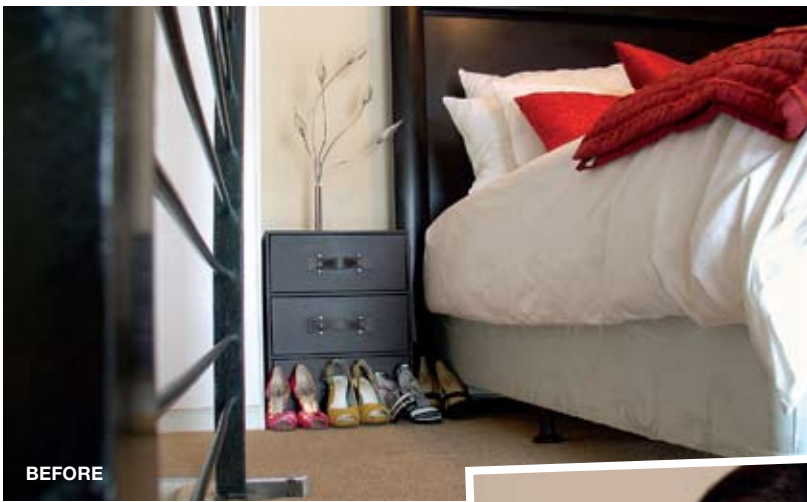




Safe **under** the **mattress**

No space under your bed to stash your bits and bobs? No problem – just make some! Jeannie cleverly created this storage space inside our old mattress base (I just hope she doesn't think she can store her excess shoes in here now...)

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With summer in full swing we're all finding ourselves with unneeded clothes cramping our cupboard space. Storing out of season clothes is a major problem for guys and gals, but an easy solution is to make use of the space under your bed. Aaah, but you have a double mattress and can't fit a storage drawer under your mattresses? Well, who said anything about having a storage drawer UNDER your mattress...

DIFFICULTY RATING
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BUILDERS WAREHOUSE SHOPPING LIST

MATERIALS

- Pine Laminated shelving (cut to size)
- 4 x 800mm x 200mm
- 4 x 664mm x 200mm
- Extension ball bearing draw rails
- Ebony stain
- Roller and paint tray
- No. 10 biscuits
- 16mm self-tapping screws
- 30mm chipboard screws
- Corner blocks
- 3mm Masonite cut to size
- 2 x 800mm x 700mm
- Alcolin glue

TOOL LIST

- Cordless drill
- 32mm spade drill bit
- 4mm drill bit
- Spirit level
- Stanley blade
- Tape measure

Step 1 First measure and then mark out the desired size for the drawer that you would like to slide into your mattress base. Cut open the fabric on the side of the bed to expose the raw wood and to gain access to the previously unseen insides of the base (bet you never thought you'd one day be operating on your mattress!). Now it's important to carefully check to see if your bed base will allow the size of drawer you require – if not, you might need to adjust your plans for what you want to store in your bed.



Step 2 Using the biscuit cutter, cut grooves in all the ends of the laminated pine shelving that need to be joined. Apply the glue in each hole, insert the biscuit, clamp and then allow time to dry for 2-4 hours.



Top Tip Start by cutting a hole that is smaller than the space you have measured for your drawer. It's easier to cut the hole bigger later – but if you start with a hole that is too big then you've got real problems...



Step 3 Finally, it's time to prepare the base. Removing any obstacles from inside and then check to see what inner support is needed in order to allow the base to receive and store the drawer. Jeanie was on top of her DIY game as she cleverly used some off-cut supawood from our DIY studio to create the necessary side support that would hold up the mattress (although an off-cut from the laminated shelving would work just as well). Reinforce as much as possible as you have removed some support. Jeanie secured the new inner support to the existing framework with corner blocks and 30mm chipboard screws. This new piece will now add to the support and accommodate the draw.



Step 4 Secure the drawer rail to the drawer as well as to the inner side wall. Use the spirit level when securing this rail as that will ensure the drawer slides smoothly and with ease.

