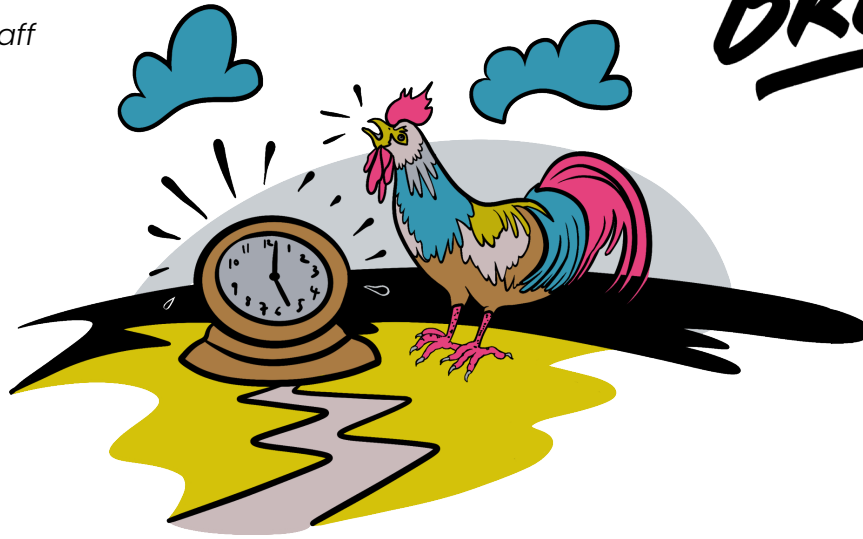


Working from home vs. having a studio

- by Always Art Staff

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It is no question that artists need spaces where they feel comfortable to create art. Established artists have freedom to make a choice to work either from their home, have a home studio, shared studio, or individual studio separate from where their live. The options for emerging artists might be limited, but you should keep in mind that even if you are not satisfied with your current space, it can evolve in the future as you grow your career. Here, we will break down the advantages and the disadvantages of each option.

Working from a small space inside your home

Pros: Having a dedicated space in your home can be a good idea when you are first starting out. It is cost friendly, as you do not have to pay extra for studio rent, utilities, or even transportation fees. Also, it is convenient; you save time by having the ability to immediately start working, especially if you live far from the city or wherever the nearest studio would be.

Cons: The main drawbacks are related to boredom and work-life boundaries. Some people cannot create a difference between their work and personal life, and working from home further blurs the two.

Having a home studio

Pros: The other at-home option is having a professional, full-equipped studio within the house. This option obviously requires investment, or an extra available room. However, this can be an ideal option for artists who need to stay close to their homes for a variety of reasons, including having children to take care of.

Cons: One disadvantage with this option is that you might want to invite people to your studio, schedule professional meetings, etc., but may not want to invite people directly to your home. Additionally, there is the financial element, where not everyone can afford building a home studio.

Health and safety at home

One important aspect that you should be aware of when working from your home is your health and safety. Using some materials can be harmful, especially at home. Having a proper ventilation system is essential to protect your body from the side effects of those materials. The air that you breathe should be free from chemicals. The vented air should go directly outside the house and not redirected to another area inside of the house.

Some of the art supplies that can damage your health, include solvents, airbrush and spray paint, powdered clay, and solvent-based adhesives. You should research the safety level of each art material you plan to use ahead of time, as it would be better if you avoid using supplies made of toxic materials overall. It goes without saying that the on the use of safety equipment such as respirators, gloves, and goggles is essential.



Shared studio

Pros: Working from a shared studio space can be a good idea for artists who would rather split the costs of the location with other fellow artists. It is also an ideal option for those who like to interact with others, get critiques, and feel more creative in a social context. It can also be a good opportunity to network, as other artists might bring guests to the studio.

Const: Some artists do not like having people around them when they are working, for they

feel it makes them less creative and causes distractions. Moreover, the artists might not get along with each other which could generate tension or awkwardness.

Individual studio

Pros: Having your own studio is the goal for many artists. When you leave the house to go to your studio, you separate your personal life from your professional one, giving you a work-life balance. You do not get interrupted by your loved ones like you would at home. Distractions are removed, and your ability to focus is optimized. Your creativity can also increase, and you are allowed to set up the space as you wish that. Plus, you have the freedom to invite any guests and hold professional meetings. Having your own studio space helps give the impression that you are a professional artist, and that you take your work seriously.

Cons: The downside of this option is its financial cost and potential lonely working conditions, as you will be on your own when you are working.

Choosing the right space for you is a personal matter. It all depends on your type of personality, your desired lifestyle, your preferences, and your budget.



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