

NECESSITY OF AN INTERIOR DESIGNER

People interested in getting their interior designed usually avoid using interior designers giving these reasons:

- 1 The designer will increase the budget.
- 2 He will impose his taste on us.
- 3 He will leave the job incomplete if there is any dispute.

We will see further that to avoid precisely all these factors and to accomplish more, the services of an interior designer are needed.

1 Design

An interior designer designs a client's spaces keeping in mind the client's life-style requirements, likes and dislikes, personal taste, financial constraints, family conditions and religious and social practices. This makes the client's living easy and comfortable.

2 Economy

A designer's efforts result in three types of economies:

i Economy of Space

He arranges the space, furniture and other elements in such a way that it leads to optimum use of space.

ii Economy of Materials

Since a designer is intimately aware of available materials in the market, their suitability, qualities, defects and the precise quantities to be used for

the proposed project as he has already made the plans, he economises on materials enormously.

iii Economy of Time

As everything is scheduled, executed and supervised by an expert designer there is no wastage of time, and the project is completed in/on time.

iv Economy of Finances

The consequences of abovementioned economies results in financial economy.

3 Budget Control

Nothing leads to greater heart-burning than the incompleteness of a project due to overbudgeting.

A designer can help the client to complete a project in the given amount. If it is not possible, he will advise the client to complete the necessary part of the work in the given amount without disturbing the future extensions. He will design in a way that the client will not have to break or remodel what has been executed.

4 Selection

An interior designer helps in selecting the following:

i Selection of Right House and Neighbourhood

If you contact your designer before you decide to move to a new place, he would be able to guide you about the suitability of house or building for

your purpose. He would also guide you to the proper neighbourhood suitable for your life style which would help you lead a balanced life.

ii Selection of Period Style

Everybody likes some style of designing like Indian or Islamic or Japanese. Then for commercial purposes, you have to choose a style. For example, a Chinese restaurant might need Chinese style, a French cafe might need a French decor. An interior designer helps create the style a client wants.

iii Selection of Professionals

As a designer has life long relationship with other professionals like airconditioning specialists, acoustic specialists and others, he can help the client to choose the right professional/s for the project.

iv Selection of Contractors/Suppliers

A designer has a team of job contractors and material suppliers with him and since he has to remain in the field for ever, he gets the job done well. He also knows the capacity and capability of these people. So he can help the client to select the right people for him.

v Selection of Materials

A designer is thoroughly aware of the properties and suitability of materials for specific jobs. So he can select the right materials for a project keeping in mind their desirability, suitability, availability and economic viability.

vi Selection of Accessories

A designer helps his client to decide to buy the right accessories in the form of painting, sculptures lighting, fixtures, plants etc. because he knows the available and durable items.

5 Elimination

An interior designer helps to eliminate these:

i Elimination of Confusion

Many clients are not sure of what they want. They have seen various things and they want a bit of this and that without, for a moment, considering the appropriateness of the whole exercise. Designers call this "mixed metaphors". A designer helps the client to make up his mind.

ii Elimination of Mistakes/Omissions

A designer knows his job well. So he plans in such a way that mistakes do not occur, like floor polishing is done before painting, so the paint remains clean.

iii Elimination of Hindrances

There are many hindrances in successful execution of a project like the availability of required materials, artisans, etc. A designer through his experience, knowledge and contacts overcomes all these hindrances and finds a solution.

iv Elimination of Unwanted Furniture

When redoing a new interior, a designer discards the unwanted furniture and retains what can be incorporated in the new scheme of things.

6 Safety

A qualified designer works out the safety of your premises and project in the following ways:

i Safety Premises

A designer knows at least the fundamentals of architecture, so he does not harm basic structure of

the premises, keeping it safe. He also knows the fundamentals of insulation, waterproofing, plumbing, electrical wiring and other technical aspects which help him to design a safe place.

ii Safety of Work

Since a designer knows reliable contractors and suppliers, he helps you get reliable services and standard materials. Being knowledgeable in his field, he controls the quality of work, resulting in the best of work, safe from the side of execution.

iii Safety of Money

An interior designer allows the client to make payment only after he is satisfied with the work/material/service supplied, so the client does not have to spend his money on unwanted factors. Thus his money remains safe.

7 Arbitration

Many times, a designer has to judge things. This arbitration is performed in many ways.

i Arbitration between the Likes of Clients and Appropriateness

Many clients want something which is not suitable for their project. For example, a client might demand a Mughal arch in a Chinese restaurant. Here the designer explains things to the client and suggests what will be appropriate.

ii Arbitration between Client and Contractors/Suppliers

The designer knows the client and contractors/suppliers and since contractors/suppliers have to keep permanent business relations with him, they consider things in his favour, and so he can always benefit the client during the times of dispute.

8 Aesthetic Dimension

The interior and what is in it should be

beautiful. But everyone has his own idea of beauty. As an experienced person in creating things beautiful, the designer helps the client in these ways:

i Taste

The question of taste is very controversial in art. Things have to be tasteful. And when a client does not know anything about it, it is the designer who decides for him. In case the client is confused about the taste, it is the designer who explains things to him.

ii Creation of Ambience

The designer creates an ambience (atmosphere) in an interior in various ways. He creates an ambience expressing the client's a socio-economic status, b His vocation, c The period of history he likes, or the d Purpose demands.

iii Thought of the future

A designer is also hired because he can create an interior which would not go outdated soon. Every period has its fads and fancies, and the designer knows how to sort them out. Again, every period has its preference for certain colours that does not last long. The designer saves the interior from that too. This way he gives the interior an enduring look and saves it from frequent changes.

9 Service

The most important factor why a client should hire a designer is the services offered by the designer on very competitive rates. Even if a client knows what he wants and where the skills, and labour and materials are available to execute his project, he would not be able to devote his time for the same. And even if he devotes time, he would soon realise that it is very expensive, and paying the designer for the same turns out to be more economical.