pea + pod
by Benningham Interiors

THE NURSERY PLANNING GUIDE

a little room, thoughtfully planned.

A calmer start to creating a room for your little one.

What to buy first. How to plan the space.
A budget and timeline to make it happen.

MAKE ROOM FOR WHAT MATTERS

peaandpod.ca

02 / BEGIN WITH YOUR FAMILY

Start with how you live.

Before saving another room photo, decide what this space needs to do. A few clear priorities make every later choice easier.

THREE WORDS FOR HOW THE ROOM SHOULD FEEL

THE PIECES WE ALREADY HAVE AND WANT TO KEEP

OUR THREE PRIORITIES FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

Think in routines.

Where will you feed, change, dress and settle your baby? What needs to be within easy reach? Which storage will make the busiest moments simpler?

You can prepare the nursery while planning a separate sleep space in your bedroom for the early months. See the safe-sleep note on page 7.

03 / SHOPPING PRIORITIES

Buy with a plan.

Confirm the furniture arrangement and your overall budget before ordering the pieces that determine how the room works.

01 Decide first

Sleep space + mattress, changing setup and everyday storage. Include a feeding chair if it suits your routines. Check dimensions, product instructions and delivery access before ordering.

02 Build around the essentials

Choose window coverings, lighting and a rug once the large pieces have a place. Check door swings, drawer openings and the full movement of a glider or recliner.

03 Add the personality

Bring in colour, artwork, books and texture after the practical choices are settled. Keep decorative objects outside the sleep space. Let one favourite detail set the direction.

04 Leave room to learn

Extra furniture, extensive toy storage and every finishing accessory can wait. Living with the room will tell you what else you need.

04 / ROOM WORKSHEET

Make space before you buy.

Sketch the room below. Add wall lengths, doors and their swings, windows, closets, outlets, vents and anything that must stay.

YOUR ROOM SKETCH

RECORD

Room width

Room length

Ceiling height

Window sill height

Door opening

Use one unit throughout: inches or centimetres.

CHECK THE FIT

- [ ] Mark the actual footprint of each shortlisted piece with tape.
- [ ] Allow drawers, doors and seating to open or move fully.
- [ ] Check the route into the room: hallways, stairs and doorways.

This sketch is a planning tool. Verify measurements and manufacturer requirements before purchasing or installing.

05 / BUDGET WORKSHEET

Give every dollar a place.

Separate the design fee from furniture and décor. Add delivery, tax and installation before deciding what is left for finishing touches.

CURRENCY: _____ TOTAL ROOM BUDGET: _____

CATEGORY	PLANNED	ACTUAL
Sleep furniture + mattress	$ _____	$ _____
Changing setup + storage	$ _____	$ _____
Seating	$ _____	$ _____
Window coverings	$ _____	$ _____
Lighting	$ _____	$ _____
Rug + textiles	$ _____	$ _____
Paint / wallpaper + installation	$ _____	$ _____
Art + finishing details	$ _____	$ _____
Delivery + assembly + tax	$ _____	$ _____
Contingency allowance	$ _____	$ _____
Design fee + applicable tax	$ _____	$ _____
TOTAL	$ _____	$ _____

Choose one priority to invest in. Balance it with simpler supporting pieces, and include anything you already own.

06 / YOUR PLANNING TIMELINE

Work back from ready.

Choose a room-ready date, then work backwards from confirmed delivery and installation lead times. Leave a buffer for delays or exchanges.

OUR ROOM-READY DATE: _____

1 Plan the room

Set the brief, measure, confirm the layout and decide your budget.

Target date: _____

2 Confirm the key pieces

Check current stock, delivery estimates, return terms and dimensions. Order the items with the longest lead times after the plan is settled.

Target date: _____

3 Prepare + install

Schedule painting, wallpaper, lighting and window coverings around confirmed deliveries. Allow products to cure as instructed.

Target date: _____

4 Assemble + settle in

Assemble and anchor furniture as instructed. Check clearances, organise essentials and make a final pass through the room.

Target date: _____

07 / BRING IT TOGETHER

The thoughtful details.

The most inviting rooms feel considered: a comfortable routine, useful storage and a few details that belong to your family.

Keep the palette connected.

Choose a main colour, a supporting neutral and one accent. Repeat them in different materials and scales so the room feels layered.

Make room to grow.

Choose flexible storage and larger pieces you can use beyond the nursery. Smaller textiles and artwork are easier to change later.

A NOTE ON SAFE SLEEP

Canadian guidance recommends a separate crib, cradle or bassinet in your bedroom for the first six months. Place baby on their back on a firm, flat mattress with a fitted sheet; keep the sleep space free of pillows, toys and loose bedding. Follow current product instructions.

Read the Public Health Agency of Canada's Safe Sleep for Your Baby. Guidance checked October 2026.

Let's make room for your little one.

Bring your ideas, your room and the pieces you love. Our remote nursery design service helps turn them into a thoughtful plan.

Remote Nursery Design / $1,495 CAD

plus applicable tax

Explore the service