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Is Your Room "You"?

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brought together, into one handy vol-
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composers, each written by an expert in
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"Lives of the Great Composers," edited
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on the subject to be published in
America, has been written out of her
long experience with "The Cradle," a
Chicago adoption agency, with which
she has helped to place more than 3,000
babies in private homes.

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Is Your Room "You"?

By Betty Shoemaker

IT LOOKS rather hopeless, furniture
to the left, trunks to the right, and,
somewhere else, just room enough
for you to squeeze through in between.
But you can bring something more than
order out of chaos. You can make your
room so attractive that you could make
money if you rented space on the bed! Keep
these four things in mind—color,
simplicity, charm and serviceability—and
you can evolve a room that will be
something both you and your roommate
will enjoy from now till June.

First of all, let's start with the color
scheme. Since the walls are neutral,
you can be as gay as you like in your
color choice if the whole effect has
class. Probably you will want to
choose one dominating color and then
be sure that everything else you use
will blend well with that.

Room arrangement is something you
will want to experiment with. Try hav-
ing the furniture in one position for a
week. If that doesn't prove satisfactory,
move things around until you find the
arrangement that is most convenient
and liveable for you.

Of course the thing you want is a room
that is a little different from the others,
a room that expresses you and your
personality. Be sure to keep it simple.
Have nick-nacks if you want them. Toy
dogs are amusing and the little pig bank
may come in handy if you decide to
start saving pennies toward something
special. Just be sure that there is a
place for everything so that it will be
easy for you to keep your house in or-
der.

Beds are necessary to sleep on, but
why should a bed be the center of in-
terest in your room? Why not subordi-
nate the fact that it is used eight hours a
night by making it into a studio couch
that can also be used during the day?
Adding three large, square pillows cov-
ered with a material that will stand wear
tear and will blend well with the pillows, or
they might be the same material. I know
it is a temptation to buy something shiny
and soft, but you won't be sorry if you
get something that a few footprints will
not completely ruin. Candlewick spreads
alike in pastel colors on muslin launder
well and are surprisingly inexpensive.
With fresh tie-back curtains at the win-
don, they make a lovely picture.

If you are looking for something dif-
f erent in curtains, try net, hemmed with
long stitches of rope floss and bright-
ened with colored button links (about
35 cents a dozen) of one color or many,
as you choose. You may decide on
straight glass curtains or drapes of a
soft print that will blend into the color
scheme, but—"Let there be Light!"
Dusk comes early, and you will appreci-
ate a window that is not too well cov-
ered. And speaking of light, you are
certain to need at least one more lamp
than is furnished and possibly more.

"Study lamp" sounds very prosaic,
but some of them are really attractive.
Just be sure that the bulb in the lamp
for your desk is large in wattage. About
100 watts is a good size. Perhaps you
would prefer one of the daylight bulbs,
which give a softer light. You may
want another lamp for your dresser, or
possibly a floor lamp. The floor lamp
may be a luxury, but you will certainly
enjoy it! Instead of a table between the
two beds, you might use a bookcase
with one row of books and a second row
of elephants or toy dogs and cats. This
is a grand place to display your collec-
tion. A second table-and-somethings-
else idea is that space saving and inex-
 pense luxury, the shoe box. Versatile
it is, because it can also be used for
hats, gloves and sweaters.

Have you ever tried using small boxes
to keep that top dresser drawer in or-
der? One box for pins and needles,
another for bobbie pins, placed in a larger
box with the cosmetics arranged neatly
around them. Even the lipstick can be
lined along one side. Handkerchiefs can
be kept in the boxes that gift handki-
es come in, and sorted into two boxes, one
box of handkerchiefs for school, the
other, the ones you want to keep for
dates and Sunday best. The two boxes
can be placed on each other, with the
cases for school on top.

You will want some kind of pictures.
Flower prints are nice. Have you seen
the maps of the college? They are clever
and colorful. Travel posters, Egyptian
wall hangings, charcoal and water-color
sketches and a charactature of the best
boy friend will give your room indi-
viduality.

If you like plants, an ivy bowl hung
in the window makes a pretty pattern.
Cactus plants are easy to take care of.
Genus are the days of the rubber plant,
and the bright pottery bowls that have
taken over its place are not even distant
relations. Do you have a rose bowl?
Do have one nice vase, so you'll have a
place to put that corsage after the big
night is over. Unwind the wrapping on
the stem, and it will last at least till
Tuesday.