

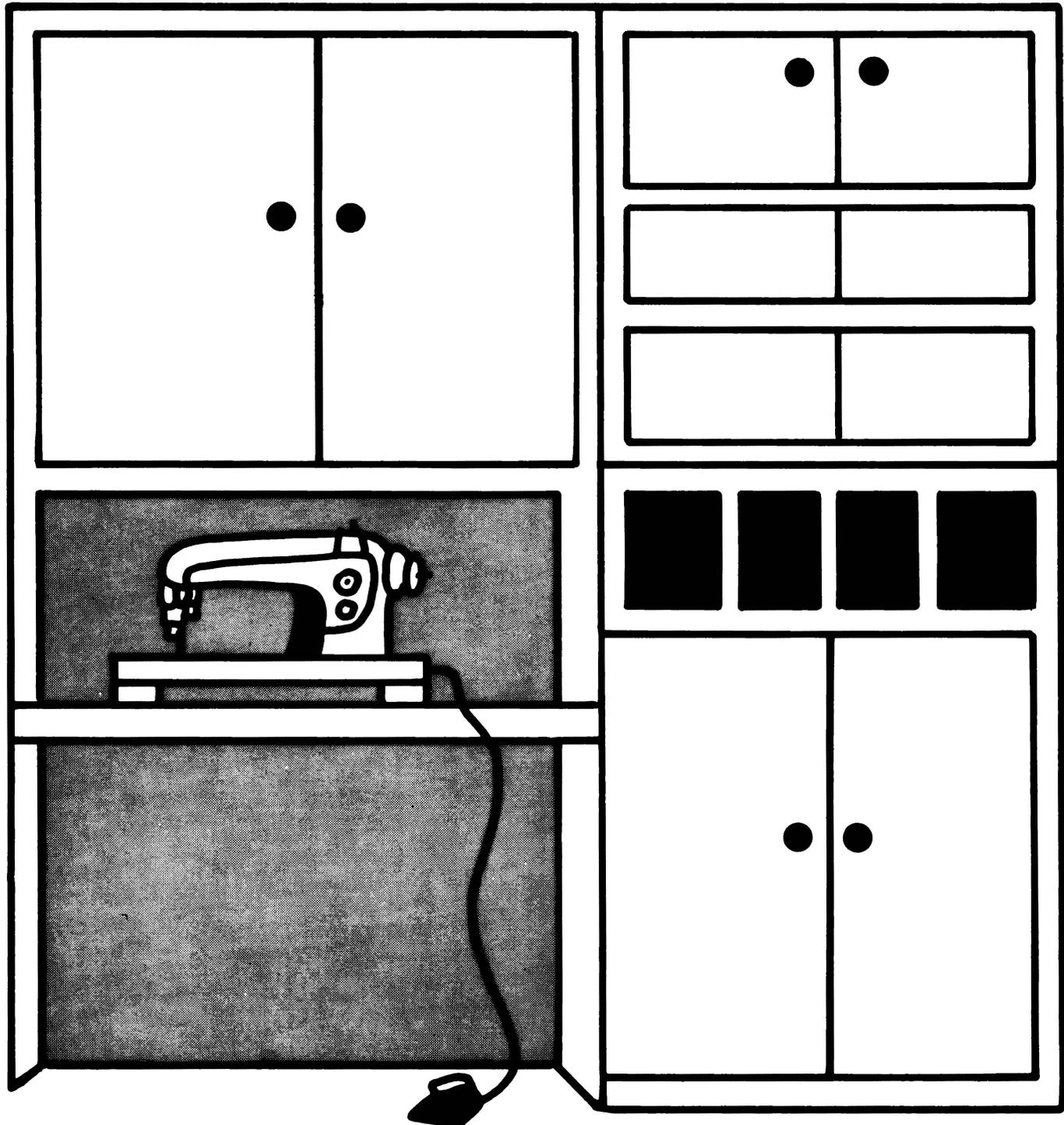
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YOUR SPACE FOR LIVING UNIT III

Capsule: Planning a Space for Home Sewing



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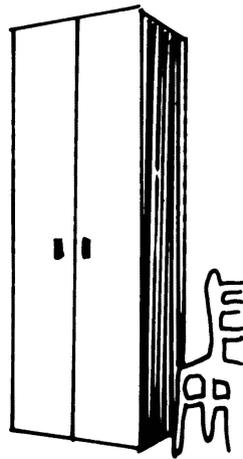
Your Space for Living Unit III

Capsule: Planning a Space for Home Sewing

Have you dreamed of a sewing room, a place where those unfinished projects can lie undisturbed until the time arises to pick them up again? Not many of us can furnish an entire room to satisfy our sewing needs, small apartments, growing families and budget requirements are some of the stumbling blocks. Don't despair! Rise to action and claim a space somewhere. It's worth the time and effort. Sewing will suddenly become more fun.

Choose an area with several considerations in mind. Especially important is accessibility to electrical outlets and adequate lighting. Also, think about the noise factor—will the sound of your machine distract others? And, try to find a place where you can locate yourself without interfering with the activities of the other members of the household. Plan carefully so that everything fits away as neatly as the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle.

Here are some ideas to consider but remember that the possibilities for providing creative sewing space are unlimited once you have thoughtfully evaluated your specific needs and available space.



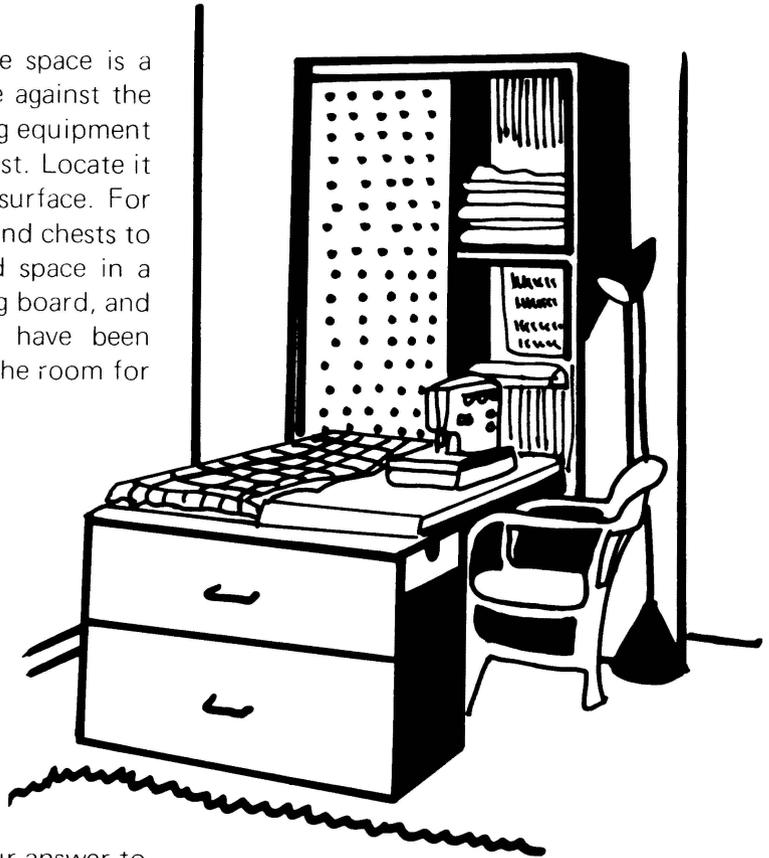
A closet

may provide a perfect opportunity to create a sewing spot. Inside, place shelving for your sewing equipment. Hinge one end of a large board to the lower shelf and use a chest the approximate height mounted on wheels to support the opposite end. This will serve as storage space for the sewing machine and it will roll neatly into the lower portion of the closet when the board is folded up and the door is closed.



A sewing nook

may be the ideal solution if your only available space is a blank wall or a bare corner. Place a small table against the wall and suspend a peg board above. Stash sewing equipment which can't be hung on the board in a small chest. Locate it next to your table to provide greater working surface. For additional storage purchase a variety of baskets and chests to hold your fabrics and other bulky items. Find space in a nearby closet for your unfinished projects, ironing board, and portable sewing machine. Once the materials have been organized coordinate the decor with the rest of the room for an attractive look.



Sharing a room

with another family member's hobby may be your answer to locating a sewing spot. Take advantage of the space by building storage cabinets and handy conveniences into the structure of the room; for instance, bookcases and dividers. Easy accessibility to all your equipment is a must. Use shelves for your bulkier items and avoid dust by installing colorful roll-up shades. Add decorative touches to the room to make your work more enjoyable.



HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO CHECK:

Have you thought of any great ideas of your own? Don't forget to consider other tasks, such as personal correspondence, which may be performed in your sewing spot so that you can plan accordingly. To simplify the planning of your sewing area and to stimulate your own ingenuity, here are some things to check:

- Do you have good lighting, both natural and artificial? You should include an overhead light for general lighting and a high intensity lamp for a direct beam to make small detail work easier.
- Are there convenient outlets for all your electrical equipment?
- Do you have a cutting table? The ideal table should be accessible from all 4 sides, hard surfaced and high enough to avoid stooping or bending while cutting.
- Is your sewing machine area wide enough to enable free movement of your fabric and does it provide enough room to store your tools?
- Do you have a comfortable chair with a straight back to provide proper support during either hand or machine stitching?
- Have you organized a carefully planned system of roll-out drawers, see through storage boxes, and cases for threads, trims, etc.?
- Have you included a totable box to move equipment from one work area to another? This can be a real time saver.
- Do you have a large storage area in which large pieces of fabric or incompletd projects can be laid flat?
- Can you include a pressing area near your machine and storage space? This is a must.
- Have you chosen a soft color and bright accents to achieve a cheerful atmosphere in your sewing area? Strive for cleanability too.
- Have you included ample waste facilities near the machine area and the cutting table? These will help keep your sewing spot neat.

when you're selecting items for your sewing world, don't limit your shopping to the sewing notions counters; look in some of the sales places and browse in every department. Also survey furnishings galleries for ideas.

IT'S TIME FOR:

Your favorite color

A pretty thing

A treasured picture

A special chair

A vase of flowers from your own garden

A special plant

RECORD OF WHAT WAS DONE:

Draft a design of what you have done. Show space, colors, materials used, arrangement of furnishings, AND you might use *Your Home Furnishings Study Plan Form*.

BEFORE AND AFTER SKETCH

TOTAL COST AND VALUE OF DESIGN PROJECT

STORY OF THE CAPSULE ACTIVITY