

Design Questionnaire

Below is a list of questions that we hope you'll find meaningful in describing your goals, dreams, wishes and expectations as you begin the process of designing and building your new home or renovation. You may find this list helpful to clarify your thoughts and identify priorities, or simply as a starting point in the process. While completely optional, filling out this list will be a point of reference throughout the Design Process and will help set the stage for the initial steps in designing your new home.

One of the primary reasons to work with an Architect is to rely on their expertise in finding solutions to complex problems, or by creating desired outcomes not initially conceivable. Therefore, we place more value on qualitative information, and less on quantitative. While answering these questions it might be helpful to provide an experience or a quality of life you would like to achieve.

A few additional thoughts to consider as you answer these questions:

- Use as many descriptive words as possible and think in terms of examples of your current home or places you used to live; even your friend's homes or something you saw online.
- Not everyone in your household will share a common vision or be able to understand how to make that vision a reality. Bring as much information as possible to the discussion. That way we can create something that works for everyone.
- Don't use this as a tool to solve a problem or reach a conclusion. Problem solving comes during the design process with the help of the design team.
- Dream big. This is a significant investment for you and your family and will have an immediate impact on your quality of life.
- Anticipate future needs. Think about lifestyle changes and how this home can be adapted to various stages of life.
- Where necessary, provide examples. Collect and share images, sketches, or lists you've already put together.
- Don't answer every question. If something is not relevant or difficult to answer, skip it.

Questions:

General Information

1. Have you ever built a home or renovated before? If so what was that experience like?
[Redacted]
2. Have you ever worked with an architect before? If so what was that experience like?
[Redacted]
3. Have you contacted any general contractors regarding this project already?
[Redacted]
4. Do you want to engage in a competitive bid process or hire a general contractor early in the process that you already trust?
[Redacted]
5. Would you be willing to do any of the construction or finishing work yourself? For

example, painting, staining, cabinetry, or landscaping.

6. Is there a certain way you would like to work with us? Is there anything we need to be sensitive to?
[REDACTED]
7. What forms of communication do you prefer?
[REDACTED]
8. Do you intend to live remotely during the design and construction process?
[REDACTED]
9. Please provide any additional details or information we didn't cover.
[REDACTED]
10. What questions do you have for us?
[REDACTED]

Construction









1. Do you have a clear picture of your budget? Include details if possible. (Construction budget doesn't include design fees, engineering fees, cost of land, utility hookups, and permitting fees.)
[REDACTED]
2. What is your timeline and schedule like? Do you have any constraints or concerns?
[REDACTED]
3. Have you obtained a boundary and topographic survey? If so, can it be provided?
[REDACTED]
4. Do you know if you'll need a septic or if this has sewer hookup?
[REDACTED]
5. Will you need to drill for well water or is it connected to a local water supply?
[REDACTED]
6. Are you building in a development that has Design Guidelines with a review board that meets regularly to approve a set of plans?
[REDACTED]

Program Requirements









1. In general, how do you envision this home being laid out? Do you like an open floor plan, a formal arrangement of rooms with specific functions, or something in between? Please describe and use previous places you've lived as a reference point.
[REDACTED]
2. What relationships between rooms and spaces are important? For example, I want the mud room near the kitchen, master bedroom must be private and secluded, or I want a home office above the garage.
[REDACTED]
3. Do you enjoy cooking and spending a lot of time in the kitchen? If so, please describe how this kitchen will need to function.
[REDACTED]
4. What connections to the outdoors are important to consider for this home?
[REDACTED]
5. Do you currently have too much of one space or room and not enough elsewhere?
[REDACTED]
6. Do you have any rooms or spaces that need to be private and quiet?



Space Requirements

1. Will this home be smaller or bigger than the current place you live? Roughly what size home do you anticipate building?

2. How many bedrooms would you like to have, and roughly what size would each bedroom be? Please list.

3. How many bathrooms would you like to have? Are any of these exclusive to an adjacent bedroom? Please list and provide general room dimensions.

4. For your main living areas (Kitchen, Living, and Dining) please provide rough room sizes. Do you intend to have additional formal rooms?

5. What outdoor spaces would you like for your home? (For example, front porch, deck, screened porch, or patio.) Please list and provide rough sizes.

6. Would you like a garage? If so, what size and will this be detached or attached?

7. Please provide additional rooms and sizes not already listed. (For example, den, office, rec. room, theater room, laundry, etc.)

8. Do you have any storage requirements?


Features

1. What are the essential priorities of this home? For example, you may want a larger home for a growing family or downsizing if later in life.

2. Are there special features that will need to be incorporated into the design? For instance, cathedral ceilings, a wood burning stone fireplace, or passive solar.

3. Do you like having Built-ins? For example, built-in benches in a mud room, media center in your living room, or a series of bookshelves in a hallway.

4. Where is the primary gathering spot in your current home? Do you anticipate this changing with your new home? Is there anything unique that would encourage a specific place for gathering?

5. Do you own any equipment that needs to be incorporated into the design?

6. Do you own any furniture or art that needs to be incorporated?

7. Are ceiling heights important to you? Do you have requirements?

8. Is music a focus or not at all?


9. Is TV a focus or not at all?
10. What is the quality of daylighting you would like to achieve? For instance, orienting a room or space to the sunset or sunrise.
11. Do you have views that need to be taken advantage of? Are these mountain views, wooded views, water views or other? If so, what spaces would you like to have oriented to these views?
12. Do you intend to have gas appliances?
13. Do you want any rooms or spaces to convey a feeling or emotion?

Green Building

1. Do you have any experience with building a more efficient home? Would you like to learn more about ways to design and build an efficient home?
2. Are you going incorporate any alternative forms of energy? For example, photovoltaic solar systems, geothermal systems, or solar hot water. Please describe.
3. Would you like to harvest rainwater for irrigation?
4. Would you like to learn more about using southern exposure for passive solar heat gain and daylighting? Have you considered concrete floors to build mass for radiant heat gain?
5. What kind of heating and cooling systems are you familiar with and would like to incorporate into your home?
6. Are you familiar with third party ratings systems such as LEED for Homes, Energy Star, and state supported ratings such as Green Built Homes? Would you like to know more about these programs and how to register?

Style

1. Which architectural styles that you're drawn to or want to know more about? Please describe and attach or send photos.
2. Describe your taste in design? Is it formal, traditional, modern, minimalist, contemporary, farmhouse, or perhaps a combination.
3. Is there an overall message you want your home to convey?
4. Do you have colors you love? Do you like it to be bright and bold, or earthy and neutral?
5. What concerns do you have about curb appeal?

6. Do you have a set of community provided Design Guidelines that require a certain type of style?
[REDACTED]

7. Are you concerned about resale value?
[REDACTED]

Landscape / Site

1. What significant outdoor spaces are important to you? (For example, pool, tennis court, garden etc.)
[REDACTED]

2. Please describe any outbuildings that should be included in the scope of work? (For instance, pool house, shed, barn, guest house etc.)
[REDACTED]

3. What natural features are on your site that we need to protect or enhance as features of the living spaces? This may include specific trees.
[REDACTED]

4. Please describe any features on your property or a neighbor's property that we will want to screen from view?
[REDACTED]

5. Are you aware of any problems with zoning, codes, or steep slope conditions that may create an obstacle, please describe so we may investigate further in design?
[REDACTED]

Lifestyle

1. What leisure activities are important to you? How will this home and property support those activities?
[REDACTED]

2. What work-related activities are important to you? How will this home and property support those activities?
[REDACTED]

3. Are there any other activities related to a hobby, entertaining, religion, pets, or something else that this home and property will support regularly?
[REDACTED]

4. Do you see this home as supporting a change of lifestyle? (For instance, retirement, or empty nest) If so, please tell us how.
[REDACTED]

5. Do you currently have any personal or lifestyle issues you see this home as solving?
[REDACTED]

6. How much time do you anticipate spending at home? If this is a secondary home how much time will you spend here and at what times of year will it be occupied?
[REDACTED]

7. Do you imagine living here for the rest of your life?
[REDACTED]

Health & Relationships

1. Do you have children living with you? If so, what age?
[REDACTED]

2. Do you anticipate a friend or relative staying with you for long periods of time?

3. Do you anticipate, or have an elderly family member living with you?
4. Will you need space for children and grandchildren to stay for short periods of time?
5. Are you physically active? How will this home and property support those activities?
6. Are there any health or wellness issues that this home will need to help prevent and/or support? This may include reactions to asthma, allergies, mold, air quality, or other toxicity found in traditional building materials that will need to be avoided.