

Design Your Own European Modular Closet

1. Measure Ceiling Height of closet. Generally need 8 feet high ceilings for double hangs. Each short hang generally takes 42 inches of vertical space and allowing room for a useable top shelf. In reach-in closets you will be limited to 12 inch deep shelves for the top shelf because of the closet header over the door. This will allow you space to maneuver items onto the shelf.
2. Measure length of closet.
3. Measure depth of closet. Minimum needed for hangs is 19 inches to accommodate a smaller hanger. 24 inches is optimal to allow for reach in room and to see what is in the closet.
4. Measure closet returns on each side. Wall left side of closet door and Wall right side of closet door.
5. Measure actual door openings excluding doors. This is the actual open of the closet. If you have any drawers, then drawers need to open in this space.
6. If door opens into closet, then note how door opens in closet and how much of the wall is taken for the open door. You generally cannot use the space behind the door for shelving, unless the space behind the door is at least 13 inches deep allowing a 12 inch deep shelves to fit behind. In that case you will need a door stopper so that the door does not crash on the shelving behind.
7. Draw top view of closet with measurements and mark measurements on it



8. Determine wish list for closet:
 1. How many inches of long Hang? Long hang is 58" long or longer vertically.
 2. How much shelving?
 3. How much double hang? Two hangs over each other. Need a minimum of 8 feet tall ceilings. Each short hang will take 42 inches of vertical space.
 4. How many ladies pairs of shoes do you wish to store? Each pair of ladies shoes is 8 inch wide.
 5. How many men pairs of shoes do you wish to store? Each pair of men shoes is 9 inch wide. Solid metal shelves which are the preferred shelves for shoes are 32 inches wide and can accommodate 4 pairs of ladies shoes and 3 ½ pairs of men shoes.

6. Pant Rack? Pant Rack is 32 inches wide.
7. Do you wish drawers? What type? How many Drawers?

Pullout baskets are 32 inch wide and 16 inch deep but require 30" deep closet to allow space to pull out if not completely in door opening.

Wire drawer units are 14" or 18" wide and 21 inch deep so will need to be in door opening to allow you to pull out the drawers.

9. Using graph paper graph closet back wall with each 1/4 square to be equal 6 inches. One graph is needed for each wall. For a walk-in closet you will have multiple plan graphs.
10. For a reach-in closet mark door returns with solid vertical lines - so you know where the closet opening or openings are.
11. If applicable, determine best placement for drawers. In pencil draw drawer unit on to graph paper for appropriate width of the drawer unit. Drawers must in closet door openings. Keep in mind the doors as well so that you are not hitting them when you open the drawers.
12. Using pencil Divide closet in standard unit widths. 24", 32", or 36". Indicate vertical standard using dotted vertical line.
13. If applicable, determine placement of shelves. General rule is 12 inches between shelves unless you know you are storing smaller items then they can be closer. You will need to indicate brackets for wire shelves. You can share wire shelf brackets for adjacent wire shelves. Wire shelf brackets are drawn as a "U" on the vertical standard. You need to decide the depth of the shelves your options are 12", 16", or 20" deep wire shelves. For perforated shelves 12", 14", or 16" deep shelves. Top shelves in reach-in closets are generally 12" deep to allow room to maneuver items onto the top shelf. Mark sizes on shelves as you draw them in eg 12 X 32, 12 X 24.
14. If applicable, determine placement of long hang. Often used less often and can be place in harder to reach areas leaving more accessible areas for items used more often such as shelving or double hangs.
15. If applicable, determine place of double hangs. Each hang typically needs 42 inches minimum vertically from top of bar.
16. If you are designing a walk-in closet you will need to design each wall separately. Keep in mind the space used for clothing or reach in for the other walls. For example, if you have a hang in the corner then you will take 24 inches from the adjacent wall for the clothes to hang in the space and allow some reach in room as well.
17. List and count all your parts needed.

- Each wall will need a hanging rail for wall longer than 79 inches you will need a 79 inch rail plus a 39 inch rail.
- Each wall will need a minimum of two vertical standards but walls longer than 36 inches will need 3 or more depending on the closet sections.
- Each rod will need a rod holder and pair of rod ends
- Count number of brackets for each size needed
- Count number of shelves for each size needed
- Count any special components needed: shoe adapters, drawers, pant racks etc.
- Double count everything – it is very frustrating if you forget to order a piece and it is missing when you are assembling your closet.

Note: If you are having difficulty designing your own closet. We offer this service for a fee under Closet Design in the online store.