allow you to see progress that you otherwise may not.



### START WITH THE EASY STUFF:

There are always items you just don't want around but you keep because, well, it was free. Or it was handed down to you and grandma might be upset if you gave it away. Why spend time organizing and rearranging items and furniture that you don't need or want.



### MAKE 3 PILES:

Donate – recycle – throw out. Many items can be donated. You can either bag them up and drop them off or you can call for a curb side pick-up. Some items, while not usable in their current state, can be recycled. Other items may just need to be thrown out.



### STORAGE:

What's left is what you love, right? Let's find a spot for it. Is it nice to look at and can you keep it neat? Think well organized books. Then store it in open storage. Is it something messy? Lots of board games or half-finished projects? Hide these in closed storage nearby where you will be using them.

**WHEW!** You are making good progress and I bet you already 'see' more space. But what if you need to create the storage I just talked about.



## **BUILT INS:**

This is my preference. Built in storage solutions. In Seattle's smaller homes nothing is more efficient, space saving, nice looking and adaptable than built in storage.



## **FURNITURE:**

Keep the pieces you like but make sure they are appropriate for the space. Smaller spaces need less furniture. Think one large couch rather than a love seat and two chairs. Less visual weight. Think of chairs, tables, and consoles that are more leggy rather than bulky items which sit directly on the floor. And I can't say enough about furniture that does double duty! An Ottoman to rest your feet, with storage, that can be used as a coffee table? Yes!



## **TIDY UP THE PLACE!**

Easier said than done, right? But if you always have laundry on the couch because you are going to fold it the next time you watch TV then buy a nice looking basket with a lid that secretly holds it for the week it takes you to do this.



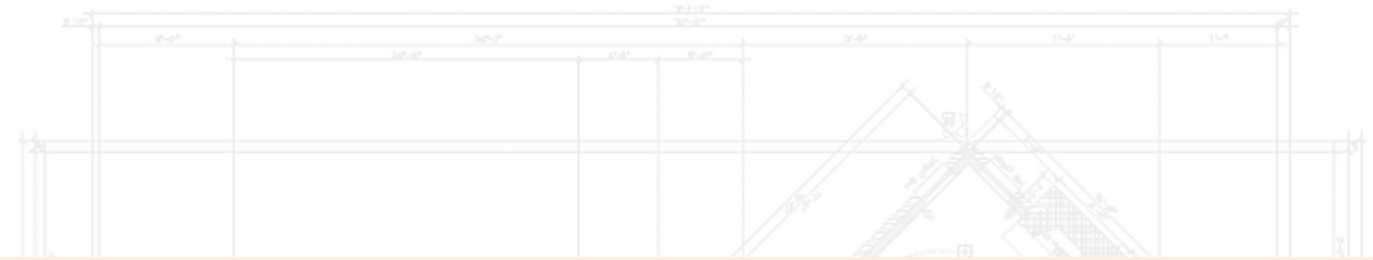
## **DISCOVER SPACE!**

That's right, you could have a really cool space right under your nose you didn't even know about. How about a little deck or patio? Put a cover on it, add some string lights, small outdoor couch or chairs, and an end table. Viola! You have a new outdoor room. Add a heater or portable gas fire pit and you could use it year round, or as overflow space when you have big gatherings and guests need some fresh air.



## **WHAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU?**

Make sure you are making changes for the way your household is really run and not how you wish your household was run. You can find solutions specific to your family if you don't fight the natural tendencies. If everyone's shoes are in a big, messy pile by the front door, provide an easily accessible space at the front door for each person's shoes and maybe even a spot for 'guest' shoes.



Hi, I'm Val!

I'm a residential design and remodeler in Seattle, working with people to maximize their space so they can love their home again.

**READY TO MAKE  
YOUR SPACE ALL  
YOUR OWN?**

BOOK A CONSULTATION!

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