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FAST COMPANY

Home Away From Home

Get yourself a temporary office to work like a grown-up while traveling.

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The problem with working on the road is there's nowhere to work. Wouldn't it be great if you could sit in a good-looking office for a few hours--with a real desk, high-tech amenities, and meeting space--instead of an airport lounge, hotel, or coffee bar? "The need is there," says Charlie Grantham, cofounder of the Work Design Collaborative. And how. Grantham says he routinely witnesses sad sights like a full-blown flip-chart presentation at a Starbucks.

Our dream of a worldwide chain of cool temporary work spaces--Officebucks?--remains just that. But there are flexible-office operations aimed at local startups. They also happen to make sense for the out-of-towner who needs a place to work. The best part? These places don't market to business travelers, so you won't have to fight the airport club crowd. Not yet, at least.

	Cost	Locations	What you need to know
Intelligent Office intelligentoffice.com	\$18/hour (office), \$25/hour (conference room) with a \$50/day or \$110/month membership fee.	34, including Miami; Chicago; Dallas; and Washington, DC	Call a few days in advance to secure a spot; amenities may include videoconferencing and kitchens. Prices may vary by location.

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About Fast Company:

Launched in November 1995 by Alan Webber and Bill Taylor, two former Harvard Business Review editors, Fast Company magazine was founded on a single premise: A global revolution was changing business, and business was changing the world. Fast Company set out to chronicle how a new breed of companies create and compete, to highlight new business practices, and to showcase the teams and individuals who are reinventing business. (source: fastcompany.com)

About Intelligent Office:

Launched in Boulder, Colo. in 1995, Intelligent Office provides "Class A" office space and business services to the growing number of small businesses and corporate executives who want to work from anywhere and be free from having a full-time office. Each location can support between 600 and 1,000 clients. The fast-growing franchise company has over 30 locations across the United States and Canada, grew by 55 percent in 2005, and is adding about one new franchise per month.