

Dropbox for Business gives HGTV's *Elbow Room* a shot in the arm



HGTV's *Elbow Room* is a 30-minute home renovation show hosted by contractor Chip Wade. In each episode, Wade's crew performs custom remodels to meet the needs of homeowners who have outgrown their current spaces.

Upgrading the fixtures

Unlike television sitcoms that take place on a studio set, renovation shows like HGTV's *Elbow Room* jump from location to location — often thousands of miles from the production company's headquarters. As the *Elbow Room* construction crew and on-site production team travel to project locales, everything from budget updates to talent releases need to be shared with the main office in San Francisco.

Producers and managers used to rely on email to share files, but a move to Dropbox for Business transformed the way they work. According to Coordinating Producer Tyler Hall, "With Dropbox, everyone knows exactly where the latest file versions are, and we can all pull up copies at the same time as a team. We don't have to deal with email, flash drives, or printed documents anymore. It's great."

Improving flow

Important files like production reports, are organized in Dropbox, making it easier for managerial staff to stay on top of the show's progress. This has been particularly helpful when *Elbow Room* shoots on the East Coast. "Dropbox lets us work simultaneously, despite the three-hour time difference," says Hall. "The San Francisco office can review files while we're wrapping up for the day and ask questions before we shut down for the night."

Having mobile access to Dropbox has also been a big asset for the producers. As Hall notes, "I use Dropbox on my phone all the time. If I'm talking to someone and they need a file, I can send it to them right there. It's super handy!"

A more orderly house

Dropbox has made workflows more efficient for *Elbow Room*, and helped the show save on costs like overnight shipping. Signed subcontractor invoices no longer need to be rush-shipped from the set to the main production office. Now producers simply sign PDFs and put them into Dropbox for payment. "Management just goes into Dropbox and pays everything immediately," says Hall. "Dropbox has made all of our lives so much easier — and probably makes our contractors happier, too!"

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Tyler Hall, Coordinating Producer, *Elbow Room*

Elbow Room faces its share of challenges with a production staff often far-removed from its film crew. But in Dropbox for Business, it's found a way to successfully keep its show on the road.