Would you buy Ikea's new robotic furniture?

If you've ever tried to fit useable furniture into a small space, you know it's a struggle. But with housing affordability remaining challenging and more people considering moving into smaller homes and studio apartments, Ikea may be able to help out.

The Swedish furniture and home furnishings giant just unveiled an all-in-one, transforming piece of robotic furniture designed specifically for small spaces, as tech website *The Verge* reported. However, Ikea has yet to reveal the price for the system.

Called the Rognan, it's controlled by a touchpad and can instantly, automatically convert into a bed, a room divider, a couch, a desk and a closet and storage shelving.

Ikea Rognan robotic furniture in bed mode. © Inter IKEA Systems B.V. 2019

It has been developed in partnership with U.S.-based smart furniture startup Ori Living, and is compatible with Ikea's Tradfri line of smart lights. It also works with Ikea's Platsa line of storage

furniture.

Ikea Rognan robotic furniture highlighting the bed and closet space. © Inter IKEA Systems B.V. 2019

A video posted by Ikea shows an imaginary couple living out their entire day using the Rognan, switching between bed, closet, desk, couch and back to bed again.

How to personalize the homebuyer journey and exceed customer expectations

Blend technology and service to meet your client where they are READ MORE

ROGNAN from IKEA Today on Vimeo.

“The population of cities is growing, and our living spaces are shrinking,” Ikea announced on its Instagram page. “Rognan is a product for this new reality of modern urban life.”

View this post on Instagram

Meet our new robot, ROGNAN. Forget compromise in a small space. ROGNAN transforms small spaces into comfortable, multifunctional homes. It changes to meet your needs, from sleep, to getting dressed, to having guests, and more. The population of cities is growing, and our living spaces are shrinking. ROGNAN is a product for this new reality of modern urban life. Planned

launch date: during 2020. @ori_living #IKEADDD2019 #IKEAtoday #IKEA #ROGNAN #oriliving

A post shared by IKEA Today (@ikeatoday) on Jun 4, 2019 at 12:20am PDT

But New Yorkers and other urban-dwellers who could use such a system will have to wait.

To start, the Rognan is slated to launch in 2020 in Japan and Hong Kong, two places known for the extreme density of their cities.

According to Ikea, the storage unit could save one's home an additional eight square meters (about 86 square feet) of space.

Ikea Rognan robotic furniture with desk expanded. © Inter IKEA Systems B.V. 2019

"Instead of making the furniture smaller, we transform the furniture to the function that you need at that time," Ikea product developer Seana Strawn said in a press statement. "When you sleep, you do not need your sofa. When you use your wardrobe, you do not need your bed."

webkitallowfullscreen mozallowfullscreen allowfullscreen

While such space-saving techniques may seem extreme, the trend of tiny homes has been gaining serious traction — last month, a $7,000 do-it-yourself tiny cabin sold out within hours of being featured on Amazon.

Email Veronika Bondarenko

How do you stay ahead in a changing market? Inman Connect Las Vegas — featuring 250+ experts

from across the industry sharing insight and tactics to navigate threat and seize opportunity in tomorrow's real estate market. Join more than 4,000 top producers, brokers and industry leaders to network and discover what's next, July 23-26 at the Aria Resort. Hurry! Tickets are going fast, register today!

Thinking of bringing your team? There are special onsite perks and discounts when you buy tickets together. Contact us to find out more.

Source: click here