



Right, college today is a lot different from when I moved into Brewster Boland back in 1985. I brought a tapestry and a couple of milk crates and called it a day. Nowadays there are sites for dorm decor. All the stores have back to college decor. We never had that growing up. So I think there's a lot more for these kids out here. And I don't think you need to have a big wallet or a big budget, or you don't have to do a lot of work to make your dorm room special to you.

John Boccacino:

It can be an extremely daunting process in general sending your son or daughter away. It could be their first time away from home. They could be traveling great distances to go to Syracuse University. So there's a lot of uncertainty when it comes to sending your child away for their freshman year. How and where should parents and students start when it comes to the decorating process?

Amie Freling:

Well, we're fortunate enough that we have FaceTime now, right? There's video: 10.01150739646 duration: 1:04





great thing for the bed. Also, if you don't use the cinder blocks, places like Bed Bath & Beyond and Target, they have those bed risers. They're basically like large oversized solo cups that you put under the chair. You can raise the bed, you can adjust it. Collapsible. Any kind of the bins you were talking about, laundry baskets, all your duffel bags that you carried all your clothes and everything can get stored in there.

And for Chloe's dorm, when we raised the bed, seeing all that stuff was an eyesore. So I had used very inexpensive panels that I bought at Home Goods, they were like \$15 a pair, and I just folded them up and tucked them under, like it was an extra long bed skirt. And then she just had all that stuff covered and it looked really, really nice. Also, those buddy pillows are amazing to sit up in bed. And having really good bedding and blankets and even a mattress topper makes those college dorm room beds feel comfortable.

John Boccacino:

One of the questions that we're going to get from parents who happen to be listening, they want to know, "Okay, this all sounds great and lovely. But how much?" Cost is always an issue. So break down a couple of different price point options for us. And I guess we'll start off with this. What do you think is a practical budget to be spending for these dorm room accessories?

Amie Freling:

Well, as I think about it, I would say that the budget for these dorm room accessories should be around \$100 to \$150. I think that's a reasonable range. I would say that the budget for these dorm room accessories should be around \$100 to \$150. I think that's a reasonable range.



you can get on social media as long as I get on and I see what's going on." And so for months I was watching these tweens post Starbucks and all these fun things. And I said, "I'm just going to start posting what I do every day. Where I go, what I buy, what I like." And it basically just snowballed. It was at a time where Instagram was relatively new and I caught the eye of Home Goods. I would shop in Home Goods and I would tag them and they said, "We love your style and we'd love to share." And then I became an ambassador for Home Goods. And I still blog for Home Goods today, 15 years later.

So it's just following what you like and being you and sharing your style. And I just love it. And I also was fortunate enough to redo a dorm room at Syracuse University at my sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma. We redid the president's room and that was just a white box and we made it quite spectacular. That's also on my blog. You can search up Syracuse sorority room and dorm room, and you get lots of ideas. Also, I have a really helpful checklist for those going to school. So you know that you don't forget anything. There's all the essentials and then some extra stuff on there, and loads of inspiration. And feel free, absolutely feel free to reach out to me via email or social media with any questions. And I love, love, love sharing my followers' work. So if you have dorm room questions or you want to share how you decorated your dorm room, I'd love to share it with others.

John Boccacino:

It's been a fascinating conversation here on a topic that has evolved quite a bit since we were Syracuse University students out there. Amie Freling with memehill.com has been our guest. Amie, we really

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