

project gallery

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Walk-ins that wow

A walk-in closet that maximizes storage in every inch of usable space is a dream come true for many of us. A well-designed walk-in helps keep clothes and shoes organized and streamlines the morning routine. An accomplished closet designer knows how to best group together a client's items, and then tailor the closet to work well with the way they live. Here are a few inspirational examples of well-designed closets outfitted with hanging areas, drawers, shelf dividers, and shoe and purse storage; some even include jewelry storage and clothing hampers, and all are customized to meet the owner's needs.

—Maureen Friedman



Modern luxury

The large center island of this 30-ft. by 20-ft. luxury closet has pullout jewelry drawers with blue-velvet custom valet trays, deeper drawers for folded items, and a concealed hamper with compartments for both laundry and dry cleaning. Maple plywood painted a silver-grey with a mother-of-pearl finish was used to construct the cabinets, which are topped with Quartzite slabs. Hanging items are housed in three-sided, 25-in.-deep boxes, some with frameless glass doors. Each box is lined in the front with vertical and horizontal LED strip lighting. To showcase the homeowner's extensive purse and shoe collection, one end of the closet is designed to feel like a high-end shoe boutique. Items are kept organized and dust-free behind cabinets outfitted with frameless glass doors, LED lights, and adjustable shelving. Grass cloth covers the walls and ceiling and a silk-pile carpet covers the floor. In addition to the elegant Conrad shades, each window is also fitted with an automatic pull-down blackout shade for privacy. Since the large window faces north, there is no risk of sun exposure to the clothing.

Designer Kathleen Jacobson, The Couture Closet, Dallas, thecouturecloset.com
Custom cabinetry Thompson Woodworks, Seven Points, Texas
Photos Steven Karlisch, courtesy of The Couture Closet





Sweet suite

An extensive master-suite renovation of a colonial-style home included the construction of this 12-ft. by 17-ft. walk-in closet. It's located at the back of the house, overlooking gardens and conservation lands, and the house's rooflines were changed to create more usable floor space as well as let in more natural light. The closet was thoughtfully designed to include custom-built shelving for shoes and sweaters, built-in drawers for storage under the eaves, and plenty of space for hanging garments of various lengths.

Designer Elizabeth R. Swartz, ASID, Elizabeth Swartz Interiors, LLC, Boston, elizabethswartzinteriors.com

Renovation and custom cabinetry Premier Builders Inc., Georgetown, Mass.

Photos Eric Roth Photography, ericrothphoto.com



Santa Fe chic

Elegant and organized, this 11-ft. by 11-ft. walk-in closet is outfitted with 24-in.-deep boxes constructed of oak and finished with a clear coat. Tall hanging areas accommodate longer jackets and dusters, while shorter hanging areas make room for scarves. The built-in dresser at the rear of the closet includes custom-designed jewelry trays. A full-extension, divided built-in hamper separates items to be dry cleaned from regular laundry. Valet rods help organize a day's outfit and simplify packing for trips. A skylight, recessed can lights in the ceiling, and an LED strip in the dresser illuminate the closet. The floors are stained exposed concrete in a cola color and the walls have a plaster finish. A pair of hand-carved burlwood benches found in a Santa Fe antique store makes the space even more inviting.

Designer Kathleen Jacobson, The Couture Closet, Dallas, thecouturecloset.com

Builder Crest Construction, Rio Rancho, N.M.

Photos Daniel Nadelbach, courtesy of The Couture Closet

