Room Rx

Design Around Sloped Ceilings

TRANSFORMING A TIGHT SPACE INTO LIVABLE QUARTERS CAN BE A CHALLENGE.

INTERIOR DESIGNER NATE BERKUS OFFERS HIS ADVICE.

By Leslie Corona



We often host guests who travel to see us, so we need more room for sleeping. We have a finished attic, but the sloped ceilings are tricky. How can we decorate to maximize the extra space?

—Sabine, homeowner in New Windsor, New York











LIE LOW

Go with a platform bed that won't crowd the room or compete with the architecture. If possible, position the bed beneath the tallest part of the ceiling so visitors can avoid bumping their heads.

TO BUY: Tessu Queen Bed in Clay Taupe, \$699; article.com.

INCORPORATE TEXTURE

A single wall color will make the room feel bigger. Add interest and a luxe vibe by using a topcoat that creates a plaster effect. **TO BUY:** Aura Paint in Olympic Mountains 971, \$70 per gallon, and Studio Finishes Glaze, \$32 per gallon; benjamin moore.com for info.

SPOTLIGHT SCONCES

Don't overwhelm the mostly triangular space with a lot of boxy furniture. Skip traditional side tables and lamps. Instead, flank the bed with adjustable sconces hung at the corners of the headboard. **TO BUY:** West Elm & Rejuvenation Cylinder Sconce, \$199; westelm.com.

DRESS UP THE WINDOWS

Choose roller shades that are wider than the frame and mount them at the ceiling to fake a larger opening. Opt for blackout lining so guests get more restful sleep. **TO BUY:** Designer Roller Shades by Nate Berkus, from \$345; theshadestore.com.

Submit your own design dilemmas to room.rx@realsimple.com.