

# 5 STEPS — TO THE — KIDS ROOM YOU'VE BEEN DREAMING OF

## 1. BUY IT

It is important you set a realistic budget before you begin your planning. Consider every item you will need to purchase and put a figure next to it. This will help guide where you want to spend more and where you can spend less. Your budget may start with a particular high cost item that you have to have, and work from there. Or it may be set and you can research to find the pieces you love that will fit into the budget.

You can save on your budget by looking at cots that convert to beds, buying second hand and reconditioning or getting crafty and making your own soft furnishings.

*Invest in key pieces that will last over the years. Save on trend items that are likely to be replaced.*

## PLACE IT

Draw out your room on a piece of paper to help plan your layout – if you can manage to draw it to scale, even better! This will help guide the size of your purchases, and how they will best fit in the room. Remember to allow space for doors and drawers to open fully. Aim for different areas in the room for sleeping, feeding/reading/study and playing/socialising.

*Keep the centre of the room clear. This will help avoid your main family living room becoming the main play zone!*

## 3. COLOUR IT

Choosing a colour palette at the start will ensure you make purchases that will work together and create a cohesive space. Choose 3-5 colours that you love and that work well together and stick to them.

*Impulse buying will always cost you more in the long run – have your colour swatches with you when you shop to keep you on track!*

## STORE IT

Kids have stuff! Lots of it! Make sure your plan includes storage for clothes, essential items (such as nappies and wipes) and toys/books. Make use of built in cupboards as much as possible. Stylish storage baskets or bags can actually enhance the style of your room so don't be afraid to use them!

*Rotate toys from harder to reach storage to easily accessed storage bags or baskets to keep your little loves interested.*

## 5. INSTALL IT

This is the most exciting part – seeing all of your ideas come to life! Before you start your installation make sure you set aside enough time to finish the job – it may take a few days. Make sure you have all the tools you need on hand and plenty of space to put together furniture, lay out prints for framing or preparing wallpaper.

*Outsource! Apps such as Airtasker make it easy to call in professionals to do the jobs we aren't quite ready to tackle!*