

5 Steps to Transitioning Into a Tiny House



There are different stages to tiny home conversion - from “tiny home curious” to “tiny life living.” Wherever you land on that spectrum, read on to learn what it would take to go small by moving into a tiny house or a yurt.

✓ 1. DO YOUR HOMEWORK AND CREATE A BUDGET

Which type of tiny home is right for you, and where will your home be located?

- To figure out what you want, do some online research or spend time in tiny homes. RVs, camping trailers, yurts and traditionally built homes on trailer chassis are all options.

When creating a budget for your tiny home:

- Start a master list of all of the features that you need and want in your tiny home.
- Set aside 10-15% extra for unexpected building expenses.

✓ 2. REVIEW THE BENEFITS OF LIVING SMALL

Prepare yourself for tiny home living by reviewing all of the benefits you'll accrue:

- Lower energy bills and a greener footprint.
- Less space to clean means more free time.
- The lower price tag can free you from debt.

✓ 3. CREATE A DESIGN

How do you use the spaces in your current living arrangements?

- Decide what items and amenities are important to you, such as a couch, dishwasher or washing machine, for example.
- Designing and building your own tiny home is a possibility if you have construction experience. You can also select your home from pre-designed plans, or hire a local architect and interior designer to help you create your dream space.
- Don't forget about big-picture considerations, such as plumbing, electricity and where the tiny home will reside (portable or on a foundation).

✓ 4. DOWNSIZE AND SIMPLIFY

Once you've selected your tiny home, take some time to de-clutter and pare down your belongings.

- Look for ways to double up on uses. For instance, your book collection could all fit on a tablet.
- Donate or sell the items you don't use often. The process of freeing yourself from excess stuff can be joyful!

✓ 5. MOVE INTO YOUR NEW TINY HOME AND START ENJOYING THE SIMPLE LIFE

Once you've moved into your new tiny home, you can start enjoying your “tiny life” by pursuing your passions and dreams, without worrying about mortgage payments or large utility and maintenance bills.