Better Homes and Gardens

OH SO BOHO
BEDROOM

Transform your sleeping space with a built-in desk and platform bed, boosting your style and storage

BEFORE

t his teenager's room was crying out for a study space and more storage. But at less than 3 x 3m, it presented a layout challenge. The solution? Custom-built furniture. And you don't need to spend thousands on a chippie – with a bit of woodwork and flatpack cabinetry, you can install a built-in desk with a fold-down top, and a platform bed with heaps of hidden storage. Then it's down to paint, accessories and linen to give the room a modern boho vibe.
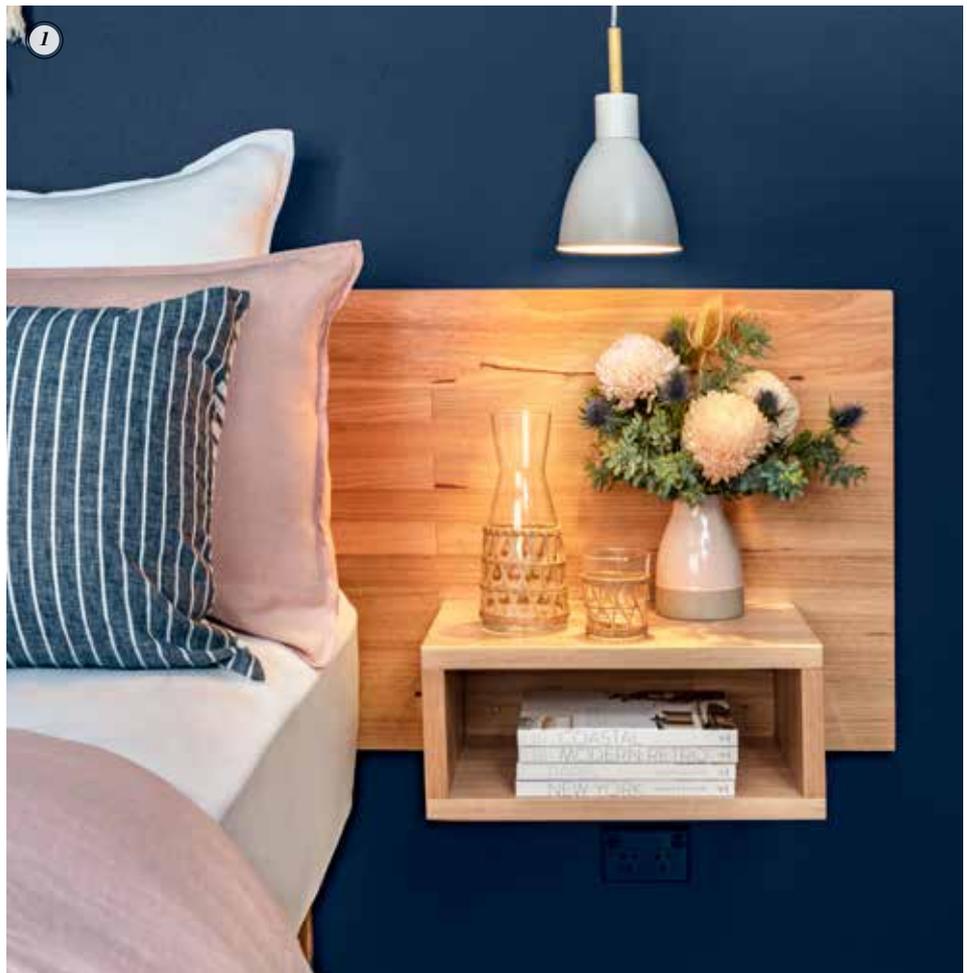
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1 **CREATE A BEDHEAD** by attaching a timber panel to the wall. Easy! It works well with an ensemble, and a basic box shelf holds the essentials.

2 **DITCH BULKY FURNITURE** for floating shelves, painted to recede into the wall. It's a savvy solution in a tight corner and the mirrored backs help reflect light and create the illusion of a larger room.

3 **STASH CLUTTER OUT OF SIGHT** in slide-out drawers under your bed. They're perfect for keeping shoes and bags off the floor and freeing up closet space.

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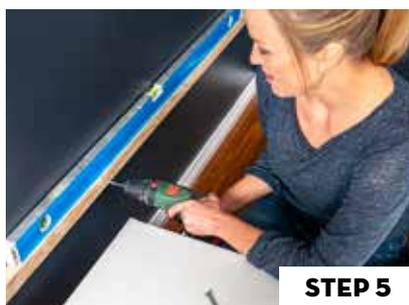BEDROOM

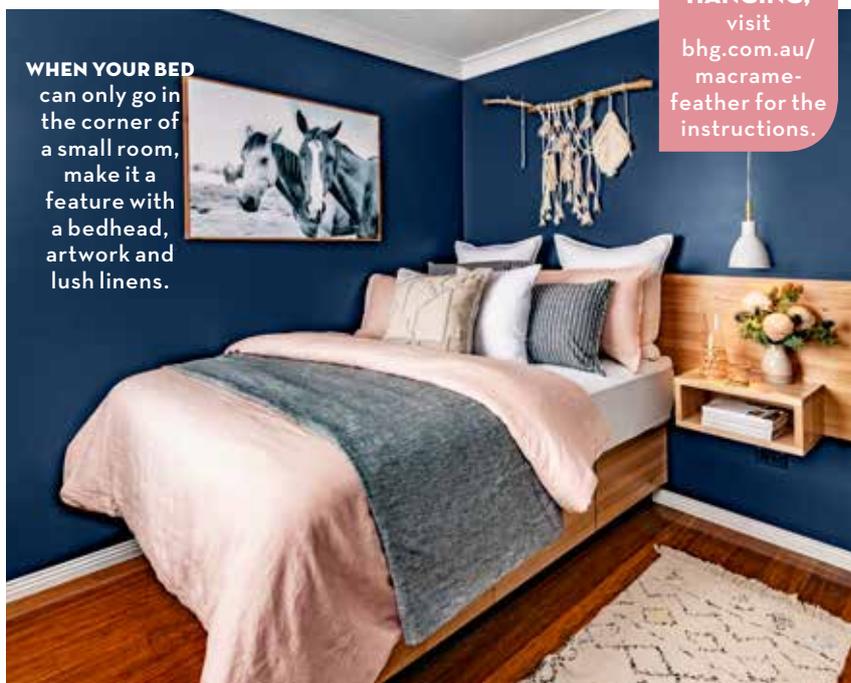# EASY STEPS TO MAKE YOUR PLATFORM BED WITH STORAGE

STEP 3

STEP 4

WHEN YOUR BED can only go in the corner of a small room, make it a feature with a bedhead, artwork and lush linens.

STEP 5

STEP 7

Gather your supplies
- Laminated timber panels, 2100 x 600 x 26mm (3)
- Single 600mm drawer units (4)
- Dressed pine, 30 x 42mm x 2.4m (2)
- 2400 x 1200 x 18mm MDF (2)
- 2.4m black kickboards and fixing clips

You'll also need
Circular saw; drill; various screws; clamps; spirit level; jigsaw; paint; roller; brush; sandpaper; timber varnish; PVA glue

For you to note
Sand cut edges and apply two coats of water-based varnish to all exposed timber prior to final assembly.

Here's how
STEP 1 Measure your mattress and mark position on 2 adjacent walls.
STEP 2 Use circular saw to cut a 340 x 100mm piece from end of laminated panel. Screw to side of 1 drawer unit where it meets wall on side of the bed. Make timber edge 26mm from front and 3mm down from top of cabinet.
STEP 3 Place each drawer unit so front of cabinet sits 50mm inside mattress position marked in Step 1. Place 3 drawers along the side of

bed and the fourth at end of bed, between third unit and wall.
STEP 4 Measure between fourth unit at end of bed and adjacent wall. Cut block out of laminated panel and screw to side of fourth unit flush with face. Adjust feet of drawer units to make level. Clamp and screw cabinets together with 30mm screws.
STEP 5 Transfer level of top of drawer units to wall. Screw dressed pine to wall using 100mm screws going into wall studs.
STEP 6 Cut MDF to sit on drawer units to form a mattress base. Make MDF overhang front of cabinets by 26mm and sit 20mm away from back edges of cabinets.
STEP 7 Cut another MDF piece to fit in the remaining space. Use a jigsaw to cut out 2 handle holes in this piece so it can be lifted out to access area underneath for more storage.
STEP 8 Where the mattress base overhangs the cabinets, undercoat and paint the edge plus adjacent 100mm on the top and bottom with wall colour. Secure

mattress base to drawer units by screwing through base.

STEP 9 Position a full-size laminated panel on wall at least 20mm above mattress base as the bedhead. Secure into studs at a height that will be covered by mattress and bedside box so screws are hidden. Use 100mm screws.

STEP 10 Cut pieces from laminated panels to make top and bottom, sides and back of floating bedside table. Overall dimensions of table are 500mm wide, 250mm high and 300mm deep. To avoid visible screws, glue pieces with PVA and clamp together. Remove excess with a damp rag. To attach to bedhead, screw through back into bedhead using 50mm screws.

STEP 11 Cut and fit kickboards to underside of cabinets using clips. Mitre join in corner.

STEP 12 Cut a 340 x 597mm drawer front out of laminated panel. Clamp and screw to drawer in unit at end of bed so it overhangs side of drawer evenly and is 3mm from mattress base at top. Measure for panels at either side of this drawer front leaving a 3mm gap. Make panel that goes on third drawer unit on side of bed flush with cabinet.

STEP 13 Cut a 340 x 597mm drawer front and attach to centre drawer unit on side of bed. Measure and cut remaining drawer fronts, leaving a 3mm gap to centre front. The drawer front closest to end of bed is slightly larger to cover the edge of the panel fixed along the end.

STEP 14 Position mattress on base and make the bed up boho style.

STEP 8

STEP 9

STEP 10

STEP 12

EASY STEPS TO MAKE A BUILT-IN FOLD-DOWN DESK

TURN WASTED SPACE into a stylish streamlined study nook with a built-in fold-down desk.

STEP 3

STEP 4

STEP 5

Gather your supplies
- Laminated timber panels, 2100 x 600mm
- 70mm butt hinges (3)
- 65mm easy-fit hinges (2)

You'll also need
Tape measure; pencil; circular saw; drill; countersinking drill bit; PVA glue; various screws; combination square; clamps; jigsaw; utility knife; chisel; hammer; water-based clear varnish; brush; sandpaper

Here's how
STEP 1 Measure space for desk to determine width and depth, here determined by adjacent wardrobe wall. Comfortable desk height is about 750mm.

STEP 2 Calculate dimensions of components for box shelves. Height of shelves is 500mm, while width is determined by width of desk less about 600mm between them to allow for a desk chair or stool. Make depth to suit that of fixed desktop panel. Use circular saw to cut components to size.

STEP 3 Butt sides into top flush with end. Predrill through top into sides using a countersinking drill bit.

STEP 4 Apply glue to top near end and reposition against side. Screw together using 50mm screws. Repeat to attach other side to other end.

STEP 5 Spread glue along sides and top edge of back. Position side and top assembly over back and press together. Remove excess glue with damp rag.

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STEP 6 Predrill, glue and screw bottom to sides and back. Leave glue to dry.

STEP 7 Cut shelf to fit inside box unit. Fix to midpoint of unit, using glue and screwing through back to secure.

STEP 8 To accommodate a window frame or other obstruction or protrusion, use a combination square to mark the location or locations on the fixed desktop piece. Clamp to workbench and cut out with jigsaw.

STEP 9 To house butt hinges on fixed bench with fold-down panel, predrill and screw leaf of hinge to edge of panel. Run sharp knife around sides of hinge to cut timber for housing. Remove hinge.

STEP 10 Use a sharp chisel and hammer to remove timber inside housing to depth of hinge leaf.

STEP 11 Repeat Steps 9 and 10 to create housings for all hinges on both fixed and fold-down panels of desk. Screw hinges to the fold down panel.

STEP 12 Fix box shelves to wall at either end of desk. Screw through back of boxes into wall studs using 65mm screws.

STEP 13 Cut stay that will hold up fold-down desk panel. Make 50mm shorter than the distance from the wall to where the fold-down panel will end when open. Use easy-fit hinges to attach stay to side of box shelf so you don't have to rebate for the hinge.

STEP 14 Position fixed desktop panel and screw up through box shelf to secure with 40mm screws.

STEP 15 Hold fold-down panel near fixed desk panel, place hinges in rebates there and screw in place to join the 2 panels.

STEP 16 To help the timber resist scratches and stains, apply 1-2 coats of clear varnish to shelves and desk panels with a brush, leaving to dry. Sand after each coat. ■

STEP 6

STEP 8

STEP 10

STEP 11

STEP 12

STEP 13

STEP 14

STEP 15

STEP 16

Stockists
Bunnings bunnings.com.au
Alpine oak laminated panel 2100 x 600mm, $134. Pine dresser 184 x 19mm x 1.8m, $18.80. Kaboodle drawer base cabinet 600mm, $157. Mirror diamond edge Estilo 1000 x 300mm, $16.80. Permastick mirror mounting tape 24 x 5mm, $12.98.

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