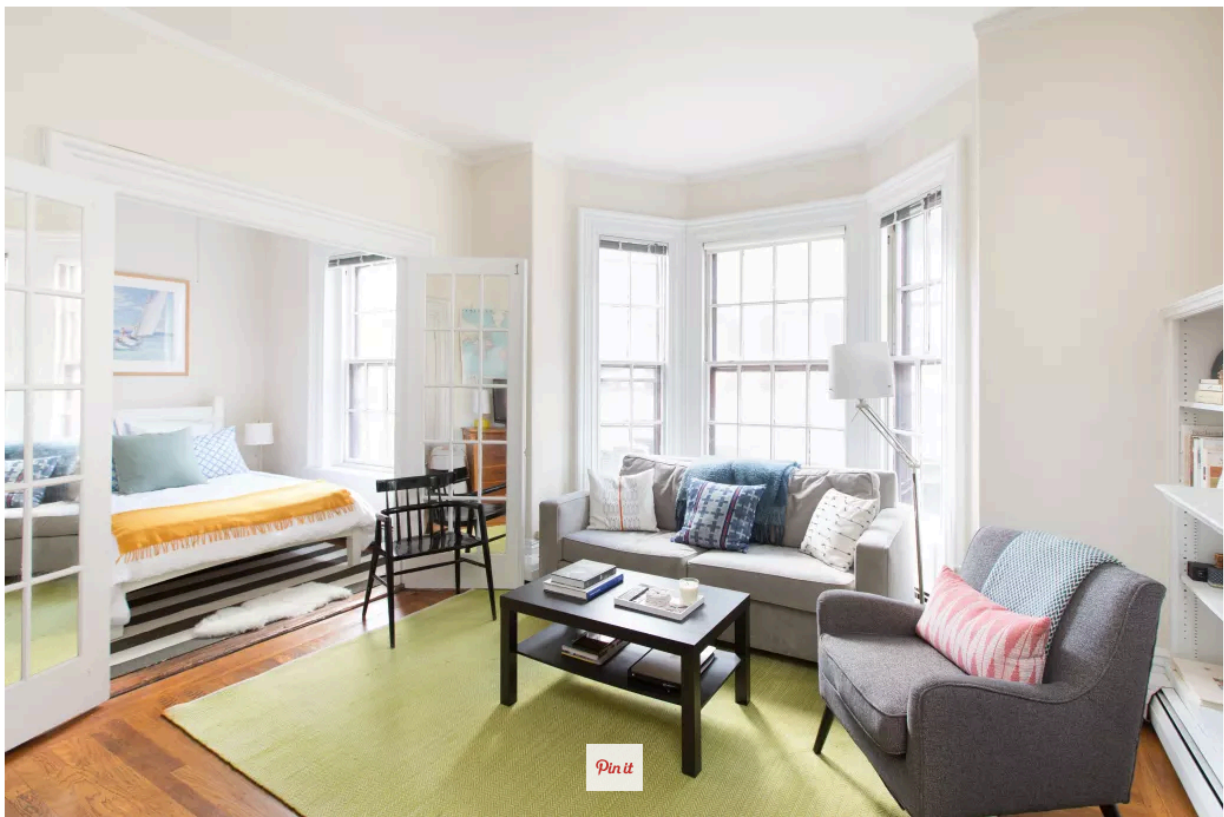




8 Super Smart Small Space Hacks, According to NYC Real Estate Agents



(Image credit: [Samara Vise](#))

If you're looking for the best way to maximize a one-bed or studio, here's an unexpected source: New York City real estate agents, who are in and out of these small apartments all day long. Here, seven of the smartest real world small-space hacks these agents have ever seen.

Trundle beds

"The sweetest thing I've seen in a one bedroom was in the home of a single mom who had a trundle mattress underneath her four poster bed. She'd pull [it] out for her four-year-old daughter in the evenings. Half the room was a kids' room, with stuffed toys and books, and the other side was decorated for the mom. It was definitely a huge space-saver!"

—*Samantha Rose Frith, Warburg Realty*



(Image credit: [Chinasa Cooper](#) / [Apartment Therapy](#))

Bookshelves turned room dividers

"I once walked into a studio where the owners used a large bookcase to divide the room. They filled the top shelves with books that created a fun and functional display and used the bottom shelves for extra hidden storage. I always recommend this to my clients!"

—Maggie Fanney, *Compass Real Estate*

Storage where you can find it

"If you're one of those people who orders take-out (because, well, who cooks in New York City?), do what many people do in the apartments I've shown: Store your sweaters—and your shoes—in unused kitchen cabinets!"

—Philip Salem, *Triplemint*



(Image credit: [Winkie Visser](#))

Makeshift pantries

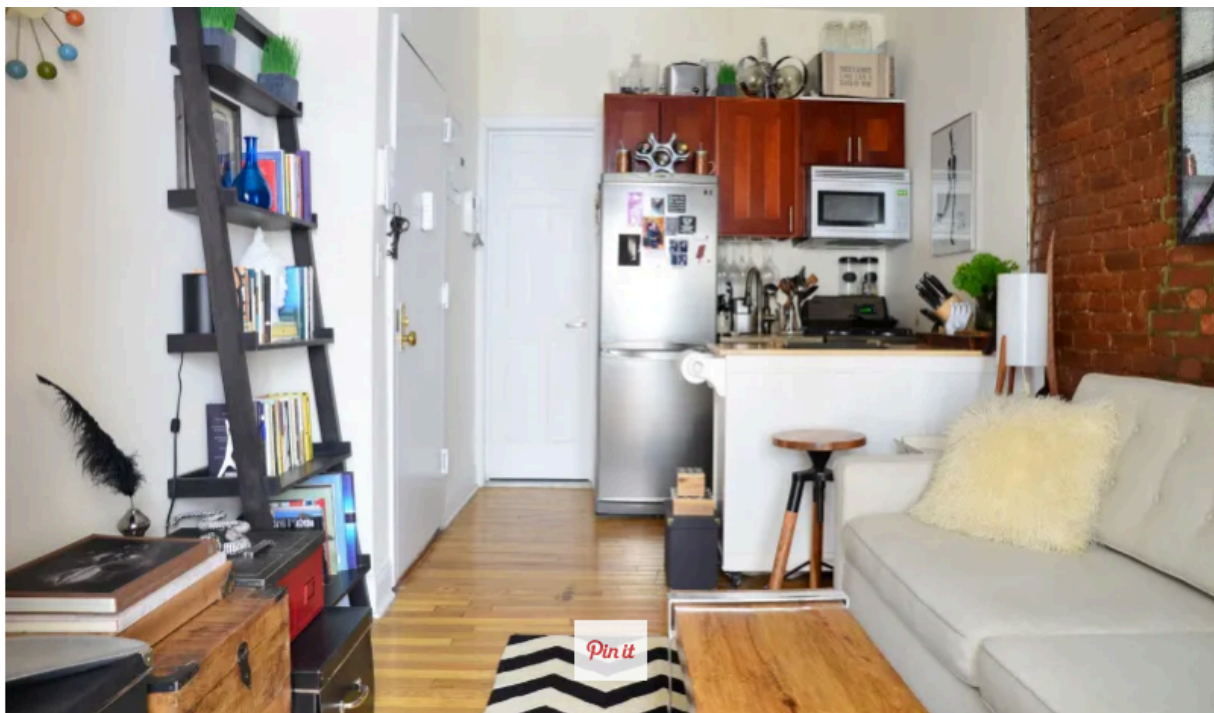
"Living with our 21-month-old son in a studio, we've figured out lots of clever ways to make space where it doesn't exist. One example of this is our IKEA **BRUSALI** cabinet. It's been our son's 'pantry' since he was born, allowing us to easily transition him from breastfeeding to solid food; from pumping equipment and bottles; to silverware, food containers, and his favorite snacks. It's a lifesaver for those of us who like to be systematic and organized."

—Gina Ko, *Triplemint*

Storage beds

"I've seen a lot of ways people make great use of small spaces but my favorite is definitely a hydraulic lift bed. It makes storage so much more accessible!"

—Joan Kagan, *Triplemint*



(Image credit: *Nancy Mitchell*)

Hidden storage

"The best spaces I've seen used a combination of hidden storage and shelving to make a home look organized. Sofas, ottomans, coffee tables and benches with hidden, built-in storage space offer dual-functionality and allow homeowners to easily access frequently-used items without having them laying around the apartment. I also love leaning ladder shelves, as they offer plenty of space for books and other decorative items without cramping a living area."

—Stephan Giordani, *Triplemint*

Over-the-door storage

"One of the great ideas I've seen is to use a hanging shoe storage unit on the back of a door to hold cleaning products, towels, socks and other small clothing items. It makes a big difference when you don't have a lot of storage space."

—Lynda Lee, *DJK Residential*

Responses have been edited for length and clarity.