Work 'n' Fold

If space is sparse, a multipurpose plan delivers more design for your dollar. When architect Barbara Shands renovated the ground level of her San Francisco home, keeping the garage and creating a new 300-square-foot area, she designed it to do double duty as both office and guest room.

The pivotal element of the renovation is the built-in bed, which hinges down to create instant sleeping quarters and folds seamlessly back in place when Shands or her husband put in an at-home 9-to-5.

Shands designed the cabinets, which are wired and ready to support an entertainment system, then added the Sico sleeper, which she found after searching for a fold-down bed that didn't require a cabinetmaker's assistance to assemble—just to bolt it in place.

If there were a minifridge, they would never need to leave.



