

LEVEL 1 | REGISTERED
STORAGE
DESIGNER

Study Guide



acsp

Association of Closet and
Storage Professionals





Our Mission

The Association of Closet and Storage Professionals (ACSP) encourages collaboration in the home storage industry. This is accomplished by sharing best practices and providing learning opportunities. Our efforts elevate each individual member's business as well as the industry as a whole.

Our Vision

Through the implementation of our 5 pillars: Marketing, Education, Best Practices, Product, and Networking, the ACSP is dedicated to providing resources and tools necessary to grow the home organization profession.

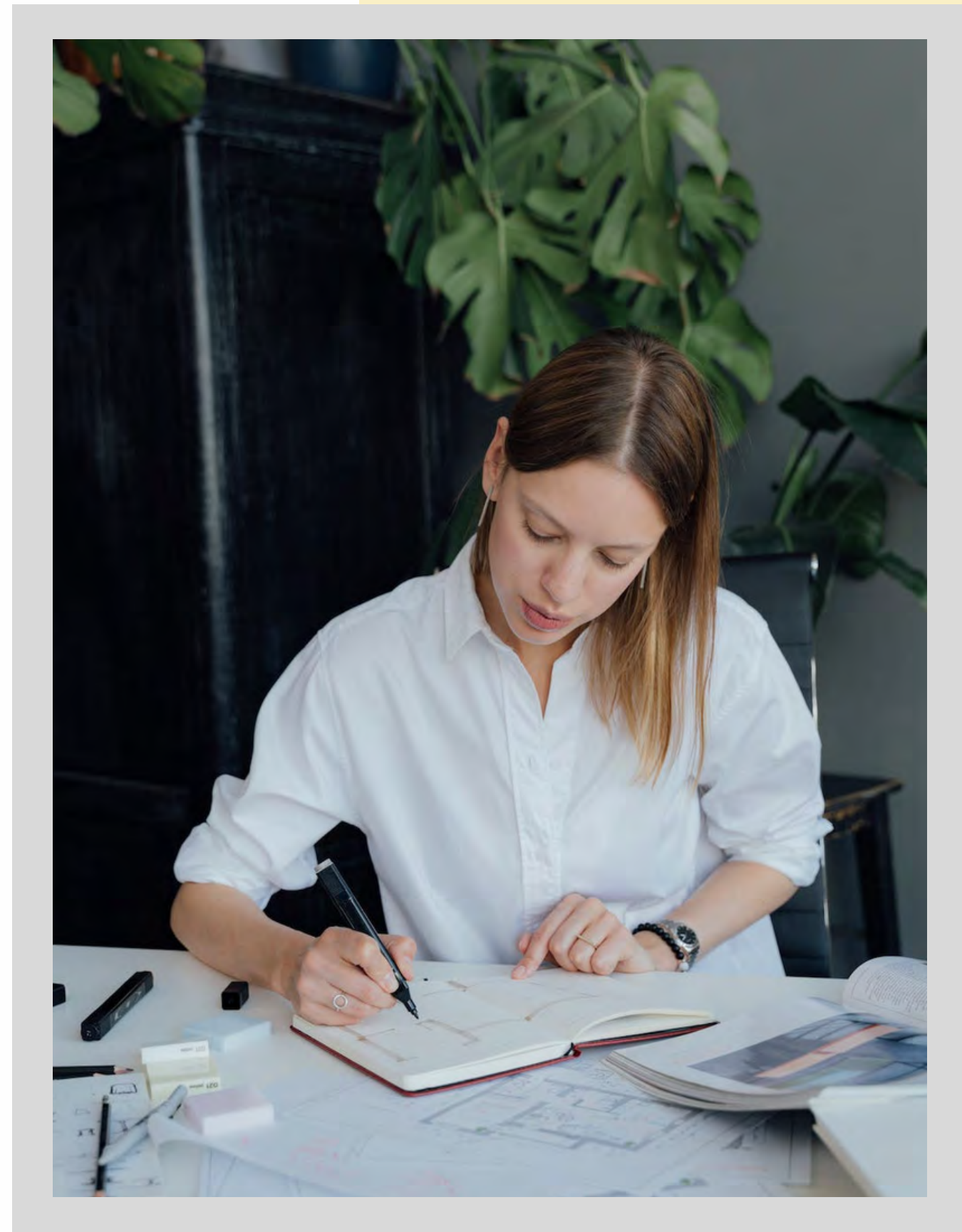




The Association of Closet & Storage Professionals (ACSP) has created a certification program for designers and installers, the first of its kind available specifically to the home organization industry.

Produced and challenged by many highly experienced industry professionals - The program's main objective is to assist business owners, designers, and installers in marketing their skills, promoting their achievements, and defining their careers to both consumers and employers as the true, established professionals in this competitive and specialized field.

The ACSP is dedicated and committed to evolving with this ever growing industry.



Designer Certifications



1

Registered Storage Designer

Min. 1 year industry experience
Achievement of passing score on qualification exam and design challenges & submission requirements



2

Certified Storage Designer

Pre-requisite Registered Storage Designer Certification
Achievement of passing score on qualification exam and advanced design challenges & submission requirements



3

Master Storage Designer

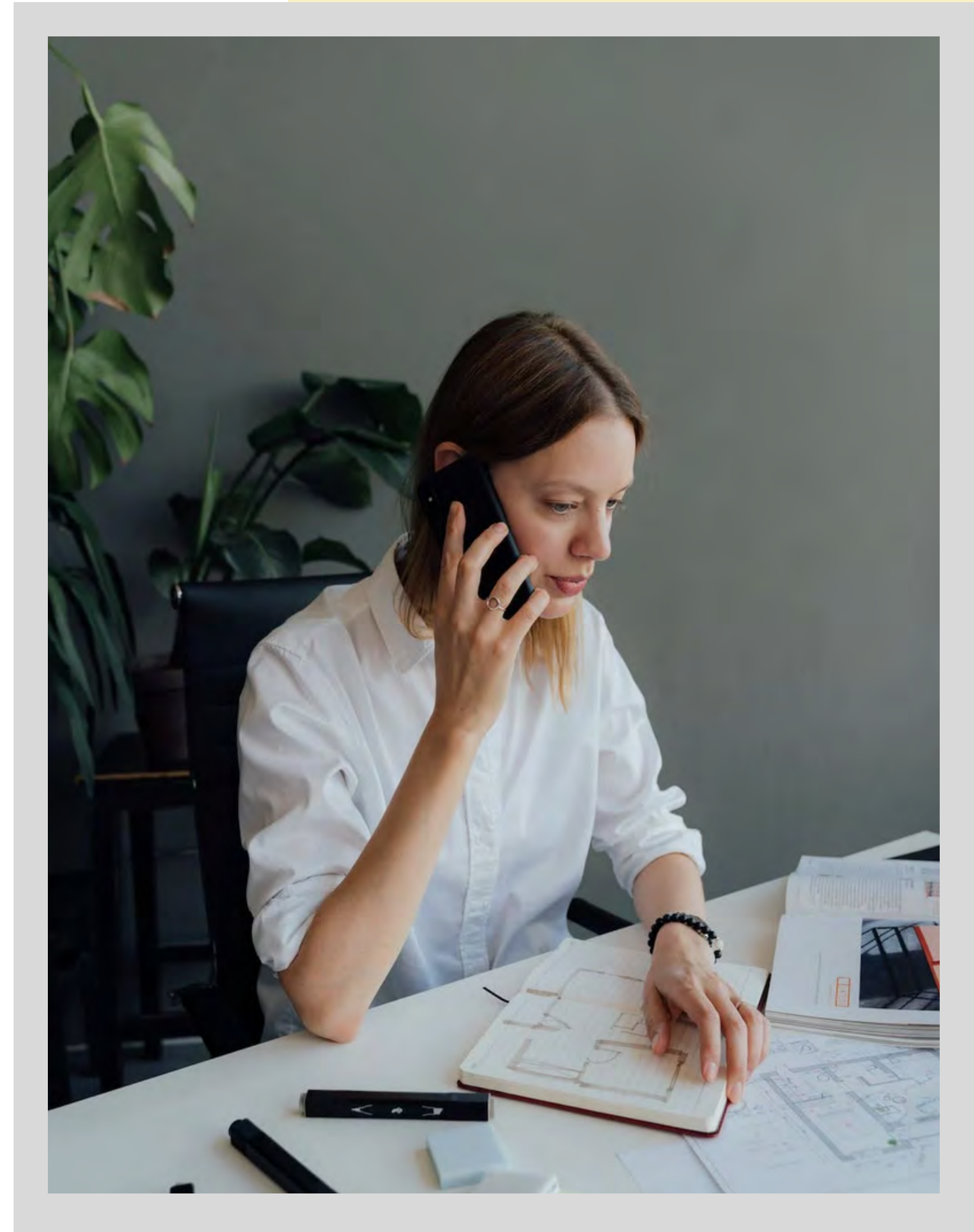
Pre-requisite Certified Storage Designer Certification
10 years industry experience (min. 7 years in design)
Portfolio of 10 projects & submission requirements

LEVEL 1

REGISTERED STORAGE DESIGNER

Certification Requirements

- Current ACSP membership
- Complete Submission Form
- 80%+ Registered Storage Designer Exam
- Design Challenges:
 1. Brief About You/Cover Letter and Resume
 2. Design Challenge 1 - Reach-in Closet
 3. Design Challenge 2 - Walk-in Closet
 4. Design Challenge 3 - Walk-in Closet
 5. Design Challenge 4 - Pantry



LEVEL 1

REGISTERED STORAGE DESIGNER

Preparing for the exam

This study guide offers an overview of the essential topics and knowledge required for success. While it outlines the exam content, it's important to supplement it with your industry experience. While you review the study guide, we recommend that you focus particularly on sections discussing common measurements, as a significant portion of the exam questions revolve around these topics.

As you study, if you encounter any concepts or topics that are unclear, don't hesitate to seek clarification from the ASCP education committee members, peers, and/or ask your question in the Circle topic dedicated to Certification.



INDUSTRY TERMS

Cam Lock

A cam lock is a type of fastener that is often used in cabinet construction. Cam locks allow the cabinets to be held securely together without affecting the outward appearance. Cam locks are cylindrical fasteners that are used in cabinetmaking and many types of furniture.

Grommet

A grommet usually refers to a simple "eyelet" that reinforces a hole in a surface. That surface could be virtually anything, but in most cases, it typically refers to a cable pass-through. As the name implies, it allows "cables" to "pass through" surfaces like walls, desks or other furniture, floors, ceilings, etc.

Maximum Drilling

Maximum drilling provides the maximum number of holes that are usable for each closet section. This allows for the most flexibility to change things around, as needed. This type of drilling is great in a child's closet for example, where flexibility is needed for rods as your child grows.

Molding (aka Moulding)

While trim work might seem like it should fall under the category of decorating, most types of molding are actually designed to serve useful purposes. For example, door casing elegantly covers gaps around a door frame, and crown molding conceals imperfections where the walls meet the ceiling. But while molding has practical uses, it's especially valued for the beauty and visual interest it brings to interior spaces.

More info here: <https://www.bobvila.com/articles/types-of-molding/>

Selective Drilling

Selective drilling provides the holes for your shelves and rods with some flexibility but limits the number of holes for the cleanest look to your closet.

Shims

For leveling out your cabinets on uneven flooring, cabinet shims can perfectly accommodate the angular difference. Also called cabinet wedges.

Toe Kick

The toe kick is the area between the base cabinet and the floor. It is also referred to as the toe space. A toe kick is the recessed area at the bottom of a base cabinet.

Thermally Fused Laminate

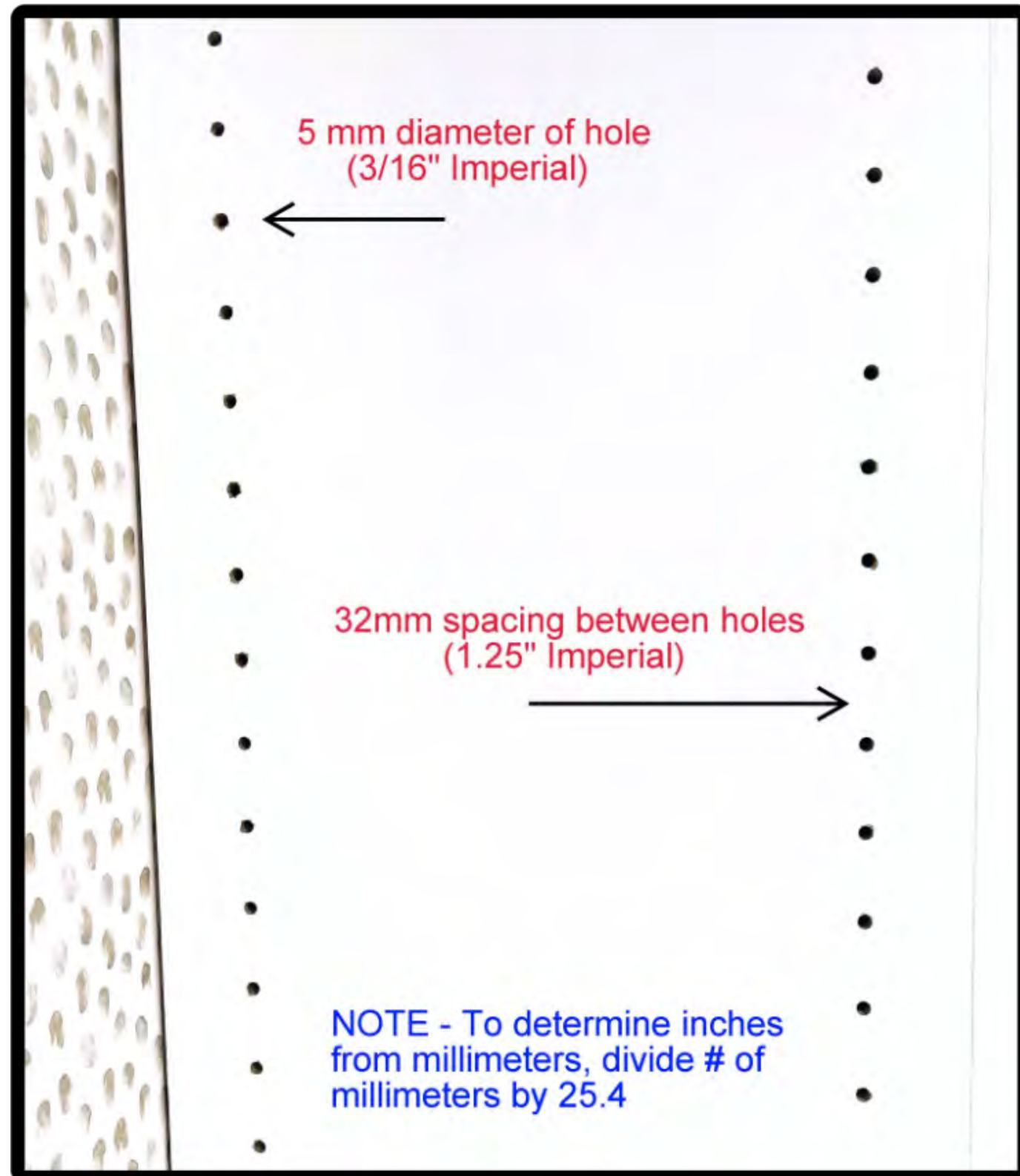
TFL is 4x8 or 5x8 sheets of material originally referred to as melamine panels, or melamine boards. Typically made of particleboard, the surface décor (aka low pressure laminate) and wear layers are saturated with melamine resin for durability and come with durable, paper-based decorative faces in solids, woodgrains or other printed designs. Matching edge materials are used to band exposed particleboard edges during the fabrication of vertical panels.

Learn more: <https://www.materialintelligence.com/tfl>

Valet Rod

A valet rod closet addition is not intended to replace a normal closet rod. Instead, it is mainly used as a temporary place to hang up garments. Since they're intended for temporary use, valet rods are usually retractable or can fold away when not in use so they aren't taking up unnecessary space.

THE 32 MM SYSTEM



The 32mm system has been the heart of the closet and storage industry since the 1960s. This system utilizes a series of 5mm holes that are spaced 32mm apart. Generally, these system holes are in two rows running from top to bottom of the cabinet sides.

Using this 32mm system, designers can offer their clients storage systems that are adjustable, interchangeable, expandable, removable, and flexible to meet the changing needs and abilities of its users.

Drilling only the holes absolutely needed for fixed shelves, etc. and turning off other holes is called selective drilling. Some closet companies will offer this for a custom or “bespoke” closet.

HANGING SYSTEMS VS. FLOOR MOUNT



The Wall Hung Method

Allows the system to clear the floor. Its advantages include not having to remove baseboards or notch for base boards or level the system in case of un-level floors (as in historical renovation). It allows for the future replacement of finished floors without removing the storage systems. In new construction, the system can be installed immediately after walls and trim are painted. There is also more latitude in measurements, as the industry standard is to leave approximately at $\frac{1}{4}$ " gap on each side. A wall-hung system is not advisable to install in front of a pocket door. The depth should not exceed 18". If sections are deeper than 18", the system should be floor-based.

HANGING SYSTEMS VS. FLOOR MOUNT



The Floor-Based Method

The floor-based method has a more built-in look. Shelf and drawer towers extend to floor providing additional storage space. It can hold more weight when storing heavy objects like books, china, and pantry items. Baseboard measurements are important because panels are routed to accommodate them. If the baseboards are higher than 5", it is often better to install baseboard after the closets are installed. Recommended when installing sections with more than three drawers or baskets and in sections with all shelving that's 16" or deeper.

COMMON MEASUREMENTS



Hanging

(length dimensions include hanger)

Skirts:	1-2" wide 30-44" long
Dresses:	1-2" wide 44-68" long
Blouses:	½" - 1 ½" wide 28-36" long
Women's Suits/Jackets:	2-4" wide 30-42" long
Men's Suits/Jackets:	2-4" wide 38-44" long
Men's Shirts:	1-3" wide 38-40" long
Adult Coats:	4-7" wide 44-68" long
Outerwear Jackets:	4-7" wide 40-48" long
Pants (hanging long):	1-2" wide 41-52" long
Pants (hanging folded):	1-2" wide 28-32" long
Robes:	2-4" wide 44-68" long
Women's Formal Dresses:	3-8" wide 70-78" long

COMMON MEASUREMENTS



Folding

Sweaters, Jeans: 10-14" wide | 14-16" deep

T-Shirts: 10-12" wide | 12-14" deep

Towels/Sheets: 14-16" wide | 14-16" deep

Blankets: 18-24" wide | 14-18" deep

Shoes

Women's Shoes: average pair is 7-8" wide
average pair is 9" wide

Men's Shoes:

COMMON MEASUREMENTS



Standard Rod Heights

(to top of rod from floor)

Single Hang:

36-42"

Double Hang:

Needs a min. of 84" topshelf

Medium Hang:

42-59"

Long Hang:

60-68"

Extra Long Hang:

69-78"

COMMON MEASUREMENTS



Standard Placement Heights for Accessories

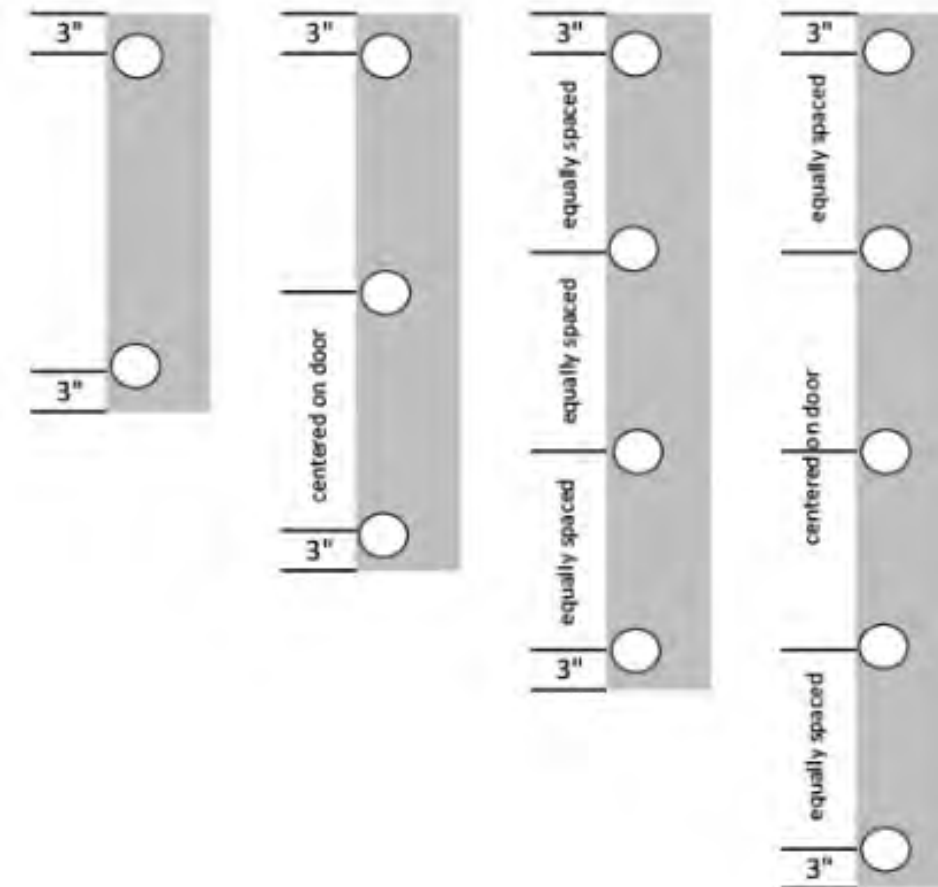
Valet Rod:	70" from floor unless otherwise specified
Belt Rack:	50" or the length of the belt +2"
Tie Racks:	78" and 40" for two racks, one above the other 72" for a single tie rack
Iron and Board Holder:	60" from floor or per customer preference
Mop and Broom Holder:	54" from floor

NUMBER OF DOOR HINGES PER DOOR



Door Hinge Guidelines

Doors from 0" to 39.99"	2 holes
Doors 40" to 62.99"	3 holes
Doors 63" to 78.75"	4 holes
Doors 78.76" and up	5 holes



ADA REQUIREMENTS

The Americans with Disabilities Act



From ADA.gov:

If the clear floor space allows a parallel approach by a person in a wheelchair and the distance between the wheelchair and the clothes rod exceeds 10 inches (255 mm), the maximum high side reach shall be 48 inches (1220 mm). The maximum distance from the user to the clothes rod shall be 21 inches (535 mm).

WALL BEDS

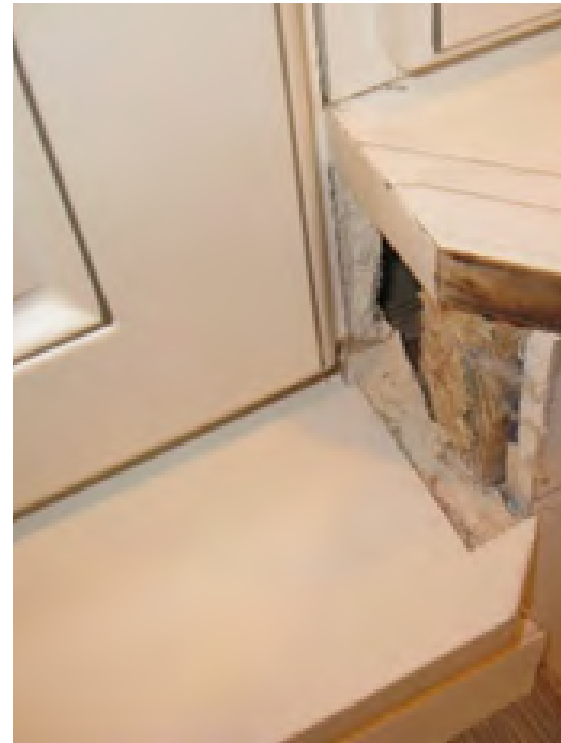


Wall beds are both functional and ideal for maximizing a space. They consist of a fold-down mattress system that can be installed either vertically or horizontally, and they are encased in the cabinetry of whatever finish and style you offer your clients.

A vertical wall bed is typically a queen or full-sized mattress, and a horizontal wall bed is best suited for a twin mattress. A horizontal wall bed is also a good solution where vertical height is limited by sloped ceilings.

When planning for wall beds, be sure to consider clearance for both the mattress size and walking space once the bed is opened up. Additional features include cabinetry on either side of the vertical wall bed and integrated lighting.

AVOIDING MISTAKES



**Door
Position**



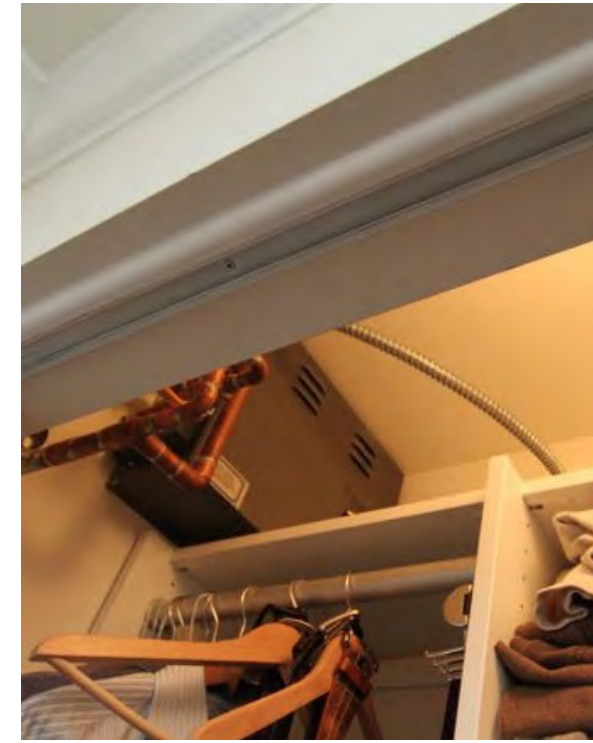
Switches



**Electrical
Outlets**



**Floor & Wall
Vents**



**Other
Obstacles**

AVOIDING MISTAKES

Door Types, Swings, and Positioning

In most cases, doors are already framed out either in new construction or existing remodeling projects. If the opportunity presents itself to inform a client where best to place a door in their new space, consider these options:

- Door positioning for a walk-in closet that is 6' wide: Having the door on center provides approximately 2' of space on each side of the door allowing you to hang garments on both the right and the left walls, as garments require between 22" – 26" of space from the walls. If the closet is shallow, you can recommend the door swing outward to avoid interference with either the system, the garments, or both, along the back wall.
- Door positioning for a 5' wide walk-in closet: The best use of space will be achieved if the door is offset. This will provide storage for the client along both the back and one of the side walls. In a shallower walk-in, consider shelving along the back wall opposite the door opening rather than clothes hanging which will project further into the space and interfere with the door swing.
- Door positioning for reach-in closets: Door width matters when it comes to access. Minimize the side depths of a reach-in closet. The wider the door width opening in relation to the closet width, the better the access to stored items.

AVOIDING MISTAKES

Switches

Both switches and receptacles are a major consideration in closet design. It is ideal when a light switch is located outside of the closet, and this is a reasonable option to recommend to a client if the space on the outside wall is there and it will help make a major design impact. If the switch must remain in place, be sure to identify the distance of it on the wall from either the adjacent corner or the doorframe. Remember to note switches outside of attic doors as well. Take note of the height above the floor if it is atypical. Main switches are typically 48" AF.

Consider designing an upper and lower component around a light switch to keep it accessible if you are needing to use all of the space on the wall with a switch. If you do not need to design around it, it is best to design your system no less than 2-3" away from the switch cover.

AVOIDING MISTAKES

Electrical Outlets (Receptables)

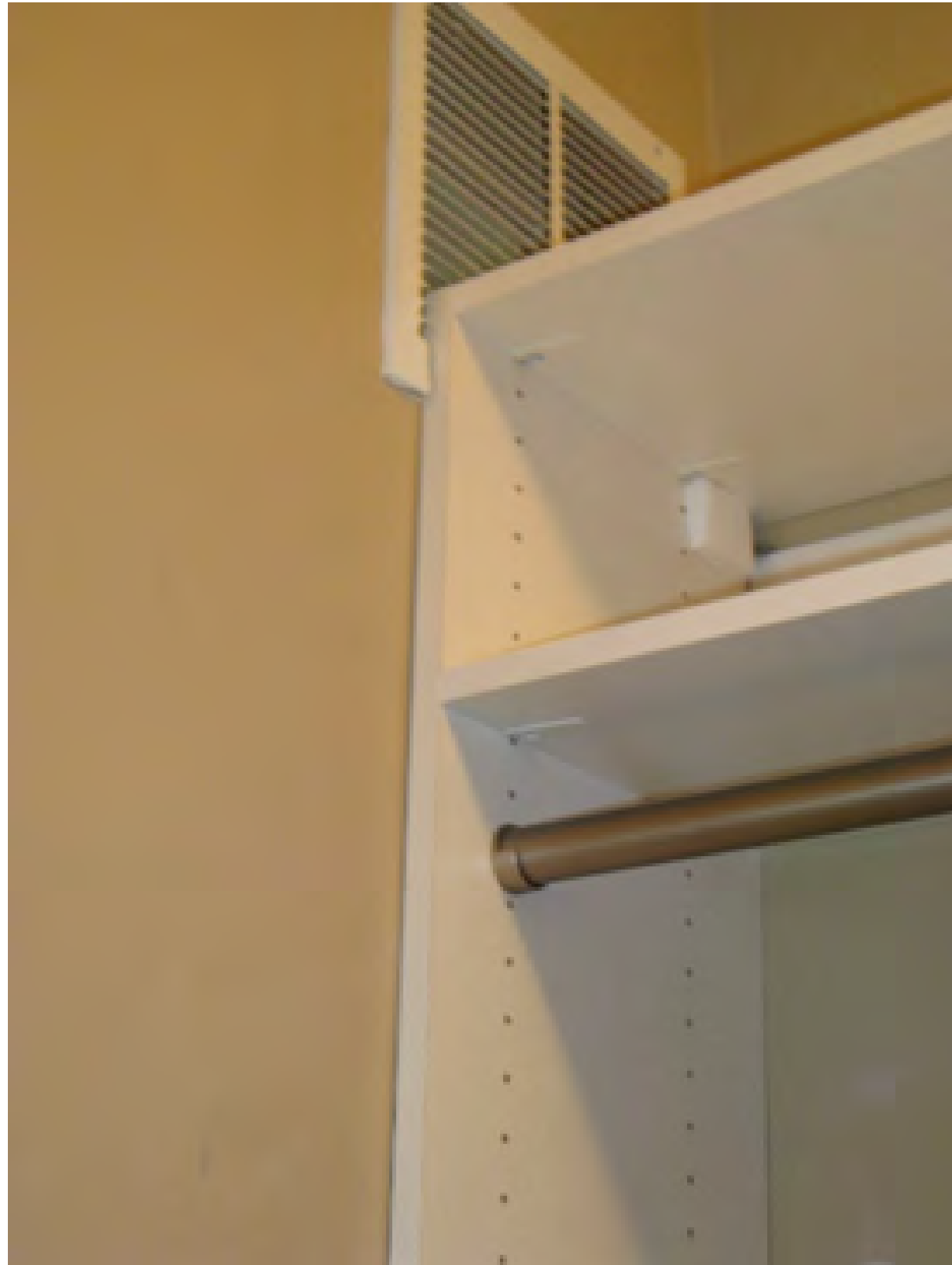


Both the height and the distance on the wall should be noted for electrical outlets.

Outlets should also be left accessible when designing a closet plan.

AVOIDING MISTAKES

Floor and Wall Vents



Floor and wall vents must also be considered in a closet design. Be sure to measure the distance off the adjacent wall, the height above the floor, and the width and height of the vent. For a floor vent, measure the distance the vent lies from the wall. In either case, be sure to leave the vent unblocked in your design.

AVOIDING MISTAKES



Other Obstacles

Other items to consider are whirlpool pump access panels, wall safes, laundry chutes, and access panels to plumbing and steam shower mechanicals or even computer tech. Be sure to move items in an existing closet when conducting your measure to make note of these design obstacles.

Attic openings may either be a scuttle lid or pre-manufactured pull down ladder assembly. Make certain no closet component interferes with ladder operation or clearances, and request to open the ladder if in doubt. Consider designing a shorter section against so the ladder has room to extend.

AVOIDING MISTAKES

Niches, Alcoves, Sloped Ceilings, Bump Outs



When designing a niche or alcove, be sure to consider clearances like door and drawer openings and access to the space for the client.

Bump outs are typically hiding important HVAC systems and are found in many closets either vertically in a corner or along the base of a wall. Gather all dimensions of these areas to work your design around them. It is ok to block these areas in your design as these bump-outs are not access points for servicing the systems.

When designing up to a sloped ceiling, be sure to leave enough space to install the uppermost shelf in your system. If you are planning on using the top shelf for folded / misc. storage, remember to lower your finished height by several inches below the lowest point of the sloped ceiling in order to make the top shelf functional.



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GOOD LUCK

READY TO
TAKE THE
EXAM?
HAVE
QUESTIONS?



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