



Daily News (Warwick)

Friday 13/07/2018

Page: 21
Section: General News
Region: Warwick QLD, AU
Circulation: 2308
Type: Regional
Size: 569.00 sq.cms.



slice
CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip

OFFICE POLITICS

Make your work site a haven

Prepare for a new financial year with a space that motivates

ROBYN WILLIS

MANY of us dream of the day we can walk out of the office for the last time and set ourselves up in our own business. But while the likes of *Sex And The City's* Carrie Bradshaw have made working from home look like the dream job, the reality is often quite different.

And this is often most obvious at the start of the financial year.

Come this way

Building designer Luke Van Jour, from Distinct Innovations, says there are some basic questions you need to ask yourself before setting up a work space at home.

"The most important thing is to determine if you will have clients coming to see you," Luke says.

"If you are expecting clients, you have to make sure you have your insurance (such as public liability cover) sorted out because if they trip up on your footpath or step, straight-away you can be liable."

Ideally, he says, it's great to have a separate room, preferably near the main entrance to your house.

"If you have clients coming make sure your office is private so that they can't see your partner wandering around in their pyjamas," Luke says.

"People don't realise that while it's wonderful having a home office, it's also an invasion of privacy."

Good IT services is a must, says Luke.

"If my computers go down I can't draw," he says.

Good vibrations

Surely one of the best things about working from home is being able to design and work in a space you really love and that stimulates creativity.

Interior designer Monique Sartor says it's important to personalise the space.

"I have a really big artwork in my office," she says. "The artwork has a pink background and the happy colours help make it a happy space. It's a bit of energy in the room."

"I always like to have music going in the background to keep me going."

Kick clutter to kerb

Decluttering expert Jo Carmichael, from All Sorted Out, says now is a good time to declutter your home office.

"You should feel calm and relaxed in your office space," says Jo. "Once you've got yourself organised, you'll actually feel like going to your computer nook or office – rather than wanting to escape it."

Jo's decluttering system breaks down paperwork into categories such as business records for the past financial year, important records such as wills, passports and birth certificates, and then paperwork that requires immediate action, such as bills.

Because there is so much potential for distraction when

you're working from home, Jo says making a "to-do" list and crossing tasks off as they are completed can be an effective way of staying on track.

But there should always be time for dreaming, says Luke.

"Because my designs are very nature-based sometimes I just stare out the window and the ideas flow," he says.

"If the mind is completely relaxed you start to produce some great stuff."

More: allsortedout.com.au, distinctinnovations.com.au



Daily News (Warwick)

Friday 13/07/2018

Page: 21
Section: General News
Region: Warwick QLD, AU
Circulation: 2308
Type: Regional
Size: 569.00 sq.cms.



slice
CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip



This space designed by Greg Natale takes a quietly masculine approach.

Photo: Anson Smart



Study nook designed by Clare le Roy from The Little Design Corner.

Photo: Esteban La Tessa



Daily News (Warwick)

Friday 13/07/2018

Page: 21
Section: General News
Region: Warwick QLD, AU
Circulation: 2308
Type: Regional
Size: 569.00 sq.cms.



slice
CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip



FUNKY AND FUNCTIONAL: This small workplace in an apartment by Arent&Pyke has everything its owner needs, including storage.

Photo: Tom Ferguson