

Image via Unsplash

5 Tips for Converting Your Garage Into a Home Office

Who says you need your home office to be a part of your main living space? If the spare bedroom, living room, or basement hasn't worked out, you might feel like you have run out of options. But the truth is that if you have a garage, you're far from hopeless!

Garages can make for ideal home offices. They provide separation from your home, which can help keep distractions to a minimum. They can be furnished to your liking. And let's be honest, garage offices are just cool—so cool that tons of companies are utilizing the industrial charm of these structures in their big city headquarters!

You may be thinking, "But what about all the junk in my garage? How am I ever going to turn it into an attractive, productive workspace?" Well, these five tips from Charleston Home Search are a great place to start!

1. Figure out what you need

If you want to make the process of converting your garage into a home office much less overwhelming, try to think of all the changes you will need to make before you devise a plan. For example, will you need to install new <u>flooring</u> or lighting? Will you need to add a window or two?

2. Make a plan

Once you have evaluated your space and determined what you need, start hashing out a plan. This is when you will create a concrete list of any modifications and items you need in order to turn your garage into a dreamy home office. You can get some fantastic ideas for <u>inspiration</u> by researching home office decor online!

Also, keep in mind that you will want to keep track of the progress you make on your garage. Be sure to keep all of your receipts and take photos of the space before and after the conversion. That way, you can claim the increase in resale value if you ever <u>choose to sell</u> your home.

3. Set up your business entity

If you have a home-based business and need to add liability protection and potential tax advantages to your operations, consider establishing an LLC. This type of entity also happens to be easier than a corporation to set up and manage. You can be certain that your legal structure is established to comply with all state regulations by having an online service form your LLC in South Carolina.

4. Clean and paint

Before you make any changes to your garage, get all the clutter out and give the walls, floors, and ceilings a deep clean. Then, give the walls and trim a <u>fresh coat</u> of paint; going with a neutral color like light gray or beige will leave you more room for vibrant accent colors through your decorations.

5. Bring in the lights, furnishings, and gear

If your garage has windows, great! Natural light is best when it comes to enhancing visibility (and <u>productivity</u>) during your long work hours. If you don't have windows, you might consider having a contractor install a couple because it will give you access to natural light while also providing adequate ventilation.

If you plan on having clients or other types of visitors to your home office regularly, you will need to make sure there is seating for them. Look for budget-friendly, attractive armchairs, and side tables, and make sure there is a comfortable throw rug in the guest area. If it's just going to be you in your home office, you might be able to get away with the <u>essentials</u> like an office chair, desk, and coffee station.

Your garage could be turned into a world-class home office. Just make sure you know exactly what you need, and come up with a detailed plan for how you will tackle the conversion. Finally, make sure you have a business structure in place that will benefit your company, and implement the other tips above as you start with your garage office makeover!

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