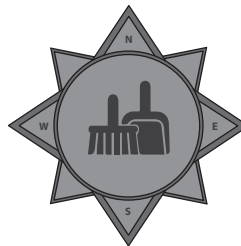


RE-ARRANGE THE FURNITURE

"You must be joking," I hear you say. You just don't re-arrange the furniture in the house. Well, for this exercise you are going to. One day soon, you'll be arranging and setting up your own home. So let's start thinking this through.

Unless you have recently moved, the chances are when you look at the living room, that's simply the way it has always been. The couch over here, coffee table over there, and so on. With your parents' permission, you are going to re-arrange things and try to create an entirely different flow and feel from the living room. I must caution you; be careful moving things around and get help. (Review the skill "Moving Heavy Objects.") Things can be moved back to where they were afterwards, no worries. But scratched floors cannot so easily be rectified.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

- Rearrange your living room (with your parents' permission) and try it out for a couple of days.
- Explain to them why you made the decisions that you did.
- Be prepared to move everything back. Maybe you won't have to, you never know.

Here are a few things to consider:

- Make sure the entrance way is uncluttered, you don't want a person struggling to get into the room or feeling trapped.
- Try to maintain a three-foot walking space around the walking areas, anything less cramps a person.
- Things don't have to be pushed up against walls. Pulling items into the center can make the entire space seem more inviting and prevents a bunch of dead space in the middle.
- Consider how your family uses, or should use this space. In our living room we try to make the TV less of a focus and interaction with each other primary. We like a good movie, but that is not our focus when we are together. So we don't direct all the seating towards that flat screen.



- Consider lighting, what lighting could make this cozier? Do you have any lamps instead of overhead lighting, how might you position them?