



FACT SHEET

Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR BUILDING DESIGN?

The Background

Building design is the process of creating a spatial concept for a set of building use and budget requirements.

There is significant skill required in making the quantum leap from a brief of requirements to a three dimensional concept reflecting the brief.

Building Design - Process and Effects

The result of this process can significantly affect building cost, value, effect on the occupants and the amenity of the locality.

It is important that the architect or building designer charged with the responsibility of building design is carefully selected on the basis of a range of factors including completed design work and /or understanding of the problems in hand.

Building Design Preparation

Building design should be based on careful preparation of a brief including owner requirements, budget restraints, site conditions and authority requirements.

The best result is achieved by the designer preparing several alternative preliminary concepts for consideration. In many cases the selected approach is based on a combination of alternatives.

The Building Design - Steps to avoid problems

Building design is perhaps the most important step in the process of creating a structure. It is false economy to design a building "on the back of an envelope" at minimum cost. The result invariably has defects or problems which could have been avoided by directing adequate resources to the initial process of design.

A skilled designer will seek to avoid waste space and inefficient movement areas in addition to recognizing the importance of factors such as orientation, the creation of space with natural light and an attractive visual appearance.

The design process also involves parallel consideration of construction and architectural detail alternatives with a view to cost and appearance.