

# idealhomes

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—  
a chat with...

# hey montgomery

Samantha Johnson, Creative Director at  
Hey Montgomery

Specialising in kids' interior design, Hey Montgomery's Creative Director Samantha Johnson shares how to put together a marvellous, safe and future-proof space for your children.



**What would you say is the biggest challenge for parents when it comes to setting up their kids' rooms?**

It depends on the age of the child, however, the number one challenge all parents face or end up facing is storage and how to manage and organise the mammoth number of toys children have (including gifts!). I help parents with storage issues as well as organisation; if it's

managed from the beginning then it can be kept on top of.

**Are there certain essentials in kids' rooms that parents tend to overlook or forget about?**

I feel parents put the kids' room on the back burner within the home and it then becomes the most complained about space with all the toys spilling out into the living areas.



That's why organised, efficient and labelled toy storage is a must in every child's space. Everyone at home will then know where to find any toy at any one time, and where to put it back at the end of playtime.

It's also important to get a solid bed with some storage space, ideally one that can see your little person through until their teens. Having a solid single bed creates a focal point in the room.

**How do you design a kids' room that's appealing to the little ones while still being**

**timeless enough to grow with them as they age?**

I always ensure many of the elements in a space are interchangeable to enable parents to adapt as their child grows. I love to use freestanding furniture where possible, reusable decals and wall art.

I steer away from matching themed decor as your child will change their favourite obsession of the moment relatively quickly. If they currently love a superhero or a princess, keep that theme to a cushion cover and other small details that can be easily changed out again.

**Tip** My son loves tornadoes right now, which aren't easy to implement into a room. I found a beautiful, timeless mobile from Flensted that mimics a tornado and ticks the design box too!

**How do you implement child-friendly design in other areas of the house?**

First, I look at where you spend the most time with the children outside of their rooms and focus the attention there. I primarily choose furniture and decor that sits well within the home. It

doesn't have to be advertised as child-friendly, it just needs to work for the kids' items you are looking to store or display while feeling cohesive with the rest of the space.

**What are your top tips for ensuring safety and comfort at home?**

I taught my son Monty where the simple danger zones are in our home and over time he got it. I also like to suggest items with curved edges, high-pile rugs with soft underlays and items that will soften a fall like cushions and beanbags.



**Hey Montgomery recommends...**

**Momiji Kids:** Rattan furniture for kids and adults, plus storage baskets perfect for toys.

**Umbrella Amarela:** Rainbow felt rugs and other decor pieces.

**Bespoke wallpaper:** Now available at Hey Montgomery!