



How to Measure a Room for Lockers, Shelving or Cupboards

A practical Storage First guide to help you measure accurately and plan storage that fits — and works.

**YOU'VE MEASURED THE WALL.
BUT HAVE YOU MEASURED THE ROOM?**

Planning storage is about more than measuring from wall to wall. Skirting boards, sockets, beams, doors, columns, corners and the way people will use the storage can all affect what will fit and how safely it can be used.

1. Measure the space

Record the overall wall length, floor-to-ceiling height and available depth. Measure the usable space rather than assuming every millimetre is available.

2. Allow for skirting boards and projections

Skirting boards and other wall projections can stop a unit sitting fully against a wall or reduce usable depth. Measure their height and projection where relevant.

3. Check power sockets, switches and services

Mark sockets, switches, radiators, pipes and other fixed items. Think about whether they need to remain accessible once the storage is installed — especially with charging lockers or electrical equipment.

4. Look upwards as well as across

Measure the ceiling height and check for low beams, suspended ceilings, lighting, ducting, sprinklers, pipes and other overhead obstructions.



Check the whole room — not just the wall

5. Look at the whole room

Check for columns, beams in the middle of the room, existing furniture, awkward corners, doors and other obstructions. Think about how people will move around the finished installation.

6. Think about access and circulation

Storage should not simply fit; people need sufficient clear, unobstructed space to move and work safely. If wheelchair or mobility access is relevant, plan circulation and manoeuvring space as part of the layout. Project-specific requirements may require professional access advice.

7. Think about how the storage will be used

Ask what will be stored, how heavy or bulky it is, how often it will be accessed and how items will be removed. Consider bending, reaching, carrying items away from shelves, trolley use and whether people need to work from both sides.

8. Don't forget the route in

Measure doorways and access routes, not just the final location. Check corridors, corners, lifts and other pinch points so the storage can actually be delivered and installed.

TOP TIP

Take photographs from each corner of the room and make a simple sketch showing measurements and obstructions. These can be extremely useful when discussing your requirements with a storage specialist.



Your Room Measuring Checklist

Use this checklist before requesting a storage quotation or site assessment.

CHECK	DONE
■ Overall wall-to-wall dimensions	
■ Floor-to-ceiling height	
■ Available storage depth	
■ Skirting board height and projection	
■ Power sockets and switches	
■ Radiators, pipes and wall projections	
■ Low beams and overhead obstructions	
■ Columns or beams within the room	
■ Door openings and door swings	
■ Awkward corners or restricted access	
■ Clear circulation and working space	
■ Wheelchair or mobility access, where applicable	
■ How items will be loaded and removed	
■ Need for trolley/equipment access	
■ Delivery route into the room	

Need help?

Send Storage First your measurements, photographs or a simple sketch. We can help you assess the space and discuss practical storage options.

Storage First

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Guidance note: this guide is a practical measuring aid and is not a substitute for project-specific design, accessibility, fire-safety or building-regulation advice. Where requirements are regulated or safety-critical, obtain appropriate professional advice.