



2 GET A RUG

LUCY Henderson, head of design at My Bespoke Room, says: 'Rugs have the ability to totally transform a room and can anchor the space. A rug that's too small makes it feel disjointed and really cheapens everything. In an ideal world, all your furniture would fit on your rug. Don't be afraid to push your furniture together, not everything needs to be backed against a wall.' mybespokeroom.com

3 PLANT SOME PRIVACY

CLOTILDE Passalacqua, a design leader at Ikea UK, recommends using strategically placed plants to break up a room. She says: 'Open-plan spaces are great for giving the family a sense of togetherness, but for the times when it's nice to feel cocooned in the living room, adding a row of plants to a console behind the sofa creates a "wall" that gives the best of both open and closed-space living.'

For the best effect, use a mix of indoor plant types that vary in shape and size, such as Ikea's lush Monstera and Euphorbia Acurensis plants. ikea.com



4 CREATE ZONES USING LIGHTS

UDI Regev, founder of BetterSpace, says: 'We're so busy looking around us we forget to look up. The ceiling is a projection of the floor, so use it to divvy up spaces - this is ideal for open plans. Allocating a cluster of spotlights can instantly create a reading area or simply mark off different



5 SIZE DOES MATTER

DESIGNER Emma Green [below] says: 'Size up. Don't be afraid to use large-scale pieces, such as an oversized sofa or piece of artwork, in small spaces. It's a common misconception that small rooms need small furniture. Larger furniture can make a room look much grander.' emmagreendesign.com

6 KEEP OFF THE FLOOR

GPAD London's Charles Bettles [below] loves a good optical illusion. 'Keeping the floor clear tricks the eye into thinking there is more space,' he says. 'So try not to buttress things with the floor. Choose a wall-mounted toilet and a walk-in shower, great in small bathrooms.' gpادلondonltd.com



7 PAPER VIEW

THE Home Genie style vlogger Georgina Burnett [above] says: 'Hanging patterned paper on chimney breasts, as many do as a feature wall, will make the room feel smaller. But if you paper the alcoves either side of the

