

A walk-in closet with white modular shelving. The closet is filled with various items: hanging clothes on wooden hangers, folded clothes on shelves, shoes on open shelving, and a central unit with drawers and a mirror. The background wall is a warm orange color.

SIMPLIFY. ORGANIZE. ENJOY.

WALK-IN CLOSETS

TIPS FOR A MORE ORGANIZED CLOSET

SPACE AGE SHELVING

The Closet and Storage Specialists

A photograph of a walk-in closet with white built-in shelving and drawers. The closet is filled with various items: folded linens and towels on shelves, hanging clothes on dark wooden hangers, and several handbags. A framed photograph and a decorative birdcage sit on top of the drawers. The overall aesthetic is clean and organized.

WALK-IN CLOSET CUSTOMIZATION GUIDE

When building a home or designing a custom closet, it can often be difficult to anticipate how much storage you are really going to need. If you are lucky enough to have a walk-in closet, there are several key areas of design, organization, and functionality that you will want to keep in mind. We've compiled some of our best advice and tips on what to consider for storage options, layout and construction in this *Custom Walk-In Closet Construction Guide*.

In the following pages, we will discuss every aspect of good walk-in closet design including lighting, outlet placement, hampers, custom vanities and more. Having a good idea of what you want your walk-in closet to look like will help your designer to plan, construct and execute the space you've visualized.

FIRST...

Work with the professionals!

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5 Points to Ponder When Contemplating a Custom Walk-In Closet

Habits

Do you tend to hang your shorts/pants or fold them in drawers? Do you wear business clothes which typically require more hanging space than casual clothing? Do you have a set of go-to accessories, or do you wear your entire collection evenly? The answers to these questions will help your designer plan a closet that is not only visually attractive, but functional as well.

Efficiency

Whether you enjoy spending time in your closet coordinating the perfect ensemble or you prefer to take as little time as possible getting dressed, your closet needs to be functional so you can see what is there and easily access the items you want.

Value

When building a custom walk-in closet, you'll want to consider how the features in the closet will affect your home's resale value.

The Appraisal Institute of Canada published an article saying, "While the return on investment varies, a well-planned closet, pantry, garage, laundry room, or basement with lots of storage and organization is a must-have for many potential home buyers".



Budget

Discuss your project budget with your designer. If the walk-in closet out of your dreams is out of your reach at the moment, talk to Space Age Shelving about financing options, like layaway and installment plans.

Expertise

Work with professionals who have expertise, or access to expertise in designing, supplying and installing storage and organization solutions for every area of your home, garage, or office.



9 TIPS FOR CLOSET CONSTRUCTION

You may choose to work with a design professional, such as an interior designer, decorator or professional organizer. That's great! Or you may decide to go it alone and work with the design specialists at Space Age Shelving in Burlington. You may want to install the closet yourself – or you may ask Space Age Shelving to do it. Either way, there are details that must be considered in order to turn your sparse walk-in closet into something fit for a queen or king. They are listed on the next page.

The Space Age Shelving design team will ask you and/or your designer lots of questions to get everyone thinking about how you want to make the best use of your space.

There are thousands of storage and organizing products available. Selling them isn't special. What is special is Space Age Shelving's unique ability to listen and understand the needs of the client, and then design the right system or solution to satisfy every need, preference and physical ability.





1. Closet Shape

The design of your new walk-in closet will be affected by its shape. Most closet layouts are straightforward, but there are uniquely shaped closets (i.e., curved walls or unusual corners) that can be a challenge. We love challenges!

2. Hanging Sections, Shelves and Drawers

Most closets incorporate short hanging (for pants, shirts, blouses, and jackets), long hanging, shelves and drawers. Take a look at what's inside your closet now. Is there anything missing? Perhaps jewellery, shoes, socks, hats, scarves, etc.

3. Footwear Solutions

Get footwear off the floor with shoe and boot racks available in several styles. We will count (really, we will) all your shoes and then design the perfect home for every pair according to your needs. Be good to your shoes!

4. Islands and Custom Vanities

If space permits, an island or custom-made vanity is an elegant and functional addition to any walk-in closet. Emerge from your space perfectly groomed and ready to go thanks to custom-made cabinetry for hair and beauty products.

5. Mixing Materials

Your custom walk-in closet does not have to be built with only one material (melamine or wire). Mixing melamine and wire together is a budget-conscious choice for making the most out of your space.

6. Hardware and Accessories

Express yourself with door and drawer hardware, hooks and soft-close hinges, and rails and racks. Remember the finishing touches like jewellery drawer inserts, under cabinet pull-outs, stow and go ironing boards and tie/scarf organizers.

7. Entrance Doors

Do you want your closet door to dramatically swing inward to reveal your clothing paradise or would you prefer a sliding mirror door? The entrance door you choose for your walk-in closet is as important as the shelving and layout within.

8. Outlets

Electrical outlets are handy to have in walk-in closets for ironing, re-charging of electronic devices and more. Remember to point out outlets that already exist, or new outlets you would like to incorporate.

9. Windows and Skylights

The natural light that windows and skylights provide enhance the ambience of your space. They also help you see what you're doing! If natural light is not available, be sure to install adequate overhead lighting.

Free Estimates and Complimentary Consultations

Space Age Shelving is proud to offer free estimates and complimentary in-home or office consultations to fully understand your storage and organization goals and how we can help you get the most of your space.

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The perfect walk-in closet is functional, organized and accessorized. From mirrors to ironing boards to boot hangers, talk with your designer about options for turning your walk-in closet into something truly spectacular.



Most Sought-After Accessories

Pant Racks

Pant racks are perfect for working professionals who have a large number of trousers or slacks that need to be hung. Pant racks slide out for easy access and prevent pants from becoming jumbled and creased. Rods are non-slip to keep pants in place and wrinkle free.

Mirrors

No great closet is complete without a mirror! Mirrors can be mounted on the closet door, the wall, or even inside a drawer. There are also slide-out mirrors that swivel for a better angle, and there are freestanding options that include hooks for jewellery on the back.

Ironing Board

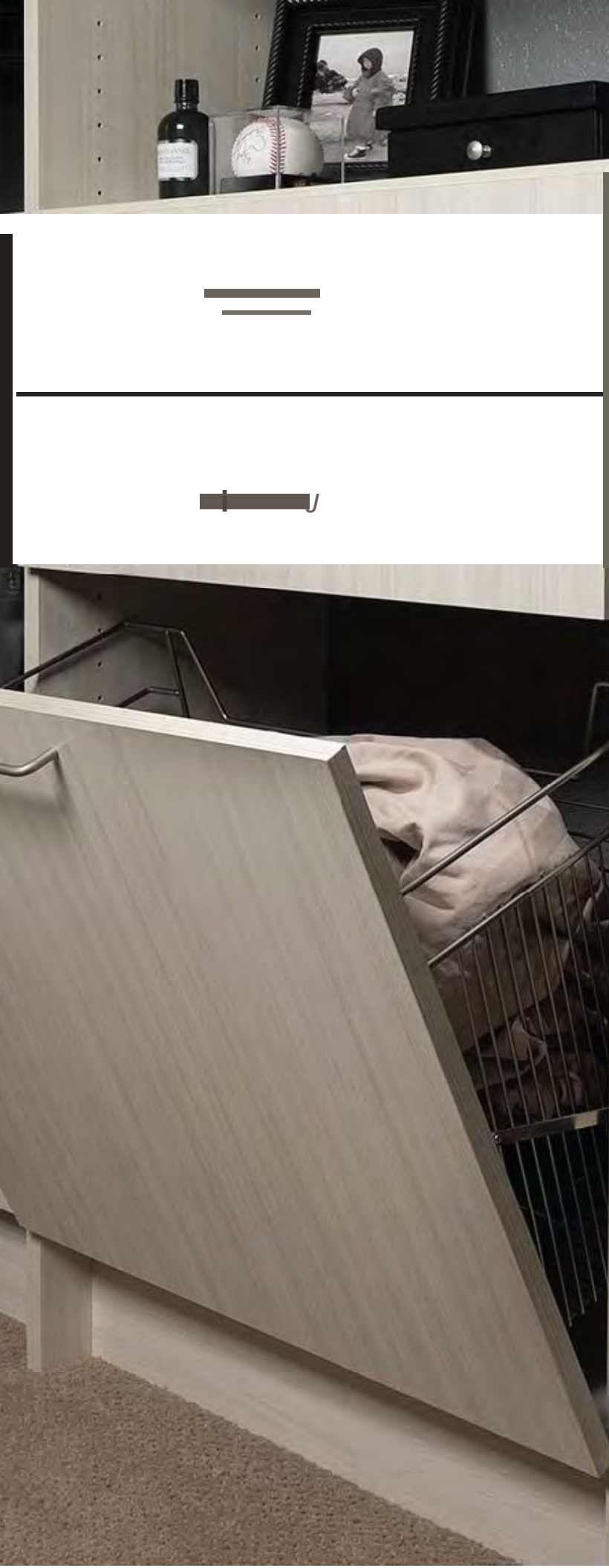
Instead of ironing in the laundry room, why not incorporate an ironing board in your walk-in closet – where clothes will be hung? A swivel or fold-down ironing board can be a great addition to your new closet. Be sure to provision for an electrical outlet!

Laundry Hamper

Let's face it, clothes get dirty. A smart alternative to having laundry in plain view is a concealed hamper. Adding a removable basket to your concealed door hamper provides you with a way to transport your clothes to and from the laundry room with ease. How clever is that?

Shoe & Boot Racks

Aside from diamonds, shoes are undoubtedly a girl's best friend. Be good to your shoes. Piling shoes on top of each other may seem like a space saving solution, but it actually creates other problems, like trying to find them, crushing and damaging them and preventing your footwear from drying out properly, which causes odour and bacteria to grow. (Yuck!)



AN ORGANIZED CLOSET IS A HAPPY CLOSET!

Declutter Your Life

Moving into a new house, updating or upgrading closet space is an opportunity to take inventory and assess what to keep, toss, consign or donate. Begin by taking everything out of your closet and sorting into these groups:

1. Keep It

When going through your closet, you may be pleasantly surprised to discover that special sweater from college, your favorite pair of shoes that are in perfect condition, a belt you thought was lost and other treasures. Before you decide to keep an item, try it on to see if it fits, and evaluate it against current styles and fashions.

2. Toss It

We often keep worn-out clothing out of habit. Careful examination will show which clothes are too damaged or stained to be donated or sold. There are however, options for clothes that cannot be repaired. Browse crafting or up-cycling websites, like Pinterest, for creative ideas for repurposing old clothes that would otherwise be trashed.

3. Consign It

Consignment stores are a great option for clothes that are still in style and good condition but don't fit, haven't been worn in a while, or are no longer your favourites. Why not recoup some of the cost of the clothes you bought and never wore.

4. Donate It

Please consider donating your clothing to those in need. There are plenty of charities, shelters and non-profits always in need of garments.



If you are not sure about which of these categories a particular piece of pieces of clothing fit into, try this helpful trick: Turn all of your clothing hangers in one direction. Every time you use a garment, turn the clothing hanger the other way. After 30 days, you'll have a good idea of what you use and what you don't use on a regular basis.

Staying Organized After Your Closet Makeover!

The items that you use the most often should always be easily accessible at the front of your closet. Try making a list of what you use every day, then use this list as a map for your closet. Sentimental clothing items or items that are not worn very often, such as wedding dresses, tuxedos, bridesmaid's dresses, old athletic uniforms, etc., should be kept in a guest closet or other storage area. Everyday clothing, gym outfits, and other frequently used garments should be the easiest to reach.



Seasonality

Switch out your wardrobe as the seasons change. Snow jackets, pea coats, sweaters and other winter clothing items obviously require more space than shorts and t-shirts. This type of seasonal sorting improves the functionality of your closet.

Colour Coding

Colour coding is a great strategy for finding the clothes you need in a hurry. Colour code your fall/winter wardrobe and spring/summer wardrobe. Colour coding accessories and shoes will help you pull together a stylish ensemble in no time.

Smart Storage

Instead of keeping fashionable suitcases in the garage, why not repurpose them to hold blankets, sheets and other bulky items? Other smart storage solutions, such as overhead shelving and below-bed storage, will free up space in your closet for the clothing and accessories you need every day.

Small Item Organization

Small items, such as jewellery, scarves, ties, or even socks be corralled and stored in creative and attractive ways such as segmented jewellery drawer inserts, special hooks and hangers, open wire baskets, and drawer organizers.



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