



## Design Questionnaire

This is a list of questions for anyone thinking of building or renovating a home.

As you go through the questions, keep a few things in mind:

- It is always more telling when you give qualitative, not quantitative information. We don't want all your answers to be yes or no, black or white, but are looking to get to the real problems we are trying to solve together.
- This is difficult stuff! Often the real issues aren't readily apparent, but we can get there by analyzing what is and isn't working in your current home.
- Not everyone in the home will have the same answers. That's ok; the idea is to make sure we understand everyone's concerns. The goal is to arrive at design solutions that work for everybody.
- Don't necessarily try to solve the problem, just express your desires, even if they seem at odds with each other or impossible to obtain.
- Think not only about your current needs, but also try to envision how your home will work for you as the years go by.
- If a question is not relevant to you your situation, feel free to skip ahead
- This is not a complete list of what your priorities may be, so please mention anything else that you feel is important, no matter how irrelevant it may seem.
- A picture speak a thousand words, so we ask that you also go to books, magazines, Houzz, Pinterest, and the internet in general to find and share images with us that speak to you.

We want to see what you like, but also, very importantly, what you don't like! Also importantly, write exactly what you like (or don't) about each image.

*On to the questions!*

1. Who lives in your home? Please list all people, pets, and occasional visitors.  
How will that change over time?
2. How long have you lived in the house? How long do you plan to stay? What would change that?
3. What five main goals would you like to accomplish with this project?  
Please rank them in order of importance (it's ok if people have different priorities).

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Is this a primary or secondary home? Would that ever change?
5. If it is a primary house, do you spend long periods of time (two weeks or more at a time) away from home, or is it almost always occupied?
6. If it is secondary, how much time will you spend there and at what time of year?  
Would it ever be a rental?
7. How important is TV you (be honest now)? Which rooms require one, and how central is it to function of the space?

8. What leisure time activities are important? Do they take place in the house or on the property? What equipment or space allocation is required to support these?

9. On a scale of 1 (least) to 5 (most), how important are the following to you:

|                                 |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Privacy (inside to outside)     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Privacy (between indoor spaces) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Indoor-Outdoor Connection       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Energy Efficiency               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Matching a specific style       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Use of natural Materials        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Natural Light                   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Long-term maintenance           | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Curb appeal                     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Resale value                    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

10. What work activities are important? Do they take place in the house or on the property? What equipment or space allocation is required to support these?

11. What other activities are important? (For example: pets, community gathering, religious activities, entertaining and parties). What equipment or space allocation is required to support these?

12. Describe one space (building, room, garden, closet) that really impacted you. It could be a place you lived, visited, or merely seen photos of.

13. If money was no object, what kind of car would you drive?

14. Are there any architectural styles that you are drawn to, want to emulate, or want to know more about?

15. Are your sensibilities formal, modern, casual, chic, country, minimalist, or a combination of styles?
16. Do you want any specific spaces to convey a particular feeling, like calm or energizing, dramatic or subtle?
17. What message or feeling would you want your home to convey?
18. Please describe any equipment that needs to be incorporated or planned for.
19. What furniture or art items do you have (or plan to obtain) that need to be incorporated or have space allocated?
20. Are there any special features that are important to you? (fireplace, cathedral ceiling, greenhouse)
21. What spaces would you prefer have direct access to outside? Why?
22. Are there any health or wellness issues that concern you, such as air quality, mold, toxicity, the natural environment, special needs, or future special needs?
23. Do you want window treatments? Are the window treatments decorative or for blocking light or view?
24. Who cooks in your home? How often? Are there multiple cooks at the same time?
25. Do you (or would you like to) entertain a lot, occasionally, or almost never? What sort of groups?
26. What is the quality of light you want to achieve? (for example, morning sun in the Kitchen, dark at night in the Master Bedroom, the ability to create different moods in the dining room)

27. What spaces are important to be quiet from others, and vice versa? (for example, I want it quiet in my office or bedroom, but I want to be able to hear my kids when they are in the back yard)
28. Are there specific rooms that you'd like to have specific views outside?
29. Do you have ideas about the color palette you'd like to achieve? Do you prefer things bright, colorful, muted, neutral, or earthy?
30. Do you have, or anticipate in the future, elderly family members living with you?
31. Where in your house do people tend to gather and spend most of their time? Would you like to change or embrace that?
32. Are ceiling heights important to you? How so?
33. Do you know what you'd like to spend on the project? How did you arrive at that?
34. Is there a particular date you would like or need the project to be complete? What timeline constraints or concerns do you have?
35. Are there any features on your or an adjacent property that you want screened from view or embraced as preferable views?
36. Are you aware of any problems with zoning, codes, neighbors, or anything else that may create an obstacle?
37. Are there any views that you want to achieve or avoid from a particular location or room?
38. Are any accessory structures part of would you like to see included? (for example, guest house, barn, pool house, garden shed)

39. What transitional spaces would you like to see included? (for example, porch, deck, patio, covered walkway)
40. What outdoor spaces are part of the scope of work or important to you? (for example, swimming pool, tennis court, play area, or garden)
41. Do you have any interest in or want to know more about energy efficiency, resource consciousness, healthy human environment, alternative energy (such as solar or wind power), composting toilets, or grey-water systems?
42. Have you built a house, renovated, or added on to a house before? What was the experience like?
43. Is there a particular way that you would like to work with us, or is there something you want us to be aware of or sensitive to?
44. Do you prefer a particular communication style? (email, phone, texting, face to face, everything in writing, or a combination). Could you provide all relevant contact information?
45. What questions do you have for me?