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Article Last Updated: 08/09/2006 11:22:22 PM MDT

room

## Five tips for making the most of your too-small dorm room



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Six out of 10 college students feel their college dorm room is uncomfortably small, according to dormbuys.com. The website surveyed nearly 450 college students to glean their tips for maximizing space. Here are their top five suggestions for uncramping the classic cinderblock box:

1. Loft your bed. Elevating the bed off the floor can free up the space beneath for other necessities. (Note: Not all colleges allow lofting, so check with your school first.) A second-best alternative is to bunk the dorm room beds.

2. Use a bed shelf. Shelves that attach to the post or rail of college beds eliminate the need for a space-reducing nightstand.

3. Stay organized. Plastic, mesh or wicker storage boxes can hold clothes, linens, DVDs, video games, books or shoes. Specially designed storage boxes that fit under the bed or in any size closet work best in small dorm rooms.

4. Buy small

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furniture. Large, bulky couches can make a small feel even smaller. Students now can choose from small, trendy dorm-specific furniture. Foam-filled chairs, mini-futons and rocker chairs are among the most popular.

5. Condense your closet. College closets fill up fast. Use hangers that can hold more than one item, add extra hooks and buy a laundry hamper that takes up minimal space or hangs over the closet door. Sweater shelves and shoe racks round out the necessities for your closet.

Source: dormbuys.com

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