

Working Well From Home

How to create an inspired home office space

Whether you're on the hunt for better work/life balance, have just started your own business or are craving some time away from the bustle of the office, working from home might be for you. Creating an efficient

and inspired home office requires more than a laptop and reliable coffee maker. These two successful local businesswomen offer advice on how to create an organized, personalized and motivating space.



Above
The Kvissle hanging magazine rack and Byholma basket, both available from IKEA, keep things neat and tidy.

STAY ORGANIZED

Deal with paperwork immediately. I use hanging folders and storage baskets. Your home office needs to be your personal space. It's not a room you share with your spouse or kids.

Allison Grafton, partner and co-founder of Rockwood Custom Homes, on her morning schedule

My day starts early. I check my phone for any critical e-mails, and then I get my three kids up for school. I have coffee with my husband and rush my kids out the door. I work out with two girlfriends three days a week with a personal trainer, who comes to my home — we get to catch up and stay in shape. Then I turn on my music, lights and lamps in my office, get a second cup of coffee and start my workday.

GADGETS AND GIZMOS

Must-have gadgets are my Mac computer, iPhone, Miele coffee maker and laser printer. My shelves are stacked with books about decor for inspiration. I have a vintage 1930s floor lamp with a turquoise resin shade that's the first thing I turn on.

INSPIRING SPACES

I have a very large corkboard, four feet by five feet, that I use as my inspiration board. I pin the designs of current projects to it as well as some of my favourite things. It reflects my vision and personality, and it inspires me.