

## Classroom Layout Written Description

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1. Record ideas for your classroom design.
2. Use this template or create your own version for a written description of your classroom layout.
3. Be sure to include all five aspects in your description.

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| <b>Variety of Spaces</b> | <p>Teachers can use different methods to create a variety of spaces within their classrooms. For my design, one of the spaces I want to include in my design is a meeting space. The meeting space will be a section of the room that is a designated place where learning occurs and a community is built. The meeting space will have a comfy and colorful rug, along with flexible seating options so that students are comfortable while whole-group lessons take place. The meeting space is where the class will meet together to have conversations as a community of learners and have read-alouds. This space will also be where the class meets to complete their morning meeting and discuss their daily schedule.</p> <p>Another space within my classroom will be a library. In this space, I want to include lots of books that represent all of my students. I want to soften this space by having a soft rug, soft lighting, comfortable seating, and pillows. I want students to be able to go to the library and have a calm and quiet place to read individually.</p> <p>The next space I want to include in my classroom is a calm corner. This space is most impactful for me because I wish that my classrooms would have had this option in elementary school. This section will be located at the back of the room so it is not a distraction to other students. This space will be easily accessible for whatever emotions students might be feeling and processing. I will provide an emotion wheel/chart so that while students are using the calm corner for a quiet moment to self-regulate, they can figure out what language they can use to describe their emotions. I want to provide more soft furnishings and rugs, along with books about socioemotional topics so that students have the support they need as they process.</p> <p>I also want to section off some wall space to have a friends and family board in which students can provide pictures that they want to share with the class about themselves. The board will help all students to feel welcomed into the classroom. This also helps the students to build relationships and learn about other lifestyles and cultures. It will also build</p> |
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|                         | <p>student-teacher relationships because teachers and students will be sharing important aspects of their lives on the board.</p> <p>I also want to incorporate a small-group section of the room that will have a table where the teacher can work with a small group of students. This will provide the individualized support that students need. The rest of the classroom can then be considered a collaborative space where all students can work and play together while they learn.</p> <p>In addition to all of these spaces, I want to designate some classroom space as a supply and creation area. I want this space to be the home of materials, like math manipulatives, as well as materials for writing and drawing, etc.</p>                |
| <b>Traffic Patterns</b> | <p>As I set up my classroom, I want to be familiar with my students and aware of traffic patterns before establishing the furniture layout. Both teachers and students need to be able to enter and exit the classroom swiftly and safely. Classroom materials must also be easily accessible within the classroom and students need to be able to move around the classroom easily without disturbing other students. I want my aisles to be wide to provide students and the teacher with enough room to navigate the space. I also want to keep the aisles free from any obstructions. To monitor all students' work, I need to be able to access all students' desks, so there must be room between furniture and desks to reach the students.</p>       |
| <b>Seating</b>          | <p>Many students cannot focus or succeed in school when using traditional seating. In my classroom, I want to offer my students with flexible seating options so that the students can choose which option works for them on a particular day. Students will be empowered when they are allowed to make their seating choice independently, and offering them these options builds trust and respect in the classroom. Some of the flexible seating options I want to include in my classroom are fitness balls, kneeling chairs, stools, beanbag chairs, cushions, mats, the floor, standing desks, bicycle desk pedals, and rocking chairs. I might also choose to include a few traditional Desks so that students also have this option for seating.</p> |

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| <b>Materials</b>          | <p>There are many materials that a teacher should provide in his/her classroom. I want to include everything from art supplies, diverse literature, and math manipulatives to toys, pillows, stickers, writing materials, and workbooks. I want to provide my students with all of the materials that they need to remain engaged with their learning. I also want to provide my students with individual rugs that they can work on to keep their space separate from other students.</p>   |
| <b>Affective Elements</b> | <p>In my classroom, I want to include many elements in my classroom to help all of my students feel safe and ready to learn. I want to use calm colors on the walls and as decorations. I also want to provide my students with flexible seating. In addition, I want to play calm background sounds while students are entering the classroom and while they work. I want to incorporate nature scenes as background visuals as well for students. Another big element I want to add to my classroom is aromatherapy. As long as I do not have a student with allergies, I hope to use scents within the classroom to create a safe and calming environment. I also want to incorporate nature and other pleasing textures into my classrooms, such as flowers, plants, and comfortable pillows. I think it would also be ideal to have a classroom pet for my classroom because animals are stress relievers for students who have experienced trauma. I want to display the class schedule in the classroom so that all students can see it, and I want to provide lots of visual stimuli so that my ELL students can navigate and learn within the classroom. I also want to ensure that all of my students are represented in the literature within the classroom, so I will be sure to provide students with many books in which every student is represented.</p> |

Here's an example of what my dream classroom might look like:

