



# RETHINK YOUR ROOMS

5 key assumptions that  
hold homes back





# INTRO

You know that feeling... the one where your home just isn't quite working, but you can't put your finger on why. You've moved the sofa five times. You've bought the storage baskets. You've even considered extending.

But what if the problem isn't the space itself, it's how we see it?

So often, we make decisions about our homes based on long-held assumptions or default settings. And because we don't question them, they slowly shape how we live day-to-day. Sometimes inconveniently. Sometimes expensively.

This guide is here to help you take a step back and look again, with fresh eyes and fewer assumptions. Inside, you'll find 5 common beliefs that quietly limit how we use our homes, and ideas to help you challenge them.

Some are small tweaks. Others are bigger realisations. All are rooted in one thing: making the most of what you've already got.

You don't need a different house. You might just need a different perspective.

Let's get started.

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# 01 - 'SHOULD'

The law of 'Should' which restricts where people put big furniture things like beds, tables and sofas



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# “THE BED SHOULD GO ON THAT WALL”

A classic one. We do this almost automatically: plonk the bed in the centre of the room, along certain walls, with matching bedside tables either side and wardrobes somewhere opposite.

But bedrooms can often work better if you shift the focal point. I've seen clients make huge gains by putting a bed across the window to free up floorspace in a single room, or flipping the whole layout and tucking a double bed into an alcove to bring in more light or fit a desk.

You don't always need more storage, just a rethink of where things go. Especially with kids' rooms or awkward-shaped layouts, there's usually a better use of space hiding in plain sight.

Rethink all your assumptions about beds, tables, sofas, washing machines, desks... anything really - and put it where works best





# 02 - FIXED USE

Fixed thinking about what rooms and  
are how they can be used





# “THIS IS THE DINING ROOM”

Dining room. Box room. Utility. Study. These names are useful for estate agents, but that's about it. In real life, what your home needs might not match what it says on the floor plan.

One client had a spare room which had become a dumping ground, while also crying out for a utility room. Another had a 'playroom' the kids never went in, because it felt a bit empty and cold. In both cases, swapping the functions of the rooms they used around transformed how the house worked.

It's so easy to get stuck in preconceived or inherited choices, especially if you've bought a house someone else renovated. But when you look at what's actually happening in each space, and what you want to happen, new options open up.







# 03 - RADIATORS

How radiators (also sockets, switches, or even doors) in the wrong place can make or break a room



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# “SO THAT RADIATOR CAN'T MOVE”

Ah, the humble radiator - possibly the biggest blocker to better layouts.

And yes, moving one isn't always simple, but it's far from impossible. Especially if you're already planning changes or redecoration. I once worked with a family where the radiator placement ruled out a fully functioning kitchen layout, everything else had to work around it.

But with a small amount of re-plumbing and slim vertical unit in a different spot, we unlocked the whole room.

Same goes for plug sockets, light switches and awkward boxing-in. These small fixes might not be glamorous, but they can give you way more freedom in how you use your space.

(Or doors... you know you can move doors too)





# 04 - FLOOR AREA

A room is not only about the available floor space  
... it's bigger than that



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# "THIS ROOM IS 3M X 2.5M"

Don't just measure floor space, measure the potential

Square metres (or feet if you prefer) are useful, but they're only part of the story.

Some of the best space wins happen when you build up, down, or in:

- Bespoke shelves into awkward alcoves
- Tall storage that goes right to the ceiling
- Pull-outs or drawers under stairs and beds
- Slimline furniture that makes use of otherwise unusable space
- The area over a doorway
- Dead space caused by furniture in the wrong place, making walkways where storage could be

Often, it's not that the room's too small, it's just underused.







# 05 - ALL USED UP

When you think you've not got room for the rooms you need and must have grown out of your house



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# “WE NEED TO MOVE OR EXTEND”

Maybe. But maybe not.

When you feel stuck, it's easy to believe the options are all gone. And I work with a lot of families who feel like they've outgrown their homes. But more often than not, the space is already there... it's just not pulling its weight.

Box rooms that no one uses. Hallways that could store half your life. A big kitchen with one awkward corner no one goes near.

But houses are more flexible than you may think. There might be nowhere obvious right now, but the answer isn't always more space or a new house.

I've helped people squeeze in boot rooms, pantries, even proper offices in places they'd written off or ignored

Before you bring in the builders or start house-hunting, take a really good look at what you've already got.



# GET IN TOUCH FOR MY HELP WITH YOUR HOME

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