

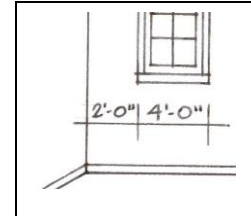
# Planning Your Perfect Space -The Floor Plan

To plan the perfect room you must first have an accurate (scaled) plan of the space.

Drawing to scale means drawing the space you have available , and drawing all of the furniture you wish to put into the space, at the same scale/ size.

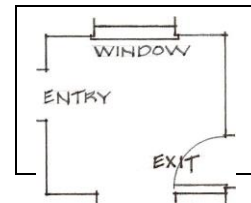
This will show you how much space the furniture needs, and how much room will be left for movement. You can then measure the traffic space accurately between elements .

1. Begin by measuring clear wall spaces, between doors and windows. Include the trim with the measurement of the window & door sizes because trim is not “useable” wall space unless you plan to remove it.  
Make note of heat vents & radiators that must be kept clear.



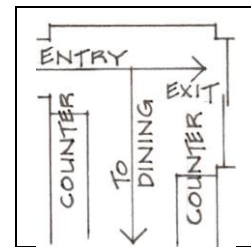
2. Use ¼ “ graph paper to accurately draw on. A Floor Plan is a view of the floor as seen from above –and all that is in it.

3. To work at ½” scale -allow each ¼”grid square to represent 6” that means 2 squares equals 12”, and a shape drawn 4 squares by 4 squares represents an object that is 24” wide by 24” deep, like a dishwasher or an end table.  
Draw the wall lengths you have measured, indicating the location of all door and window openings. Note your entry.



Measure your furniture and draw accurate shapes for all of the pieces on a separate piece of ¼” graph paper at ½” =1'-0”  
Keep aside to work with on top of the floor plan.

Draw a line, on your plan, from the entry through the space to any other doors or exits you need to allow clear access to. This line represents the flow of traffic that you will not want to block. Allow a 3'-0” width for traffic aisles.



4. Cut out your furniture shapes and arrange on the plan to see how to best use the space. Tape the pieces to the plan and trace over the layout with tracing paper to review possibilities. Re-arrange the furniture pieces to see different options.
5. Allow adequate clearances to move / work within the space.  
Allow a minimum of 4'-0” between the counters of any two walls of cabinetry facing each other. You will need 3'-0” clear in front of fridge doors, dishwasher & oven doors, or banks of drawers for them to open into and for you to stand in.

It is best to keep floor space you need to use –i.e. standing area in front of a microwave and floor space for a chair to move back into, at an island or table, out of traffic aisles ....if at all possible.