

WHAT IS INTERIOR DESIGN.

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Abstract: *The first method of developing spatial imagination is to use drawings of objects to mentally separate them into simple figures and create a clear image of them. In fact, if there is a clear image of the object depicted in the drawing next to its appearance, it becomes easier for the student to visualize the object depicted in the drawings, inextricably linking the drawing and the clear image.*

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To be creative is part of the human psyche. It is one of those traits that set us apart from other animal species, and we have practised it for millennia. Even when our prime need was to find food and shelter, we felt a desire to leave our mark on the environments that we inhabited. Whether this was to satisfy some deep spiritual calling or a method of passing on vital knowledge to fellow group members, or whether it was simply a way for an individual to satisfy an urge to leave his mark for future generations, we will never know. For just as long, people have turned inquisitive minds to ways of solving problems and dealing with the issues that have faced them in the struggle to survive: problems such as how to work more efficiently, how to live more comfortably and how to be safe from danger. Today, these primitive and fundamental indicators of human nature may be expressed in more sophisticated and developed ways, but the primal simplicity of our human desire to make a 'better' and more comfortable world for ourselves is evidenced through, amongst other things, how we organise the spaces that we inhabit, and the aesthetic that we make for them. As we have become more affluent and blessed with more leisure time, style has become more important to us and is something with which we want to imbue our homes. But 'style' is a very personal notion, so why should anyone look to employ someone else, an interior designer, to tell them what is right? Why, for that matter, should you as a designer presume to impose your ideas upon a space that isn't your own?

The answer is this; interior design is about so much more than 'what looks right'. It is about taking a holistic view of the way that individuals use and enjoy the spaces that they inhabit. It is about finding and creating a cohesive answer to a set of problems and dressing the solution so as to unify and strengthen our experience of the space. Many people understand this and that they do not have the necessary

skills to tackle the job themselves. And so there is the need for professional interior designers.

Whatever form ideas may take, getting them out of your head and on to paper is crucial to being able to see the issues clearly. It is not enough to try to ‘think things through’ and then create a drawing to record a finished idea, as almost no one is gifted enough to be able to foresee a fully resolved and articulated design. Instead, it is through the act of drawing itself that issues are identified and resolved. This is such an important point for the novice designer to grasp: drawings are not made simply to record an idea or detail that has already been formulated in the designer’s mind. Instead, making drawings is a process of ‘thinking on paper’. Sketching and hand drawing play a part in the lives of almost all designers, even those who use computers on a daily basis to turn their ideas into the drawings used for construction purposes.

Quick sketches and formal technical drawings are used in conjunction to conceive new ideas and examine their impact on the scheme. Plans are usually the first technical drawings to be made, but as soon as the first planning options are being explored, the designer should be thinking in three dimensions, so elevations,



sections or perspective sketches will follow to show other aspects of the space. Drawing is an excellent way of comparing alternatives, of seeing different options side by side.

Modern Romantic Interior with Neo-Classical References

The interior reflects a Modern Romantic style incorporating Neo-Classical references. A pastel-based color scheme, dominated by soft pink tones, creates a visually cohesive and

gentle environment. The bed, designed in an expressive shell-like form, functions as the focal element and introduces a sculptural quality to the space.

Neo-classical influences are observed in the use of a chandelier, balanced proportions, and symmetrical spatial composition. These elements are combined with modern furniture forms and finishes, ensuring contemporary relevance. The interior emphasizes emotional comfort, visual softness, and decorative refinement while maintaining functional efficiency. This approach demonstrates the adaptability of classical design elements within a modern residential context.

In popular fashion parlance, trends come and go, but true style is forever.

Most popular interior design styles:

Minimalism. A close friend of contemporary style decor, although not quite the same, minimalist houses are defined more by what they lack. Free from excessive

ornamentation or fussy decorations, minimalist designs favour clean, simple lines and a neutral colour palette, with a focus on sleek and simple architecture. Layouts are usually open and airy, and every object or piece of furniture serves a function or aesthetic purpose. Art is often abstract or modern to match, and modern style interpretations go for stone, concrete and raw timber materials. If you're not keen on a home that's overtly stark and bare, don't forget a minimalist base can pair very well with other styles, too.

Contemporary. Not to be confused with modernist homes, which generally refer to mid-century, contemporary homes are rooted in the *now*. While that might seem vague and open to interpretation, think of contemporary homes as current in every sense of the word—they usually embrace popular interior trends and blend a variety of styles. While our idea of contemporary will no doubt shift every couple of years, rest assured you'll often find a mixture of iconic designer furniture, contemporary art and modern fittings in any contemporary home. Right now, the contemporary look is a neutral colour palette with pops of colour, with rounded, sculptural homewares and modern furniture taking centre stage, plus sleek, luxurious finishes like marble, concrete and travertine in the bathroom and kitchen.

Modern and Traditional. This combination has been slowly gaining traction over the last few years. These design styles are polar opposites, which is precisely why they work so well together: traditional accents add the charm, character, and warmth that modern spaces often lack, while sleek, modern touches add a little edge.

Traditional. Think of this as the most classic interior style, one you'll often spot in European homes with beautiful heritage details like original crown moulding and wall panelling. A décor that generally eschews current interior trends, traditional style homes favour dark timber, ornate furniture designs and richly patterned fabrics. Homes are usually ornamental in style, with many decorative touches like floral curtains, drapes and ruffles sitting beside lush fabrics like velvet, silk and brocade. Art in a traditional home is more often than not pre-20th century, rugs are usually oriental and you'll easily find storied, old-world treasures like blue and white china, vintage books and maps, and crystal decanters dotted throughout. Traditional plays on the familiar and comforting, offering warmth, cosiness and a sense of history.

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