Fit Activity #2: Create a ½" Scale Drawing of Furniture

Create Scale Drawings of Large Furniture

WHAT: Create two-dimensional (width and length) representational drawing of your furniture using paper. You will create small paper cutouts to move around on the scale drawing of your room done in Fit Activity #1.

WHY: Use to determine fit capabilities within scale drawing of each space.

HOW: Using your architectural ruler, measure the width, length/depth, and height of furniture, and make paper cutouts. See drawings below.

TOOLS: Scissors. Writing utensil (pencil and good eraser encouraged). Paper. Architectural ruler.

TASK:

- Measure every piece of furniture that will take floor space. Measure the width, depth, and height of each piece. The height of the piece is needed if ceilings, windows, or architectural details will be a factor. You don't want a bookcase in front of a window, for example.
- Use the same scale used to create the floor plan. Convert furniture measurements to proper scale measurements on paper.
- Cut out scale drawing of furniture. Place scale furniture on the scale room drawing according to your vision.
- Label this small piece of paper so you remember which piece of furniture it represents. Include measurements on paper furniture for future use. Save them all in a labeled envelope.

TIME: Thirty minutes per room.

Translating Feet to Inches

My brother is a double PhD in engineering. Math makes me curl up in a little ball. I panic and nearly cry when faced with simple math. I find converting feet to inches better done on an architectural ruler, a three-sided ruler purchased at an office supply or art store. This ruler will make scale drawing crystal clear.

The architectural ruler does the mathematical work of translating a room to scale for you. One ruler has many scales. You will likely only use the half inch or quarter inch side of the architectural ruler. If you have a larger room (over sixteen by twenty feet) you'll use the quarter inch scale on the architectural ruler. The arrows below indicate all the important measurements worth taking.

The drawings don't have to be perfect, but do the best you can to take accurate measurements. Doing so will ensure the right sized furniture will fit properly in the space. You will use the small cutouts.

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