

# HOME THEATER DESIGN

Planning and Decorating Media-Savvy Interiors

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^ -> This bedroom by designer Holger Schubert features a plasma display on a rotating pole. This allows the audience to enjoy it from either the sitting area or the bed. Red curtains evoke the spirit of a movie theater in the bedroom.







Hiding the screen is a popular choice for bedroom video installations. When it's not in use, it is considerably out of view, not glaring at you as you try to sleep. Many people install custom cabinetry at the foot of the bed, such as a table with a lift. When you're ready to watch television or a film, you hit a button on the remote and the video display rises out of the table, literally at your feet. That isn't to say exposed equipment can't make a statement as well. Aesthetically pleasing components can act as a focal point for the room if they are placed properly.

Some people find it hard to go from watching a movie in bed to sleeping in the same bed, finding the transition from the stimulus of entertainment to unconsciousness difficult. Consider putting a small sofa in the bedroom in front of the video screen and reserving the bed for sleeping. Another solution is to watch with one or two

small lights on (preferably placed to the rear of the video screen to prevent glare) rather than in complete darkness; then, at sleep time, change the room environment by turning off the lights.

A television monitor—a set without a tuner—makes a fitting video display for the bedroom. Because you can't get channels, this approach makes your bedroom a comfortable place to thoughtfully enjoy a film rather than a haven for couch potatoes mindlessly channel surfing.

And the bedroom certainly isn't an appropriate place to pump up the volume—you don't want to shut off the speakers only to find your ears ringing when it is time to go to sleep. Choose smaller speakers that unobtrusively blend with the decor of your room. Also, make sure your equipment is completely off before you start counting sheep. Noise from A/V equipment can be distracting.