

I live with my parents but when I move to college these are the items I will consider for my new place:

1) Piano: Adopt a Piano \$0

There is a website called pianoadoption.com that offers this [1916 Steinway upright](#) for free. The seller is one of the few that has been ID Verified by the site so all I need is a couple of strong friends and a U-Haul truck. Nowadays, many second-hand pianos are being given away for free because owners don't want to have to move those very heavy objects or don't play them anymore. I find it sad that a piano is discarded and Steinways pianos are the notorious for lasting many lifetimes.

2) Office Desk: DIY

I made my office desk with my dad using wine boxes (that we collected from different wine stores) and old plumbing pipes-this project took a while, but with patience I can replicate it for my new place. This is a sustainable way to make furniture because it uses items that were left over (some pipes) and used as packaging (wine boxes). They had served their primary purpose and were going to create waste. Making furniture out of these materials gave them a second life. I would even say that in this case they were upcycled!



3) Office chair: Facebook Marketplace

In my 6th grade classroom instead of sitting on regular chairs we used to sit on yoga balls. I would love to do this again. Instead of purchasing an office chair I will buy this used yoga ball (\$20 from [Facebook Marketplace](#)) that the owner claimed to have used just once. A lot of people buy things as a fad and end up never using them. This item was used only once so it is a shame to let this perfectly fine yoga ball chair go to waste. It could have a new life in my apartment; I have already used yoga ball as chair so I already know that it will feel good to me.



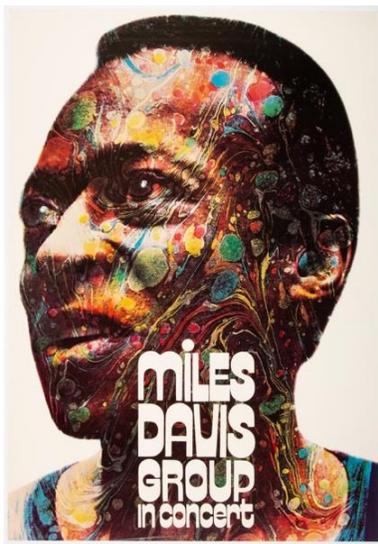
4) **Indoor Plants:** Facebook Marketplace

Plants can be quite expensive and while people think about going to a thrift store for furniture no one exactly thinks about secondhand house plants. Today, I could drive a few miles to get this beautiful [fiddle leaf fig tree for \\$40](#). I am not sure why the owner is getting rid of it, but I have noticed that it is what some would call an “It” plant (a very popular item but hard to take care of). I know that my mom considered buying a fake one and I did not let her - why would anyone buy a fake plastic tree? So, this one is just perfect, I do not think it will give fruits, but it will certainly create a lot of benefits (mood, clear indoor pollutants) in my apartment.

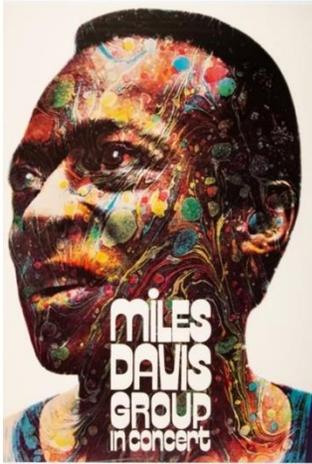


5) **Vintage Jazz Poster:** eBay

I found this used large framed Miles Davis 1971 European Tour Poster on [eBay](#) for \$60. It would be the most expensive item from the list, but it will add soul to my apartment. My dream would be to have a vintage one, they get auctioned for a very high price but buying this one would give me inspiration. This purchase is sustainable mostly because it will add to my well-being, and it not reprinted so it does not use resources that haven't been used yet.



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Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

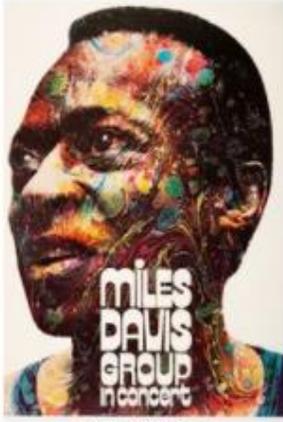


Buying second-hand objects is good for the planet and good for the wallet. Making your own furniture allows you to optimize small spaces, make something that reflects your personality, and upcycle a bunch of waste. Here are some of the items that I have made or consider getting:

- 1) Wall decor with soul: A used poster of one of my favorite jazz artists, Miles Davis found on eBay.
- 2) Incorporate nature in my apartment: A beautiful fig tree found on Facebook Marketplace and sold by a neighbor.
- 3) Office chair: Instead of an office chair I opt for a second-hand yoga ball used only once and available at Facebook Marketplace.
- 4) L-shaped industrial office desk: Me and my dad made the desk with old wine boxes and left-over pipes. It took us a long time but it is one of a kind.
- 5) The piece de resistance: A 1916 piano for free from adoptapiano.com This upright Steinway still has many lives in it and deserves to be played.



fabmrvincent



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10 SECONDS AGO



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