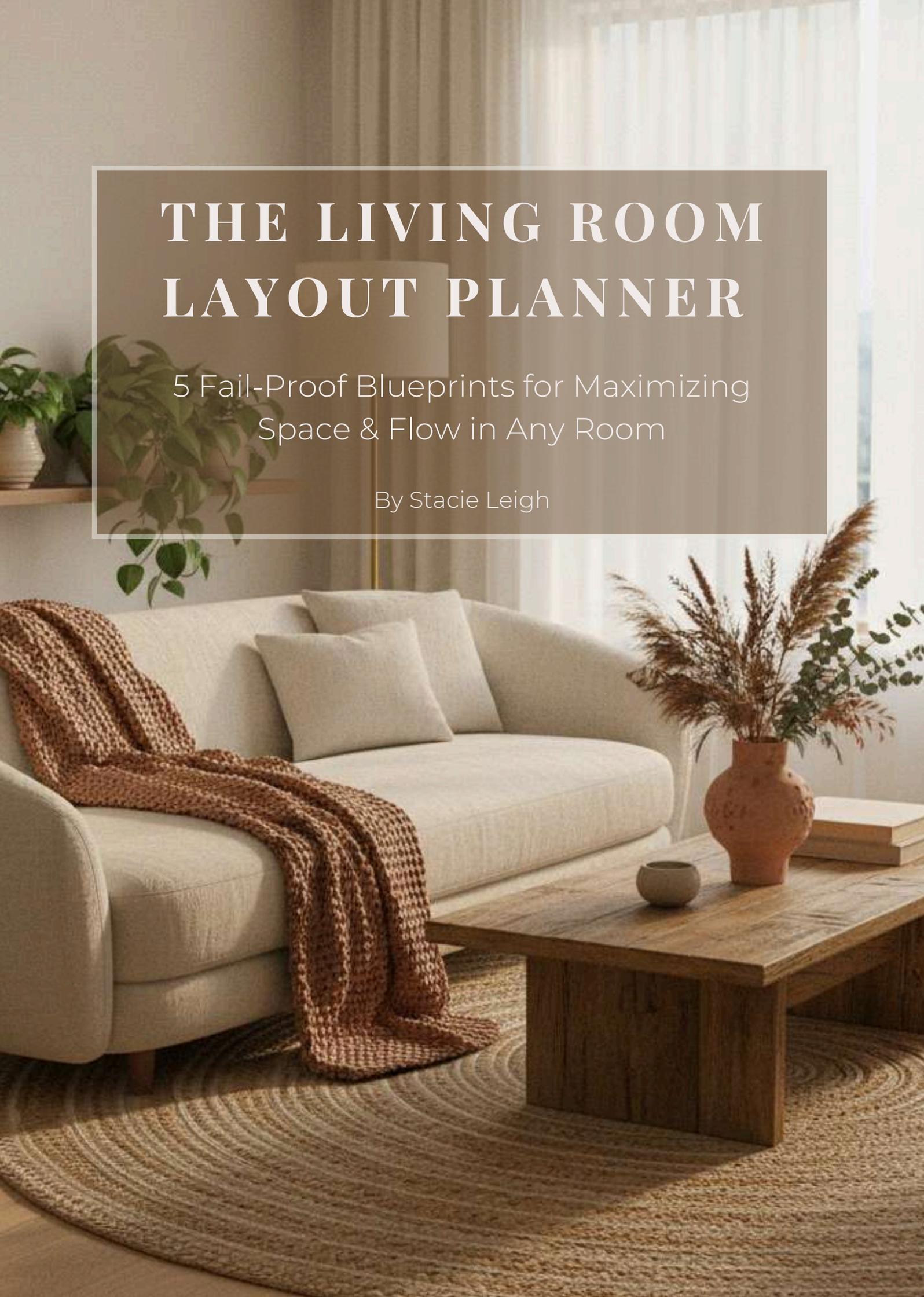


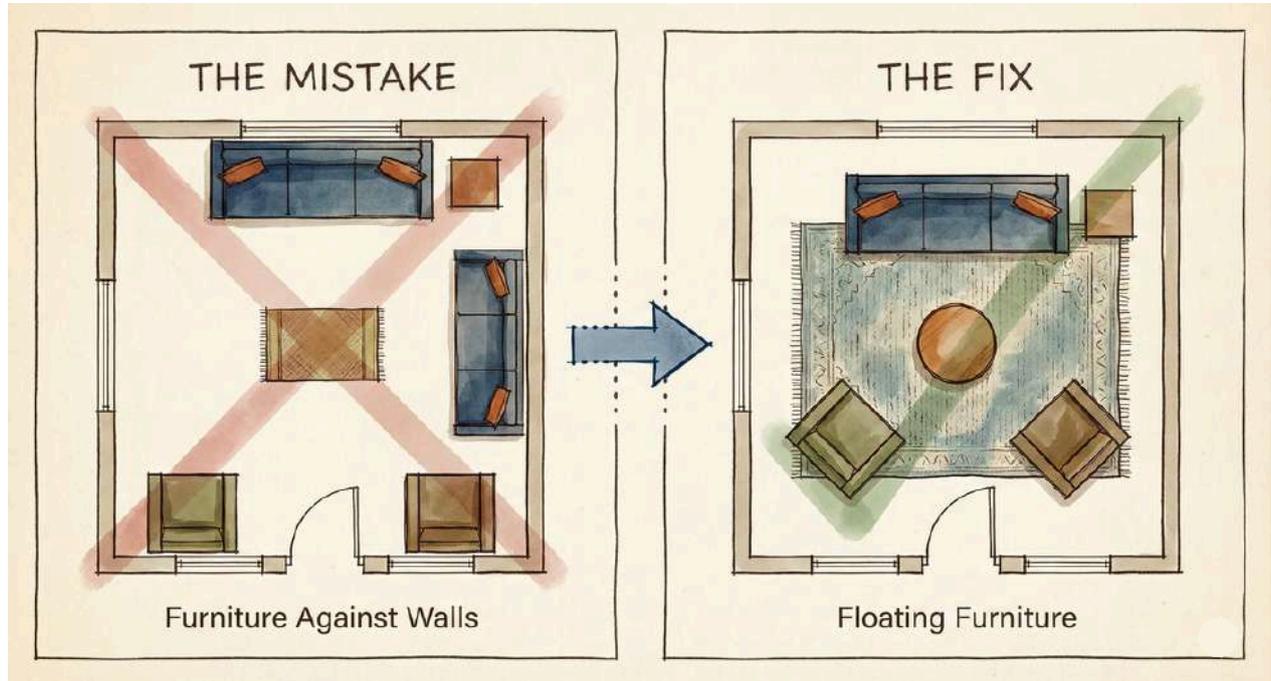
# THE LIVING ROOM LAYOUT PLANNER

5 Fail-Proof Blueprints for Maximizing  
Space & Flow in Any Room

By Stacie Leigh



# DON'T BUY FURNITURE UNTIL YOU READ THIS.



The biggest mistake I see in home design isn't bad furniture, it's bad placement.

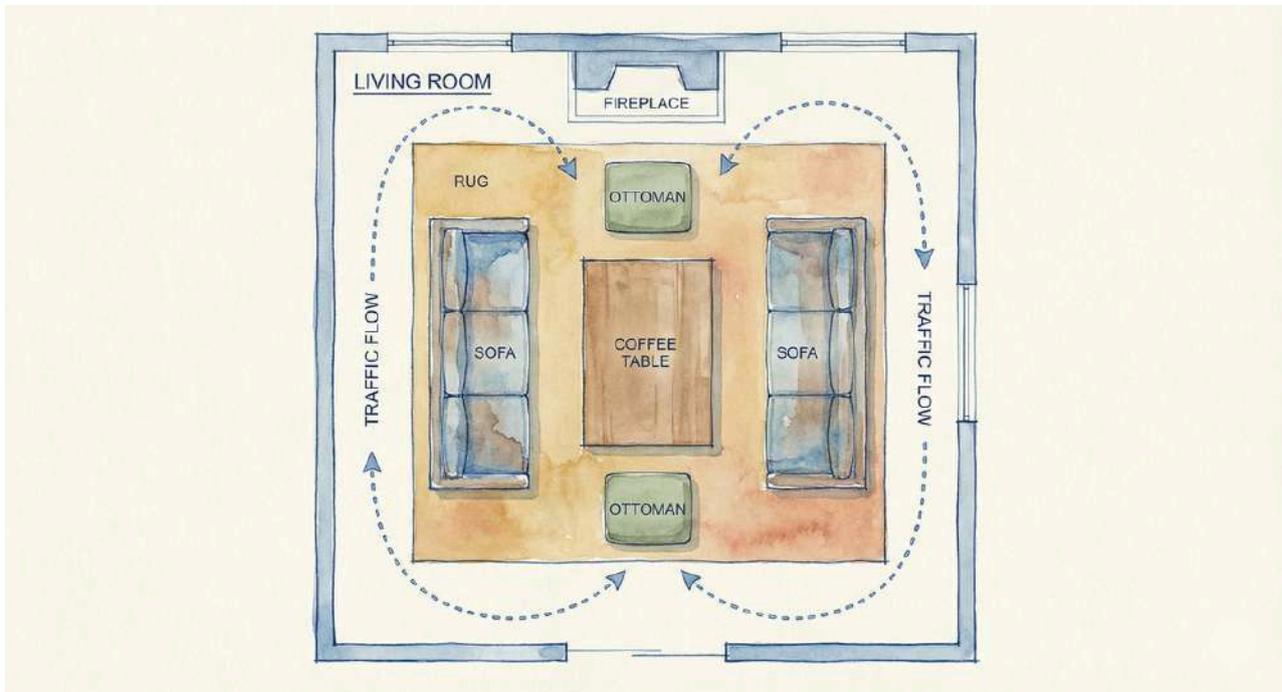
You can have a \$5,000 sofa, but if it blocks the traffic path, the room will feel cheap and cramped.

This guide outlines the **5 "Master Layouts"** designers use to make rooms feel bigger, calmer, and more cohesive.

**The Golden Rule:** Never push all your furniture against the walls.

It creates a "dead zone" in the middle of the room. Pulling furniture in, even just 3 inches, creates intimacy.

# LAYOUT 1 - THE "CONVERSATION CIRCLE"

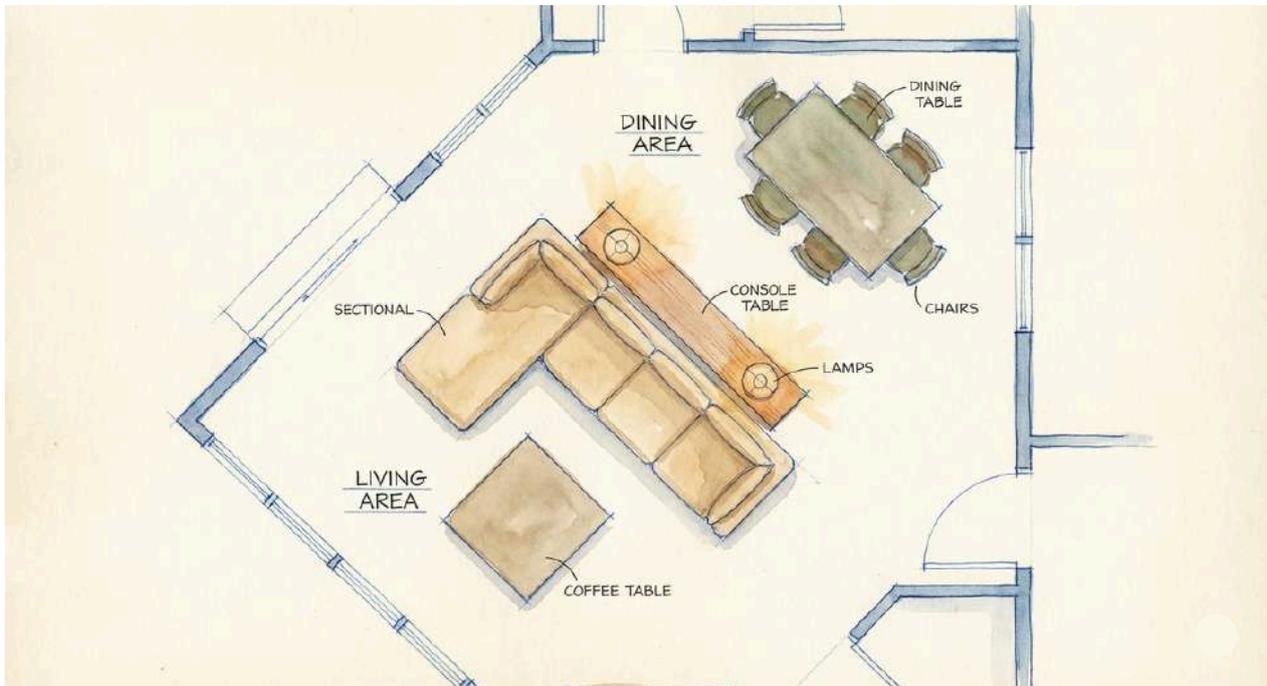


**Best for:** Entertaining & large square rooms.

*This layout prioritizes people, not screens. It creates a cozy "floating island" in the center of the room.*

- **The Anchor:** Two identical sofas facing each other (perpendicular to the fireplace/focal point).
- **The Support:** A large rectangular coffee table in the center.
- **The Trick:** Ensure your rug is large enough that the front legs of both sofas sit on it.
- **Why it works:** It creates perfect symmetry, which the human eye interprets as "calm" and "expensive."

## LAYOUT 2 - THE "L-SHAPE" ZONE

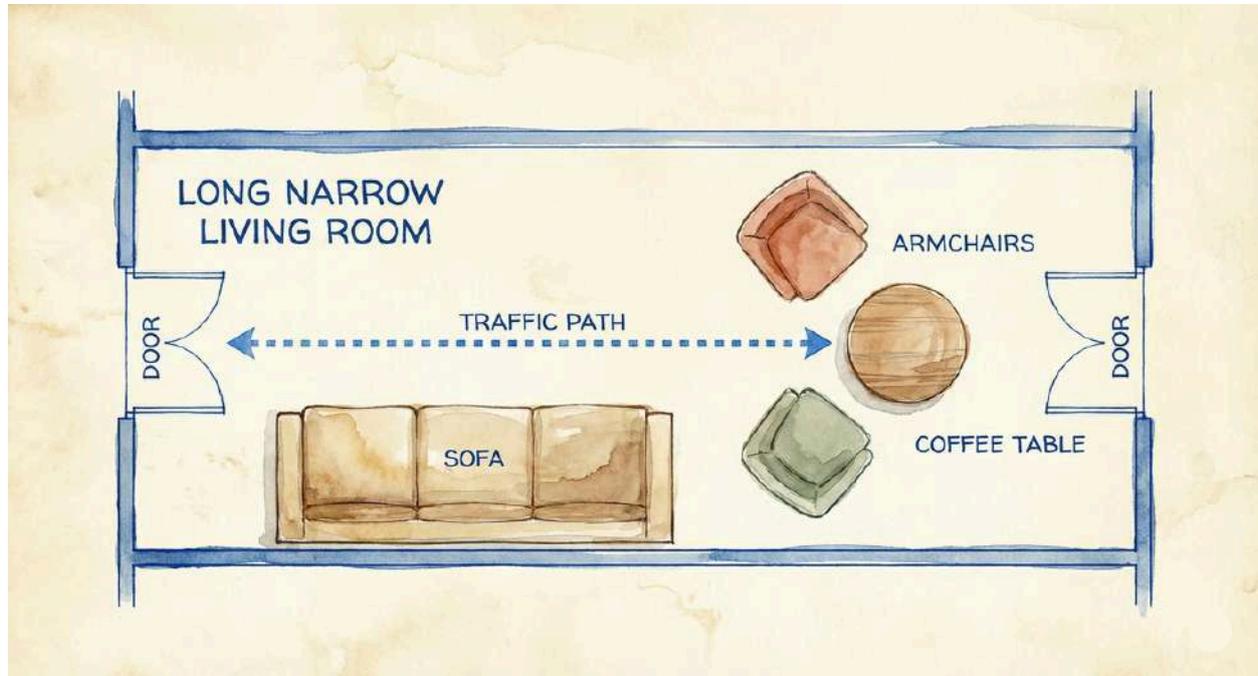


**Best for:** Open concept spaces & families.

*If your living room connects to your kitchen, use your furniture to build a "wall" without putting up drywall.*

- **The Anchor:** A large sectional sofa.
- **The Placement:** Place the long back of the sectional so it acts as a divider between the lounge area and the dining area.
- **The Support:** Place a console table behind the sofa to hide the ugly back and give you a place for lamps/decor.
- **Why it works:** It clearly defines "Relaxation Time" separate from "Cooking Time."

## LAYOUT 3 - THE "WALK-THROUGH" (NARROW ROOMS)



**Best for:** Rectangular rooms with two entry points.

*Narrow rooms are tricky because they often feel like hallways.*

- **The Anchor:** One long sofa placed against the longest wall.
- **The Support:** Two compact armchairs placed opposite the sofa, but angled slightly inward.
- **The Trick:** Use a round coffee table instead of a square one. It breaks up the "boxy" lines and prevents you from banging your shins when walking through.
- **Why it works:** It keeps the traffic path open while still offering enough seating for 4-5 people.

## LAYOUT 4 - THE "FOCAL POINT" V

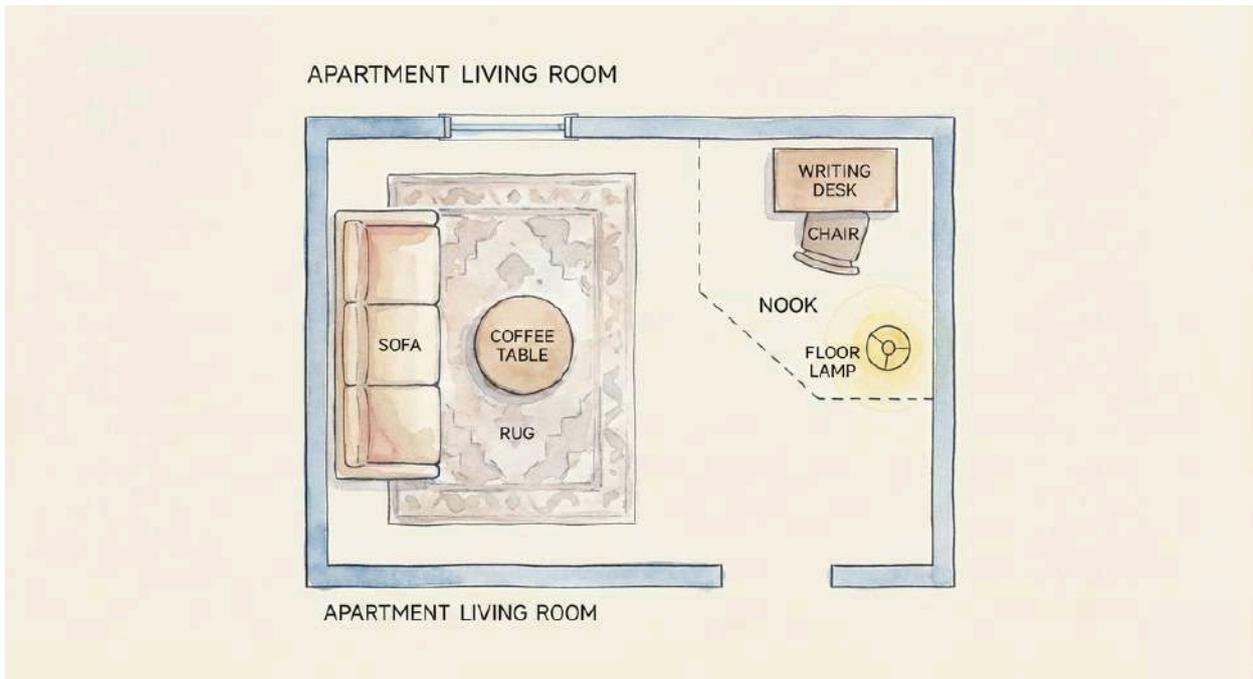


**Best for:** Rooms with a fireplace or large TV.

*This is the classic "family movie night" setup, but elevated.*

- **The Anchor:** Sofa facing directly toward the focal point (TV/Fireplace).
- **The Support:** Two chairs placed on either side of the fireplace, angled back toward the sofa.
- **The Trick:** Do not put the TV too high! The center of the screen should be at eye level when seated.
- **Why it works:** It acknowledges that we watch TV, but the angled chairs allow for conversation when the screen is off.

## LAYOUT 5 - THE "MULTI-TASKER"



**Best for:** Small apartments or work-from-home.

*When your living room is also your office and dining room.*

- **The Anchor:** A loveseat (apartment size) or small sofa.
- **The Support:** Instead of a second chair, create a "Nook" in the corner with a small writing desk or a reading chair with a floor lamp.
- **The Trick:** Use "Leggy" furniture (sofas raised on legs) rather than heavy skirts. Seeing the floor underneath makes the room look 20% bigger.

# THE "CHEAT SHEET" CHECKLIST

**Print this out and keep it in your purse when shopping.**

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- [ ] Rug Size: Does it fit under the front legs of all furniture? (Usually 8x10 for living rooms).
- [ ] Traffic Flow: Do I have at least 30 inches of walking space between furniture pieces?
- [ ] Coffee Table: Is it reachable? It should be 14-18 inches from the sofa.
- [ ] Lighting: Do I have at least 3 sources of light? (1 Overhead, 2 Eye-level/Lamps).

Ready to style your new layout?

Check out my "**Current Obsessions**" list for the exact decor I use to finish these rooms on a budget.

[ByStacieLeigh](#)