

Creating a Spiritual Environment in the Home



What are 4 words that describe my bedroom?

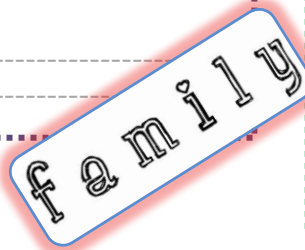
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If someone were to walk into my bedroom, what are some things that would communicate that it is a place of peace, love and refuge from the world?

How do those things help me personally feel the spirit when I am in there, especially while I am praying or studying my scriptures?

What are some things I have in my room that may interfere with it being a refuge from the world?

How does my bedroom affect the spirit of my entire home?



On most days, how is my attitude in the mornings before I leave for school?

How is my attitude when I return from school?

What are some things my parents do to make our home a lovely and peaceful place?

Why is it important to them that our home is a place of love, refuge and peace?

Why will it be important to me that my future home is a place of love, refuge and peace?

How do I assist my parents in their goal to keep our home a place where the Spirit is there?

Is there anything I do that makes it harder for my home to be a place of peace and love?

Recently, in a stake conference, all present were invited by the visiting authority, Elder Glen Jenson, an Area Seventy, to **take a virtual tour of their homes** using their spiritual eyes. I would like to invite each of you to do this also. Wherever your home may be and whatever its configuration, the application of eternal gospel principles within its walls is universal. Let's begin. Imagine that you are opening your front door and walking inside your home. What do you see, and how do you feel? Is it a place of love, peace, and refuge from the world, as is the temple? Is it clean and orderly? As you walk through the rooms of your home, do you see uplifting images which include appropriate pictures of the temple and the Savior? Is your bedroom or sleeping area a place for personal prayer? Is your gathering area or kitchen a place where food is prepared and enjoyed together, allowing uplifting conversation and family time? Are scriptures found in a room where the family can study, pray, and learn together? Can you find your personal gospel study space? Does the music you hear or the entertainment you see, online or otherwise, offend the Spirit? Is the conversation uplifting and without contention? That concludes our tour. Perhaps you, as I, found a few spots that need some "home improvement"—hopefully not an "extreme home makeover." Gary E. Stevenson, "Sacred Homes, Sacred Temples", *Ensign*, May 2009, 101-3