



## Space Management for Your Next Consulting / Fitting room

Let me start by saying Tyler Guess, PharmD, owner of Woodburn Pharmacy, is a very smart guy. He, like nearly all of you, is an entrepreneur and cannot standstill. You would enjoy hanging out with him, but you will be tired at the end of the day. When I visited Tyler at his store in Dawson Springs KY, he made it clear that he wanted a consulting room, and he didn't want it to look like a closet. The OTC area of his store totals 714' and 6". He mentioned he wanted an 8ft by 8ft consulting room, a room that would chew up 64 sq. Ft out of his front-end space. I suggested 5' by 7'. What you see in the photo is his 8ft by 8ft consulting room, it is really nice. To keep the room spacious while not having a door that would swing out into the salesfloor, he made and installed his own modern barn door. Barn doors make good sense; they do not have a threshold and allows easy access for those using wheelchairs or walkers. The panels in the door are made out of plexiglass frosted with a spray can. The door is made out of Red Oak, that is a bit over the top; red oak is pricey. He has plenty of room for a chair, Doctor stool, and apothecary chest with several drawers. Kentucky is now allowing point of care testing, hence the need for drawers. He mentioned that if anyone were planning on doing lots of vaccinations, he would recommend making room for a dorm size fridge. Tyler also suggests having at least one electrical outlet, installing an ethernet port, and a coat hook. His coat hook is on the back of the pharmacist's entrance door. The door is on the right side of the room.

The open ceiling has Tyler concerned about privacy, mostly in keeping conversations from broadcasting out into the store. He is considering installing translucent ceiling tiles, negating the need for additional lighting. Clever that, Tyler.

To make space for the new room, Tyler removed 8ft out of 18ft of the low-profile wall fixtures that were up against the pharmacy bench. The additional space came from taking two rows of two eight ft long gondolas into two rows of one 12ft long gondola with one end-cap to each fixture. To make room for his remodeled pick-up counter, he removed one 8ft long gondola. To add room for two chairs, he removed one 3ft high profile wall fixture. The store looks great!

If you are thinking of doing something like this, keep in mind that removing or repositioning fixtures will always turn up some floor coloring differences. In some cases, depending on how old the store is, you may find no flooring at all, just boards. You will discover unfinished flooring mostly when removing wall fixtures. After building your new room, you had might as well plan on painting the rest of the store, as Tyler did. The new room is going to pop, and the older walls will have a dull look to them. For those wondering how much Tyler put into his new room, it was around \$1,200 in material and that included the red oak. Very clever that Tyler.