

Top tips for designing your first nursery

You've had the good news...and your first baby is on its way!

What now?

Amongst the long list of tasks will be 'decorate the nursery', but where do you start?

Follow these tips for creating a nursery to best suit yours, and your baby's needs.

Decide on how much you have to spend.

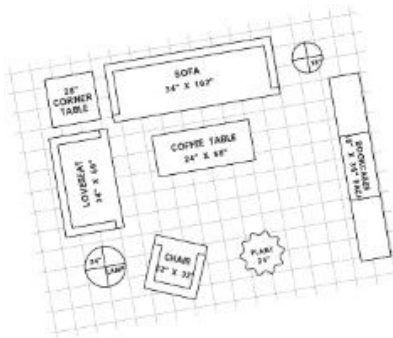
The arrival of a new baby often means the temporary loss of an income and a seemingly endless list of things to buy, so be realistic about what you actually need to invest in and what can be up-cycled, recycled, borrowed or a donation.

Select the best location.

It may be that you have limited options as to where your nursery will be, but take a little time to consider other options before progressing with the decorating.

Plan the layout.

Measure the room and create paper templates for the furniture pieces so you can play around with the available space.



Make time for structural alterations.

This could mean knocking down walls and moving doors to adding extra sockets and concealing electric cables. Ensure these tasks are dealt with as soon as possible, delays could mean a disorganised start to 'baby's' routine.

Plan for lots more storage than you think you'll need.

Never under-estimate the amount of 'stuff' your baby will need or accumulate in a very short space of time. Consider shelves in awkward alcoves, a chest of drawers as a changing table and baskets, bags and boxes for all the bits and pieces.

Decide on the décor.

Now for the fun bit...!

Consider colours and themes that appeal to you, and that compliment your existing interior style, as you are likely to be spending much of your time there. Keep the larger areas fairly neutral with easy-to-clean surfaces. Add character with smaller, easily updated objects such as soft furnishings, bedding and wall art

Create a nursery 'wish list'.

Friends and family often find it difficult to know what gift to buy for a new baby.

Help them out by making a 'wish list' of items you'd like to complete the nursery.



Your new-born baby is unlikely to express an opinion on your design abilities at this early stage so indulge your own ideas and have fun creating a room that's comfortable, and comforting, for you and your baby.