

# CHARACTERISTICS OF A PROPER INTERIOR DESIGNER

After studying the nature of different types of client we come to the following conclusions:

- A** Field of responsibility of a designer, and
- B** Responsibility of a client.

**1** The designer must develop sensibility and confidence to distinguish/confirm whether a particular design is good or bad, or to say it more precisely, the right and the wrong. He must be firm in his ideas before submitting the design to his client.

**2** The designer should place before his client the *Conditions of Contract* in writing (typed or printed) at the very first stage so that there is no dispute or misunderstanding about the fees and its payment afterwards. *Conditions of Contract Terms* and conditions should be binding on both the parties. One of the two copies, should be given to the client and the other kept by the designer after obtaining the client's signature on it. This may be regarded, by many, as mere formalities, but is necessary to avoid any dispute or confrontation later. It also helps in keeping good relations till the completion of project, and later on. The designer should not ignore *Conditions of Contract* even in the case of friends and relatives, which may otherwise spoil relations. Signature of the client on the form of *Conditions of Contract or Agreement* is a must before taking up a job.

**3** Honesty, frankness and determination are the prime, integral qualities of a good designer. A

designer should not design in a way just to please his client. This will be a kind of salesmanship or business which is forbidden for a designer. He should point out the merits and demerits of a design to the client before seeking his approval. Here lies the difference between a furnisher/decorator and a designer. A designer should justify his profession by keeping in mind all aspects of an interior, surroundings and environment. If a client happens to be new or innocent, the designer should not serve him with any type of design and make money out of a hurried execution of work. Further, the designer is a cheat if he accepts any commission or gift from any contractor or material supplier. This way he will never be able to work for the cause of good design. He will remain unsuccessful as a designer in life.

After the agreement with the client, three copies each of the design, working drawings, detailed drawings are to be taken and signature of the client obtained on all of them. One copy of each of drawings should be submitted to the client under his acknowledgement on a printed or typed forwarding letter. If any addition or alteration is to be made, drawings and extra charges for such work should also be submitted to the client separately after mutual agreement with the contractor. One spare copy of such work is to be retained by the designer.

Everything is to be noted down in a note book called the *Project Progress Report Book* kept at the

site of work. On each visit, the designer must write up the progress report and instructions, if any, in the same book so as to bring them to the notice of the client. Following this procedure/schedule, it is certain that the result will be smooth completion of a project without any dispute arising amongst the parties.

**4** The designer should reach the site before the appointed time, so as to avoid inconvenience to the client and contractor both. It will be better if periodical visiting time and days are fixed beforehand so that the client and contractor will keep themselves ready at that time. This will avoid inconvenience. In case of some unavoidable circumstance the designer should inform the contractor and client in advance or else his assistant should attend the meeting. Due to this drawback of designer (Not reaching in time, or not attending the meeting at all etc.) many good and creative designers have spoiled their names.