The capsule hotels of Japan have become a model of efficiency for the hospitality business. These spaces are limited to the minimum required for sleeping with little regard for storage or movement within the capsule. Here, the dimensions allow for a single futon mattress pad on the bottom and only enough head clearance for the average person to sit up.

Being based only on the space necessary for temporary habitation, the capsule hotel lacks any physical interest. The only additions made concerning the comfort of guests are a small television set and a radio. In essence, these hotels only serve as a place to “crash” for people traveling on business.

The lighting inside the capsules is limited to a single aimable task light mounted on the ceiling. This poor lighting quality is worsened by the material of construction. Other than the cotton mattress pad, the entire capsule is made of glossy molded plastic with no texturing. Rather than having a door there is a just a curtain that pulls across the opening. Due to the hard materials and lack of separation between the capsules, there is no audible privacy or protection.