

AT HOME

AN OPRAH
MAGAZINE

*"There's no place like
Hawaii - there's no
place like home"*
-Oprah

Exclusive: Inside Oprah's New Home In Hawaii

**Nate's Great
Makeover**
TURN A HO-HUM HOUSE
INTO A KNOCKOUT

Recipe for a
Perfect

Summer!

Let the sun shine in! How to **WAKE UP** a room with **COLOR**
Very cool **HOUSE GIFTS** - all under \$40
ENJOY YOUR PARTY! A delicious, easy make-ahead buffet



SUMMER 2006 Display until Aug 14

SMALL SPACES

Karen Fisher's apartment may be small, but a neutral, monochromatic color scheme—used on walls, upholstery, and furnishings—creates a sense of large-scale luxury.



Compact Case

Karen Fisher packs a lot of living into 600 square feet. **Rumaan Alam** squeezes in to see how she does it.

SOME PEOPLE HAVE a memory for faces," Karen Fisher says with a laugh. "I have a memory for rooms." Karen has turned that talent into a business; as a "design matchmaker," she pairs up homeowners with compatible decorators. So, when it came to redoing Karen's Manhattan apartment, she took her own advice and hired an expert: Clodagh, whose minimal interiors she'd long admired. "Clodagh completely threw out the usual rules," Karen says. "She filled my small home with bold furniture and big accessories but fitted it all together like a yacht." Here are the six rules they followed to max out this mini apartment.



1 Think Big

■ The 13-by-18-foot living room is not too small to flaunt a major surprise: a sofa (actually two, end to end) stretching the room's width.

2 Make an Entry

■ A concrete shelf near the front door transforms a hallway into a foyer without eating up precious space.

3 Hide the Office

■ "No matter how pretty your apartment is," Karen warns, "if it's not practical, it just doesn't work." The built-in office was planned to organize the specific items that Karen uses—file folders, phone books—and keep them separated so she can find them fast. When the closet doors are closed, the office disappears—instant neatness.



4

Tuck In a Garden

■ In the galley kitchen, all the essentials are within reach, including under-counter appliances and an herb planter with pots that lift out so pruning and watering are simple. Shallow cupboards mean Karen doesn't have to fumble for buried spices or teacups. Concrete countertops and simple cabinets with minimal hardware keep the room sleek.



6 Be Bold

■ Conventional wisdom may hold that small rooms need small furnishings, but Clodagh did just the opposite, hanging oversize mirrors and sconces to inject drama into an otherwise quiet room. Shelves are kept below eye level to reduce visual chaos, and Karen's art books remain easy to find and under control. *For details, see Shop Guide.* ■

5 Build In Storage

■ Floor-to-ceiling cabinets flanking the bed—roomy enough for Karen's sweaters, linens, and a twin set of shelves near the headboard to hold necessities—create a sleeping nook similar to those fitted into boats. The built-ins also act like big-scale architecture, giving the room structure. The mirror over the bed amplifies the room's dimensions.

