

POTTERY BARN



bedrooms

Ideas and inspiration for stylish sleeping spaces

A Backyard Bedroom

Create extra space with a fanciful take on a guest house. This outdoor bedroom optimizes one-room living with space-saving solutions, abundant light, and well-planned storage. With room enough for a bed, desk, and dressing area, the confines of a tent never seemed so sumptuous.



Architectural wisdom says that a good design must be well built and useful – and offer a large measure of delight. This tiny warm-weather bedroom, built as a permanent tent with removable canvas walls, incorporates much to delight in, with all the comforts of its indoor equivalent. Despite its small size, the room conveys a remarkable sense of spaciousness, thanks to its use of efficient organization, small-scale furnishings, and whimsical decor.

To make any room appear larger than it really is, the first trick is to use effective lighting and a pale, subtly varied color palette. Fitted with glass windows and a French door, this tent also receives plenty of illumination through its fabric walls, which fill the space with light during the day. Although fabric isn't generally an option for indoor walls, you could achieve a similar effect with pure white walls and sheer curtains or linen shades in any room with good sun exposure. The daytime effect of light filtered through canvas walls repeats at night, when lamplight filters gently through the canopy of mosquito netting hung above an iron bed. A kerosene lantern, hung outside from the eaves, lights the entry and serves as a welcoming beacon to visitors.

Quilts are the perfect small-room accessory, left. Offering layers of warmth and bringing color and pattern to the room, they're a cheerful reminder of country style. **Extend a small space, right,** by annexing an entryway. This deck is treated like a room in itself, with chairs and pillows set up for lounging.





Designed with an eye for detail, a unique guest tent can be a space for comfort and relaxation.

In a small space, the right plan can artfully incorporate more furnishings than you might expect. Stacked white storage cubes draw attention upward and make an under-eave space appear taller, while providing ample room to store clothing. Camp furnishings, such as folding tables and chairs, are flexible and have a slimmer profile than indoor items. A secretary serves as both desk and nightstand, and closes to hide clutter. A restored steamer trunk offers seating and storage. Anything that can serve more than one purpose is especially welcome in a small space.

Much of this room's special appeal derives from its surprising structure, but you could easily replicate its visual punch in an attic room or loft. Take it literally (see Room Resources, page 182, for information on purchasing these tents), or adapt the idea to suit your own setup.

Decorated for comfort, left, this guest tent offers lots of amenities: electricity, plenty of space for books, and room for a display of vintage glass bottles. A painted wooden sign is fitted with hooks for hats. **A netting canopy, right,** creates an intimate, light-filtering enclosure over an iron bed.





Where space is limited, it might seem like accessories would be, too, but this is not necessarily the case. If you look carefully, you'll find plenty of corners in which to tuck favorite finds. In fact, the small size of a room draws more attention to collectibles, especially if you use them daily. Mirrors are a wonderful example. Choose a vintage pair and use them to flank a door in a small bedroom. They visually expand the space and become a key part of the decor at the same time.

Small spaces need careful planning. Use furnishings and accents that are both functional and beautiful.

Even when necessities take up all the available surface areas in a small bedroom, there's no reason the necessities can't also be fun. In this room, a rough-hewn Adirondack table and stool accessorized with a wooden treen mirror create a compact vanity. A vintage hairbrush set and luxurious toiletries play against the room's more utilitarian design elements.

A window shade, *left*, is cleverly fashioned from a painter's canvas drop cloth with rawhide lacing and grommets set in binding tape trim. A mottled 1950s-style mirror, *right*, subtly reflects light. The fishing creel tucked under the window plays up the rustic look and makes a great storage basket.







Every item in a small space must work hard to make the most of the floor plan and to add to the overall sense of space. The simple painted gray floor here is left unadorned, with a narrow band of white offering the barest definition of a summer “rug.” Connecting indoors with outdoors works especially well to expand small spaces, whether through a window, porch, or entryway. Borrowing space from the outside can make a small space feel larger and more gracious. Take an informal approach inside and out, with casual pieces that set the tone before you enter.

Palm fronds, left, form a leggy entryway table, and an antique wrought-iron mirror by the French door creates a faux window. **A colorful folding chair and lantern, above,** line up on the front porch and invite company to come calling.

Design Details

Color Palette

The spirit of this outdoor bedroom harks back to childhood summer camp. A pure and natural color palette reinforces the atmosphere of a relaxed getaway. The removable canvas walls and sheer fabric curtains are a natural off-white that turns a warmer shade when illuminated with the light of dawn or early dusk. A blue-gray, white-edged floor grounds the structure with a sense of permanence. The tent’s honey-colored wood frame harmonizes with wood furniture and brightly colored accents.



Materials

Canvas In all its waterproof and durable glory, canvas is a sure sign of warm-weather activity. Commonly used for manufacturing sporting goods, awnings, and outdoor furnishings, this heavy-duty cotton material connotes fun and relaxation.

Sheer cotton Sheer, lightweight cotton is reminiscent of warm climates. In pure white, this natural fabric reveals its weave when hung as a breezy drape or room screen, permitting light to shine through. Linen offers a similar look.

Quilt A colorful patchwork quilt gives a room an instant sense of tradition and homeyness. Patchwork may have been born of a necessity to recycle scraps of fabric, but sewing together different fabrics soon became an American art form and a traditional gift of love and remembrance.



Room Resources

At Pottery Barn, we believe that casual, relaxed style is something you can weave through every space in your home, from front room to bedroom. For this book, we scoured hundreds of locations to find the perfect settings to create these special rooms. We experimented with colors, furnishings, rugs, drapes, and accessories to find the best combinations for each space. The results? This collection of style ideas, which we hope will inspire and delight you.

Each location chosen for this book was unique, and each delightful in its own way. Here is a little bit more about the homes we visited, the style ideas we created, and the individual elements that make each design tick.

A note about color: wherever possible in this list of resources, we've offered the actual paint manufacturer and paint color that was used in the room shown. We also list the closest Benjamin Moore paint color match (in parentheses) for each room. Because photography and color printing processes can dramatically change the way colors appear, it is very important to test swatches of any paint color you are considering in your own home where you can see how the light affects them at different times of the day.



Basics of Bedroom Style

This shingled hillside guest cottage and a slightly larger main cottage have small footprints that allow the beauty of the surroundings to star. The bedroom overlooks a vineyard.

Space Built in 1940 from mail-order, pre-fab kits, the 600-square-foot guest-house and the 850-square-foot main house were remodeled in 1998.

Color Walls, trim, and ceiling Benjamin Moore Swiss Coffee OC-45 satin.

Furnishings PB Basic hemstitch sheets, duvet, and shams; faux-fur throw and pillow shams; charcoal chenille throw; Metropolitan leather chairs and ottoman; solid voile drapes; colorbound seagrass rug; and PB Basic white towels, all from Pottery Barn. King bed with button-tufted leather headboard, tortoise-finish rattan and bamboo side table and bureau, primitive bench from New Mexico, ship's prism (on mantel).

Lighting Built-in overhead lighting. Vintage alabaster-base table lamps with silk shades. Antique iron-scroll floor lamp with Pottery Barn accordion shade.

Display Paris print, gallery frame, and chalkboard wall shelf, all from Pottery Barn. Photo of olives (on mantel) by Jeffrey Gibson. Salvaged architectural pediment (above bed).

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Several guest tents like this one dot a mountainside property with a main house and a communal long-house with a kitchen, fireplace, patio, pool, and outdoor showers.

Space The tent rests on a permanent 13' 5" x 11' 3" wooden platform that includes a small entry porch. It has electricity and operable wood-framed windows. The interior's exposed wood structure provides ledges for storage and display. To buy a similar tent, contact Sweetwater Bungalows (800/587-5054; www.sweetwaterbungalows.com).

Color Painted plywood floors (Benjamin Moore Province Blue 2135-40 semi-gloss).

Furnishings Plantation patchwork quilt, Kauai plaid sheet set, jeweled organdy canopy, X table, wall cubbies, and camp lanterns, all from Pottery Barn. Vintage iron twin bed, secretary, and Adirondack-style table and stool. Antique iron-lashed wooden chest. Vanity area: treen shaving mirror, 1950s gilded-back mirror panel, galvanized marine lantern, English iron-stone platter, and Italian ceramic pitcher. Florist's bucket as wastebasket.

Lighting Bedside industrial pendants.

Display Red hand-painted "steak dinners" sign from flea market.

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