Shop together. Sit together.

A shared sofa needs to work for the people who actually use it.

Talk about comfort before style

One person may love a deep, substantial sofa while the other prefers a lighter silhouette and a more upright seat. Neither preference should be assumed from gender. Try your usual positions side by side, then compare notes.

What matters	Person A	Person B
Usual sitting / lounging position		
Support / softness preference		
Seat depth / ease of standing		
Style / arm shape / visual weight		
One thing I will not compromise on		

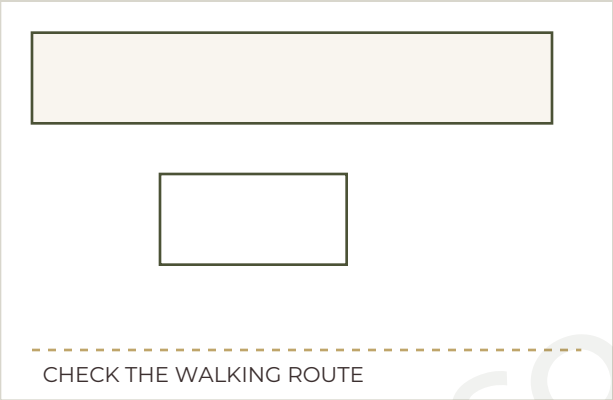
What we can agree on - and what needs another solution:

DAWN'S TIP I highly recommend couples shop together. If one sofa cannot comfortably meet both needs, a coordinating chair may be a better answer than making one person settle.

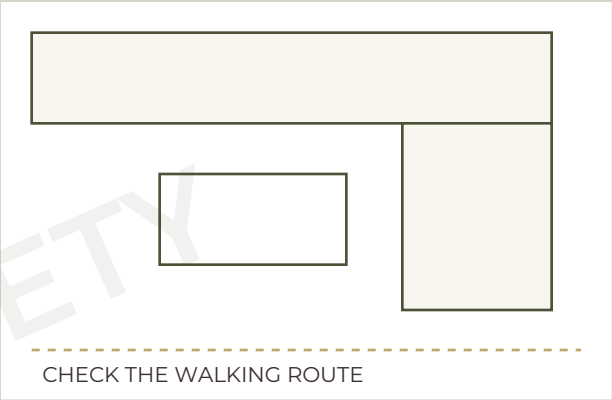
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Will the room still work?

An oversized sofa can look comfortable in a showroom and overwhelm a living room.



Sofa footprint
Include arms and overall depth.



Sectional footprint
Include the chaise and its direction.

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Tape it before you order

Mark the full width and depth with floor-safe tape or paper. Keep the other furniture where you intend to use it. Walk from the entrance to each seat and through the room. Open nearby doors and drawers.

Remember the moving parts

Mark the fully extended footprint for a recliner or sleeper. Check the retailer's required clearance behind and in front. A delivery fit check does not replace this room fit check.

Our room's tightest route / furniture conflict to test:

DAWN'S TIP Look at the height and the arms, too. A tall back and broad arms can feel much heavier in the room even when the floor footprint is similar.

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Our sofa comfort test

Print one copy per model. Fill this out together while you are in the showroom.

Retailer / model: _____ Date: _____
Overall W x D x H: _____ Units: ____
Usable seat depth: ____ Seat height: ____ Person A / B: _____

Try this	Person A notes	Person B notes
Back supported / feet comfortable		
Thigh support / seat edge		
Usual lounging position		
Shoulders / head when leaning back		
Armrest / usable seat width		
Cushion compression: center and ends		
Sit down and stand up several times		

What still needs to feel different?

DAWN'S TIP Stay long enough to change positions. A quick perch on the edge will not tell you how the sofa feels during an evening at home.

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