Fundamentals of Art and Design (RMCS- 111)

ELEMENTS OF ART

The purpose of interior decoration is to make our homes liveable by enhancing the appearance of interiors by interiors by combining beauty and functionalism. It gives scope to the homemaker and other members to express their personality, aesthetics taste through proper selection of furniture, furnishing and accessories.

Elements of Art: The art element serves as a tool in conveying fundamental ideas in painting and in sculpture, and in creating objects which meet material needs of mankind: architecture, home furnishings, handicrafts, industrial, commercial and related arts. Design is made up of certain constituents such as line, form, colour, texture, pattern, light and space. These are the basic elements and form the infrastructure for creating a design.

1. **Line:** A line is a series of points joined together. Line has three dimensions the length with many directions, the width or thickness also may vary. All lines can move in vertical, horizontal and diagonal direction r a

Line	Form (Shape)	Colour	Texture	Pattern	Light	Space

Elements of Art
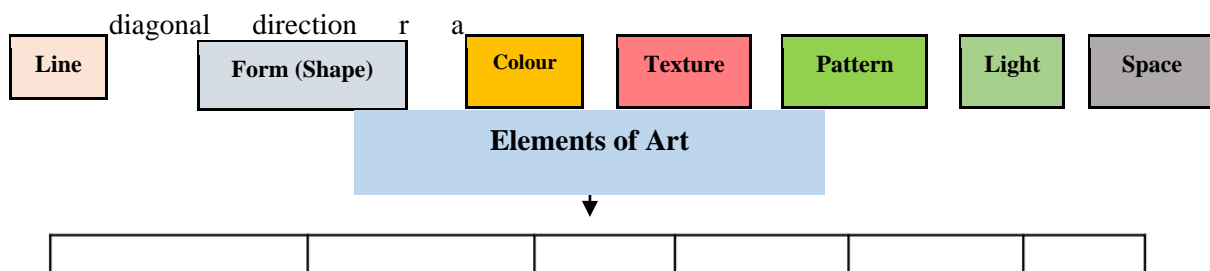
   combination of any of these.

   All lines fall in to the category of straight, curved or combination of these two, such as zigzag line, a wavy line and scalloped line. Lines may be thick, thin, long or short, fuzzy or smooth.

   Lines create emotional effects: vertical lines suggest dignity, horizontal lines repose or rest; zigzag, excitement, diagonal lines movement; curved ones gracefulness and transition.

   In design, structural lines are used to define shape, to form pattern and to create optical illusion, e.g. vertical lines suggest height, and horizontal lines add apparent width. The combination of various types of lines is used for decorative effect.

   Optical Illusions: Illusion is a misinterpretation of a "real" sensory stimulus. It is an interpretation that contradicts objective "reality". Perception refers to the interpretation of what we take in through our eyes.

2. **Form:** When lines drawn in different directions meet at some common points resulting in to two- or three-dimensional areas or masses, is termed shape or form, e.g. a triangular, square, oval shape.

Shapes are mostly the flat enclosures of space, whereas form includes a volume surrounded by limiting factors. Shapes and forms enable us to judge the size of the objects.

3. **Colour:** Colour is a very important element of art. To enjoy colours around us one needs to develop ability to use colours beautifully and forms the proper colour judgement. In interior decoration, many problems deal with colour in light and vision.

Colour has three qualities;

a) **Hue:** It indicates the name of the colour, e.g. red, blue, etc.

b) **Value:** It indicates the lightness and darkness of colours expressed in terms *tint* and *shade* respectively. For instance, pink is the tint of red and maroon is the shade of red colour.

c) **Intensity:** It refers to the brightness and dullness of colour. The value of colour is changed to lightness by adding white, and to darkness by adding black. The colours can be made bright by adding more colours and dull by diluting the colour or adding greys or browns.

Colours are classified as *Primary*, e.g. red, yellow and blue; *secondary* e.g. orange, purple and green. Most of the colour schemes are based on various combinations of the primary, secondary and also *intermediate* colours which are created by combining pairs of adjoining a primary and secondary.

Colours have important quality of producing of warmth or coolness, advancing and receding effects, heaviness or lightness of objects.

4. **Texture:** The texture is the tactile surface quality of material which may be felt when touch the material or object, or may be identified through visual examination. The textures in which surface quality can be felt by touch is the actual texture of the material, e.g. rough texture of a coarse fabric or smooth texture of a polished surface. Any material which reveals a textural pattern when observed without touching, it is called visual texture of the object, e.g. polished stone, coir or jute mats.

5. **Pattern/ Design:** The term pattern refers to any sort of extrinsic surface enrichment and applies to both two- dimensional and three-dimensional objects. Generally, pattern should cover just about a quarter of the total surface area. Design is developed by the use of lines, shapes, forms, theme etc to give a definite form. According to the Goldstein and Goldstein designs are of two types i.e. structural and decorative.

6. **Light:** Light is considered as an element of art and design. Light is used for visual comfort and to achieve desirable emotional responses. A variety of moods and effects may be obtained by the clever use of light and shadow, bright and dark areas. Light is a utilitarian element. It has a definite emotional effect. When light strikes an object, it may be reflected, absorbed, or allowed to pass through. Light has functional as well as an aesthetic effect. Light may be dull or sharp, bright or diffused.

7. **Space:** It is another important element because organization of space indoor-outdoors or in any art problem will result into good or poor aesthetics approach. Space is defined as the emptiness, void or interval between things. Space is the most vital element in home design" The organization of space is basic to architecture and interior decoration. If sensitively handled can be made effective, liveable, and even dramatic. Appreciation of space is the cause of our using a small amount of furniture and concentrating it into groups, so that we can have some empty silent space in our rooms.

PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

Principles of design are not formulas for creating beauty, but they do help in determining why an object is artistically good or poor. To create beautiful things some guidelines are to be followed.
These guidelines are termed as principles of design.

Principles of design help us to adjudge any arrangement, design or an object in terms of its aesthetics beauty and also create sensitivity to appreciation of beauty. There are five major principles of design or art namely; Proportion, Balance, Emphasis, Rhythm and Harmony.

1. **Proportion:** This principle underlies all the other principles. This principle is also called as "Law of Relationship" because it states that the relation between parts of an object or between objects of the same group should be satisfying.
   Good proportion is established by using certain dimensions in the use of space. "The Greek Oblong" is a standard of good proportions. It is called as "the golden section". This oblong always uses the ratio of 2:3 or 3:5 in case of flat surfaces, and 5:7:11 in case of solids. These ratios are useful in deciding any space division or arrangement, sizes of objects or decorative designs. In judging the relationship of objects in a group or parts of a structural design usually "the scale" which is another dimension of proportion is used.

2. **Balance:** In interior decoration, balance plays a very important role. Balance in creating a feeling of repose of rest by arranging or grouping shapes and colours around is central point in such a way that the arrangement results into equalization of weights or attraction on each side of the central point.

   There are two ways of creating balance. Formal balance results when either identical objects or objects of equal visual attraction are placed at equal distance from the central point, the resulting balance is termed as either symmetrical or obvious balance respectively.

   Informal balance also termed as asymmetrical or occult results when objects of unequal weights are arranged at different distances away from the central point. Lager objects or heavy objects are placed closer to the central point and smaller or light weight objects are placed away from the centre.

4

Principles of balance is used in furniture arrangement, flower arrangement, etc. to arrive at an arrangement which provides restful feeling to the interiors and the viewers of art objects.

3. **Emphasis:** This principle enables us to create of interest in any arrangement by emphasizing special features in order of their importance. In any arrangement we have to know what to emphasize, how to emphasize, how much to emphasize, and where to place emphasis.

   What to emphasize: Background should be less conspicuous than the objects to be seen against them.

   How to emphasizes: There are several ways: a)
   By placing or grouping of objects,
   b) By using contrasts of colour,
   c) By using decoration,
   d) By leaving sufficient space as background around an object.

   How much to emphasize: Usually the simplicity and restraints should be the aim, and avoid over decoration.

   Where to emphasize: The centre of interest may be located exactly at the mechanical centre of the given space when objects are viewed in a horizontal plane, e.g. furniture arrangement. Whereas in a vertical plane the point of emphasis should be located slightly above the mechanical centre, e.g. placement of picture on a wall, or in a frame.

4. **Rhythm:** This principle is based on the movement of the eye in viewing a design. It is defined as a related movement. An eye should travel in an easy connected path as created by lines, forms or colours in a design.
   The rhythmic movement may be obtained through
   (a)   Repetition of shape,
   (b)   Alteration of design or line,
   (c)   Progression of size or gradation, (d) Continuous line movement.

   In interiors design folds or curtain, or line created by furniture arrangement, picture arrangements etc., suggest the rhythmic movements.

5. **Harmony:** It is the principle which produces impression of unity through the selection and arrangement of consistent objects and ideas. All objects in a group have a family resemblance; the arrangement will result into harmony. The likeness among the objects creates a feeling of unity and a variety or contrast creates by breaking monotony. Harmony can be created by using similar (1) line and shape,

(2) size,

(3) texture,

(4) idea or themes, and

(5) colour.

Monotony developed by too much repetition should always be relieved by using contrast in proportionate amount.

DEVELOPMENT OF MOTIF AND DESIGN THROUGH ART PRINCIPLES

Motif: A motif is "a dominant subject or idea".

Motif is defined as "a decorative image or design, especially a repeated one forming a pattern".

According to Webester's dictionary a motif is usually recurring salient thematic element (as in the arts) especially a dominant idea or central theme.

A motif is a repeated figure or design in architecture or decoration.

They are used to establish a theme or a certain mood; they have a symbolic meaning.

Design: A *design* refers to any arrangement of lines, forms, colours and textures. A good design should have an oderly arrangement of the materials used and create beauty in the finished product.

Designs can be of two types either **structural** and **decorative.**

1.   **Structural design:** It is the design made by size, form, colour and texture of an object.

2.   **Decorative design:** It is the surface enrcihment of a structural design. They can be natural, stylized, geometric and abstract.

   i.   **Natural:** This form as representation of subject matter drawn from nature- flowers, leaves, fruits, animals and landscape. Efforts are made to keep the design/motif realistic. These designs are used on china and fabrics, the colours are related to those found in nature. They are more suitable for draperies, wallpapers, upholestry but not for functional articles like chairs, tables, lamp base.

   ii.   **Stylized:** They are conventionalised designs and superior to natural designs. Designs are made from adopting motifs of nature. These designs make no pretence at actual representations. Flowers, leaves, animals and figures are mostly used. They are simplified, exaggerated, rearranged or even distorted to achieve the purpose of the design. Colouring of stylized design also follows an unconventional mood. Certain natural aspects may be emphasized out of

proportion to make those particular features more pronounce. They increase expressiveness and beauty of design. They are found on wallpapers, fabrics and rugs.

iii. **Geometric:** They are pure geometric forms of circles, triangles, rectangles, squares, cubes etc. Dots, stripes, plaids, cheques are its common examples. Some designs use the geometric theme with a high degree of skill and refinement.

iv. **Abstract:** Many of these designs are based on geometric forms and some distinguish between geometric and abstract design. The abstract design implies an element of impressionism and a greater freedom than is found in most geometric designs. Shapes and patterns, although derived from geometry, are less rigid and formal than in the popular conception of geometric design. They are used in formal or masculine rooms e.g. Waiting rooms or passage.

COLOUR: COLOUR SCHEME, VALUES AND INTENSITY SCALE, COLOUR WHEEL

Colour: The quantity of an object or subject with respect to light reflection by an object usually determined usually by measurement of hue, saturation and brightness of the reflected light, saturation or chroma.

Colour Wheel

The hues on the colour wheel are classified into five types.

1. **Primary hues:** They are natural hues which cannot be prepared by mixing any other hues e.g. Red, blue, yellow.
2. **Secondary hues:** When two primary hues are mixed equally provides secondary hues. They are also called as 'binary hues' e.g. orange, green, purple.
3. **Intermediate hues:** When a primary and neighbouring secondary colour is mixed, the resultant is an intermediate hue. There are six of these intermediate hues *viz.,* Yellowish Green (YG), Bluish Green (BG), Blue Purple (BP) or Blue Violet (BV), Red Purple (RP) or Red Violet (RV), Reddish Orange (RO) and Yellowish Orange (YO).

Warm Colours

Cool Colours

Colour Wheel

Warm Colors

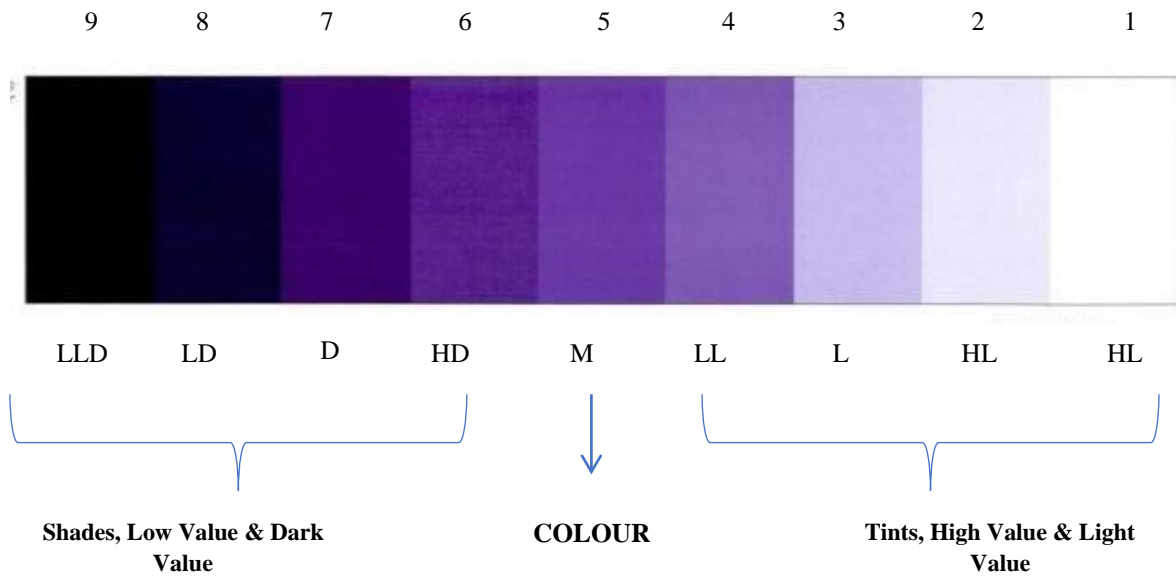Advancing Colors

Receding Colors

Cool Colors

Colour Wheel

Value Scale

Value (V): Value is the amount of lightness or darkness in colours regardless of hue. The lightest value is white and darkest is black, but there are as many degrees between them as we chose to consider. White is added to make the **tints** which are lighter than the normal value, and black is added to make

the **shades** which are below normal value. Tints are sometimes are called high values and shades are called low values.

9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

LLD	LD	D	HD	M	LL	L	HL	HL

Shades, Low Value & Dark Value **COLOUR** **Tints, High Value & Light Value**

Intensity Scale: Mixing the colour with its complement (opposite) lessen its intensity or neutralise it. Choose a pair of complementary colours on colour wheel for the intensity scale. Place warm complementary colours on one side of scale and cool on the other. As one work towards the center, one will add slightly more of its complementary colour to the other. In the centre one should mix equal part of each complement to create a neutral grey tone.

RED

GREY
At the middle

GREEN

Complementary Colour

Complementary Colour

Colour Intensity Scale
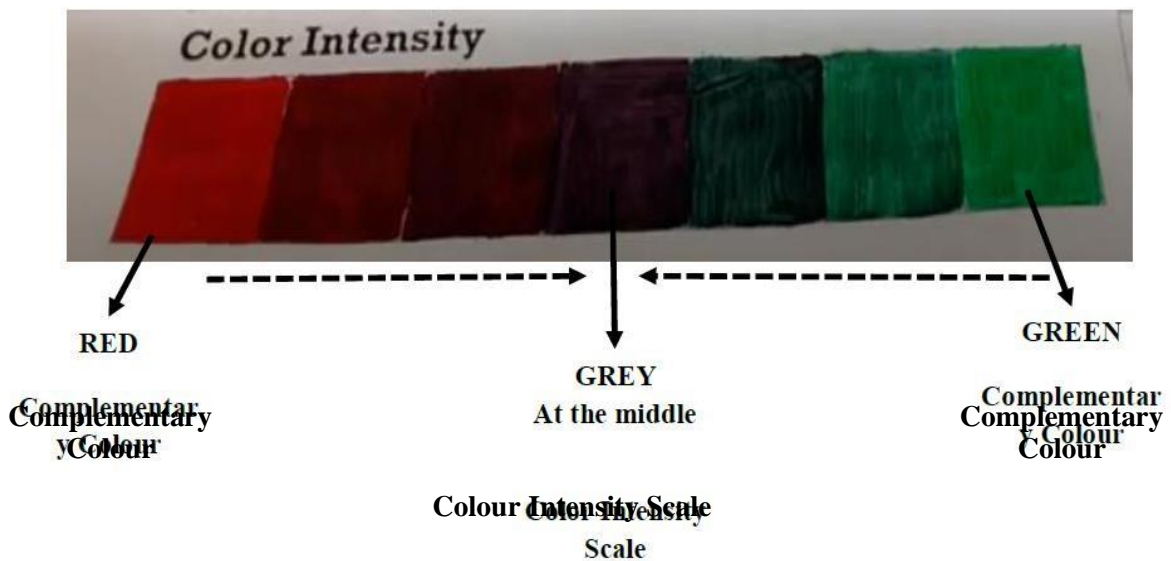
Colour Scheme

A colour scheme may be similar or contrasting. Similar harmonies are respectful but sometimes monotonous. Contrasting is interesting until they are used in striking way. There are three colour schemes:

1. **Related colour scheme:** It has similar colours. It has two types of colour schemes.

a) **Monochromatic colour scheme:** It means one hue colour scheme. The colour is used in varied values and intensities e.g. yellow colour.

MONOCHROMATIC

b) **Analogous colour scheme:** a combination of neighbouring adjoining three or four hues/ colours that have one hue in common e.g. green, yellow, yellow-orange.


ANALOGOUS

2. **Contrasting colour scheme:** It is combination of colours that are opposite to each other in colour wheel.

a) **Complementary colour scheme:** It is obtained by using two colours opposite to each other on the colour wheel. In its basic form there is one primary and one secondary colour which is created by mixing of two primary colours e.g. yellow and purple; red and green.


COMPLEMENTARY

b) **The double complementary colour scheme:** This is a scheme of four colours where two complementary colour pairs their opposite colours on colour wheel. It is also known as 'Rectangular Colour Scheme' as when four colours are connected on colour wheel, they form rectangle e.g. orange, yellow, blue and violet.

Rectangle
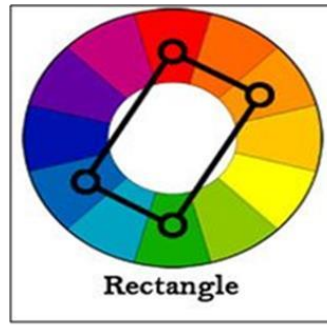
c) **Split complementary colour scheme:** It is a colour scheme where anyone hue on the colour wheel is chosen. The two other hues are placed on the either side of the complement of the chosen colour e.g. Yellow, red-violet and blue-violet.

Split Complementary

Double Split Complementary
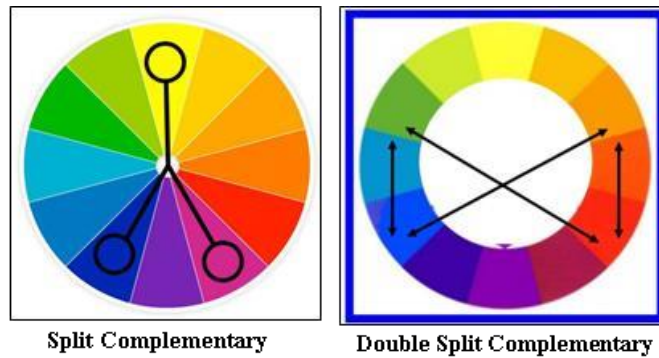
3. **Triad colour scheme:** This colour scheme consists of three colours situated equidistant from each other on the colour wheel. Four combinations of triad colour scheme appears on the colour wheel are red, blue and yellow; orange, green and purple; yellow-orange, blue-green and redpurple; yellow-green, blue-purple and red-orange.

Triadic

TRIAD
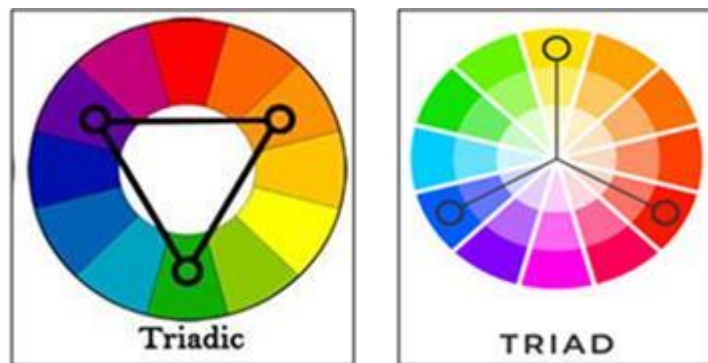
4. **Tetrad colour scheme:** A scheme which combines four colours equidistant from each other on the colour wheel. Three tetrad combinations are on the colour wheel are yellow-orange, green red and blue-violet; red-orange, yellow, blue-green and violet; orange, yellow-green, red-violet and blue.
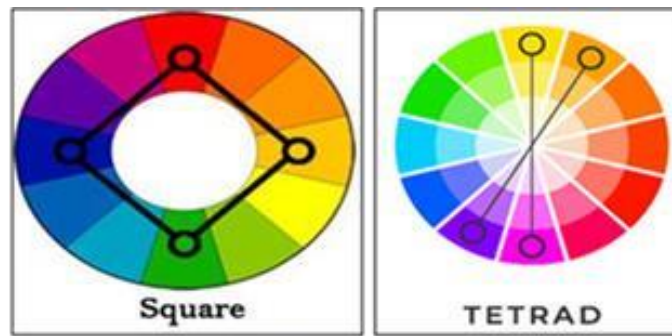
5. **Achromatic/Accented Neutral colour scheme:** A scheme with one or more than one neutral hue combined harmoniously along with a strong contrasting hue. The neutral hues are black, grey, white and brown. The contrasting hues could be shocking pnk, green or yellow.
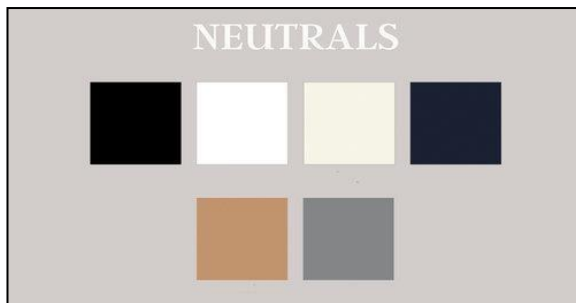
FURNITURE CARE AND ARRANGEMENT OF FURNITURE

Furniture is the mass noun for the movable objects intended to support various human activities such as seating and sleeping in beds, to hold objects at a convenient height for work using horizontal surfaces above the ground, or to store things.

Before purchasing furniture, one should check whether furniture provides comfort, security, has decorative as well as functional role, it has style, expressiveness, beauty, firmness and rigidity and can serve a symbolic or religious purpose. Domestic furniture works to create, in conjunction with furnishings such as clocks and lighting, comfortable and convenient interior spaces. Furniture can be made from many materials, including metal, plastic, and wood glass, fiber glass, leather, can etc.

The different types of furniture are used in homes and have specific needs. They are:

1. A place to sit down: chairs, sofas, stools, couch.
2. A place to lie down: beds, futons, sofa bed.
3. A place to work and eat: tables.
4. A place in which to store their belongings: cupboards and chests.

❖ **Importance of Furniture**

1. For Storage: Built-in drawers, cupboards, and closets

2. As a Space divider: Screens, bookcases, and high cabinets

3. For enhancement in personality**:** Wall shelves

❖ **Furniture arrangement:** Furniture arrangement is based on two basic elements, i.e. design and function. Careful preliminary plans of orderly arrangement are necessary for the creation of beautiful and comfortable rooms. The objectives of furniture arrangement are comfort and efficiency in use, combined with visual balance in the overall layout of the furniture.

The rules for furniture arrangement are-

1. Furniture should be selected according to ☐ its measurement and proportion
   - family needs and requirement
   - proportionate to the size of the room

2. Functional considerations of arrangement are more important than aesthetic considerations in furniture arrangement.
   - Grouping of furniture should be emphasized and done according to the activity.
   - Sociability and talking to guests in the drawing room need furniture grouped to form a conversation corner.

3. There can be sub ordinate group of furniture in the rooms

4. It is essential to follow the rules for creating balance. This leads to emphasize the interior decoration in attractive fashion.

5. Furniture should be combined in groups, for services, for conversation of space and for beauty. Interesting groups may be composed around important articles. These group which may be the focal centres that make arrangements logical and useful e.g. fire place, showcase, etc.

6. Open space of about two feet should be left free for moving around the furniture. The space between the wall and the furniture should be 2½ to 3 feet.

7. Avoid too much furniture results in overcrowding of room and reveals the untidiness of arrangement. It also reduces the sizes of the room. If the number is restricted and lot of space is left open the room appears larger in size.

8. Traffic lanes for going to other room should be left clear without obstruction in between, so that one can easily go to other room with minimum effort and distance. Going around furniture to reach to door will increase the distance. Major traffic lanes should be about 6 feet wide and minor lanes about 4 feet wide, approaches to doorways should be clear. Easy access to important places in the room.

9. Upholstered furniture can be grouped with the wooden furniture.

10. Furniture should be arranged according to the work, its use and activity.

11. Multipurpose furniture, transparent furniture increases utility in the room. Transparency increases the room space and multi-purpose furniture can be used in many ways.

12. Utility in line, texture, scale and colour is necessary within the groups. At the same time variety is needed to stimulate interests, difference in bulk and height are desirable.

❖ **Care of furniture:** Furniture is not changed frequently and very often. Thus, there is a need to care for them for their long shelf life. Proper care of furniture provides long lasting life.

❖ **Suggestion for Care and Protection of Furniture**

1. Avoid placing your furniture in direct sunlight, as sunlight causes fading.
2. Avoid extreme changes in temperature by arranging furniture away from radiators, heat and air vents and air conditioning units.
3. Avoid placing plastic or rubber materials (lamp bases, notebooks, placemats, etc.) on your furniture, as certain plastics contain ingredients that may damage the finish.
4. Periodically rotate accessories on furniture so they do not sit in the same spot all the time.
5. Use pads, cloth or felt to protect the furniture surface from plastic, rubber, hot dishes, beverages, bookends, flowerpots and vases.
6. Clean up spills immediately. Use a blotting rather than a wiping action. Water left over a long period of time will cause white spots in the finish. Alcohol, perfume, after-shave and medications can cause severe finish damage.
7. Use a protective pad when writing with a ballpoint pen on the furniture surface.
8. Lift and place objects rather than dragging them across the furniture surface.
9. Avoid placing furniture directly under windows.

❖ **Cleaning and Polishing of Furniture**

1. Frequently dusting of furniture with a clean, soft, dry, lint-free cloth. Clean the surface by rubbing in the direction of the grain.
2. Polish furniture approximately every six months, using a clean, soft, lint-free cloth and rubbing the polish in the direction of the grain.
3. Some of our products feature a high-gloss finish. These items require extra care to prevent dust and smudges from being overly apparent.
4. Be especially careful to avoid scratching high gloss finishes by using a feather duster or very soft, clean cloths and wiping with minimal pressure.

1. **Wood**
   a. Wooden surfaces may be painted, polished or tinted.
   b. Cheap wooden surfaces are often covered over with commercial board, Sunmica, Formica or other laminated boards.

c. Painted wood can be painted to protect and decorate the surface. They can brush to remove the dirt, occasionally a very mild soap or detergent using a fine cloth or netting. Then on drying rub with a soft flannel cloth to give it a gloss. Periodic repainting helps to preserve the wood better.

d. **Polished** wood ordinary dusting followed by rubbing with a flannel cloth will maintain this surface for a long time.

e. **Veneer and Laminated surfaces** provide attractive covers on top of wood are cleaned by washing with mild soap solution. Avoid scratching by using abrasives, protect from high heat and spills should be wiped up immediately to avoid staining. Wax polishes or creams can be used protect veneer surfaces.

f. **A coloured Lacquer finish** is common on wooden furniture. Avoid any scratching. It is cleaned as same that of polished wood.

2. **Metal**

    Brass and Copper:

    ☐ General cleaned by using soaps and cleansing powders with a mild abrasive action. Sifted ash   is used for cleaning vessels at home.

    ☐ To remove the tarnish a little lemon juice and salt, vinegar or tamarind pulp can be used along with fine steel wool.

    ☐ A very mild solution of hydrochloric acid can be used as it is corrosive. A fine nail brush or an old tooth brush can be used to clean engraved brass.

    ☐ Brasso can be used to polish decorative articles. It should be washed with soapy water, rinsed and polished with a soft flannel duster after it is dry.

3. **Marble**

    Cleaning Marble: Use mild, non-abrasive detergent and water Removing Stains from Marble: Use soap and water or stain removing poulticing powders from your local home improvement center.

4. **Glass**

    Removing Stains from Glass: Pour 3 parts vinegar and 1 part ammonia onto the stained area and let stand for 30 minutes to overnight, depending on the severity of the stain. Wash off with soap and water followed by glass cleaner.

5. **Leather**

Cleaning Leather: Wipe spills immediately with clean cloth or sponge. For spots or stains and daily cleaning, clean with mild non-detergent soap. Rinse well, gently wipe off, and allow to air dry. Cleaning Butter, Oil or Grease from Leather: Wipe leather with a clean cloth, and leave alone. The oil will be absorbed by the leather. DO NOT APPLY WATER. Also, do not use saddle soap, cleaning solvents, furniture polish, oils, varnish, abrasive cleaners, ammonia or any other type of chemical solution.
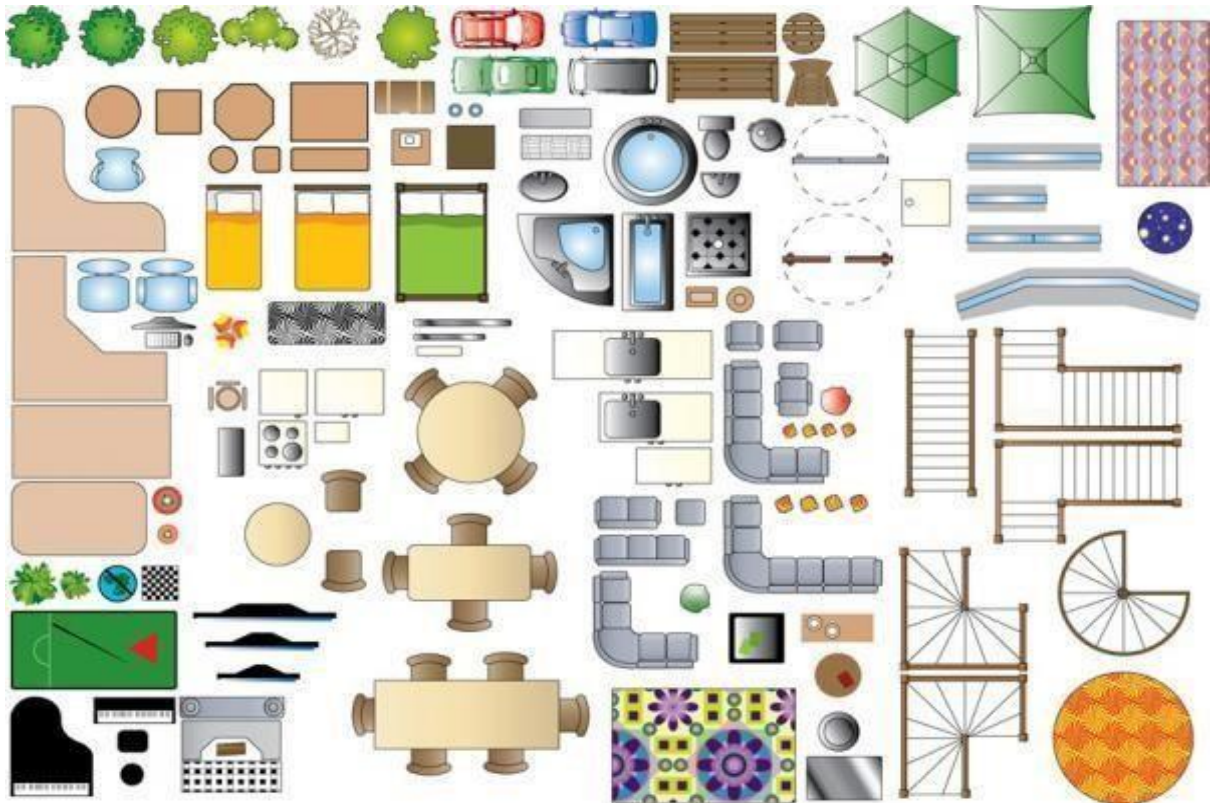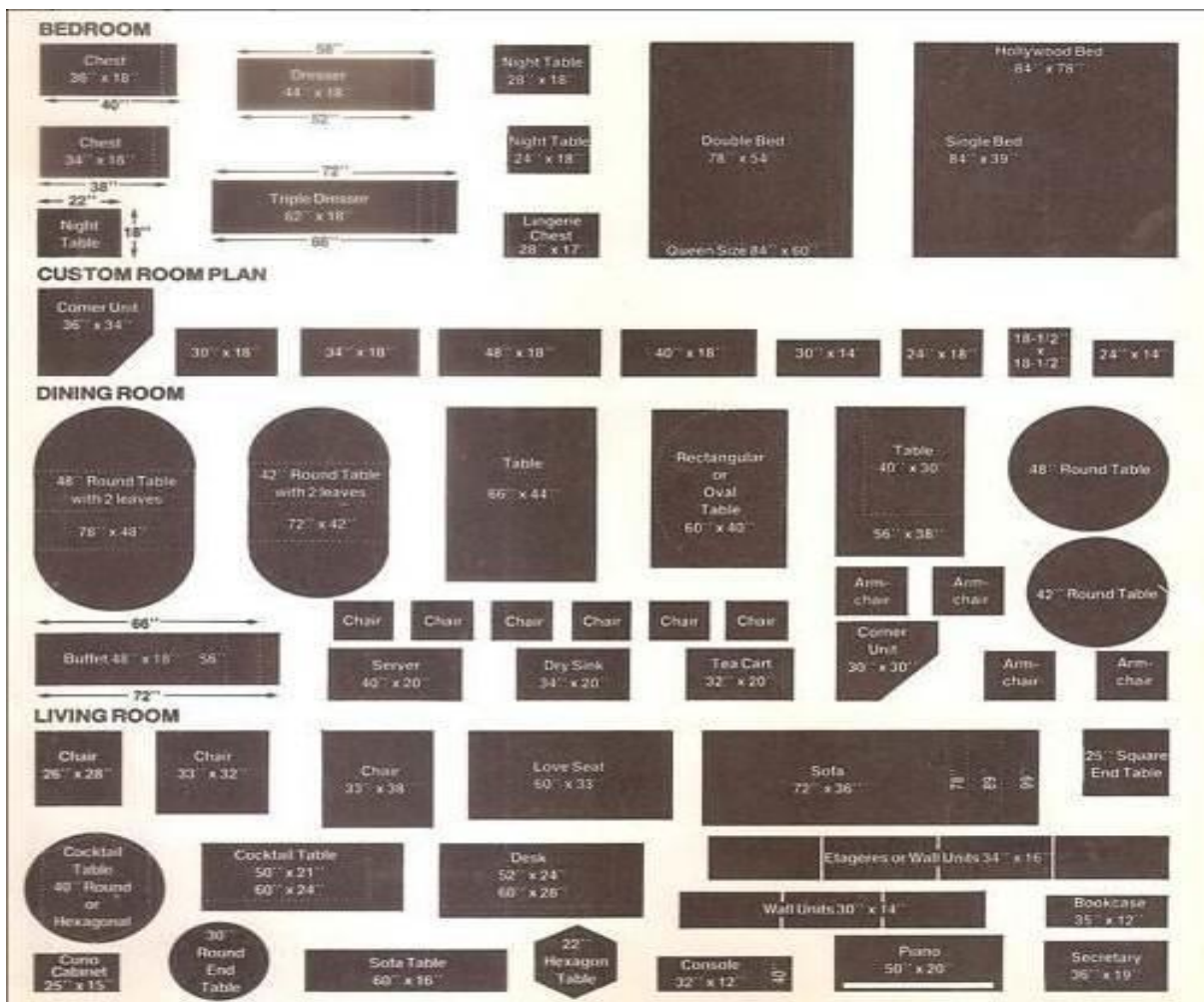
PREPARATION AND PLACEMENT OF ACCESSORIES

Home decoration is incomplete without accessories. They add meaning to a decor and lend charm, personality and individuality to a room. They are the elements of primary concern that comprises of decorations and arrangements that would bring in richness into personal life spaces. There are no set rules for the choice of accessories; it is an individual matter of expression. The selection and arrangement will reflect one's interest and sensitivity to good

❖ **Types of Accessories**

There are two types of accessories namely:

a. **Functional accessories**
b. **Decorative accessories**

Types of Accessories

Functional Accessories

1. Clocks
2. Mirrors
3. Screens
4. Lamps
5. Ash Trays and Waste Paper Baskets
6. Musical Instruments
7. Books & Magazines
8. Fireplace Equipment
9. Accent Furniture
10. Dining Room Accessories
11. Baskets and Mats
12. Candle Holders
13. Bowls and Vases

Decorative Accessories

1. Plants
2. Flower Arrangements
3. Pictures
4. Wall Arts
5. Small Sculptures/ Miniatures
6. Handicraft Items and Collections
7. Wood Work
8. Metal Ware and Utensils
9. Pottery and Earthenware
10. Stone Carving
11. Natural objects
12. Birds, Cats & Dogs
13. Murals
14. Wall Units
15. Gifts
16. Miscellaneous Accessories

Different Types of Accessories Used in Home Decor

A. Functional Accessories: In this category the accessories should be first of all useful and may also be beautiful. For example, lamps, ashtrays, clocks, mirror, screens, ash trays and waste paper baskets, musical instruments, pillows, books and magazines.

1. **Clocks:** Clock in the room gives the effect of activity and movement in the environment. While selecting clocks decide whether it will serve the purpose for keeping time as a major accessory as well as be the center of interest as a major object.

2. **Mirrors:** They are an integral part of both bedrooms and dressing rooms. It is extremely useful to have a mirror in the entrance hall of the veranda.

3. **Screens:** A folding screen serves the purpose of area division or it may be used purely for decorative purposes. They can be moved or adjusted to divide areas into comfortable units.

4. **Lamps:** They play a major role in lighting. Lamps assure a special importance as an accessory. Correctly chosen lamps and light fixtures determine the character of a room. The primary consideration in selecting lamp is functional aspects and second is choosing design that emphasis the spirit of the room.

5. **Ash Trays:** These are familiar accessories which have a purpose and are kept out of site. Ash tray may blend with surroundings or they may serve as an accent.

6. **Waste Paper Baskets:** Waste baskets should be conveniently placed and made of durable material. Decoratively, it must be the right colour to blend with the room and right design to harmonize with other designs in the room.

7. **Musical Instruments:** Certain musical instruments furnish visual treat as a traditional accessory.

8. **Pillows:** Pillows provide dramatic accent note to the colour scheme in a living or bed room. They may be cotton, quilted, needle point, velvety, embroidered

9. **Books & Magazines:** Books in an open bookshelf are among the most interesting and decorative of all furnishing. Collection of books arranged in an orderly manner becomes an intellectual accessory and become an integral part of a particular room. Displaying books add depth as well as character to a room.

10. **Fireplace Equipment:** Well-designed large and plain andirons, fender, tongs, scuttle and fire-screen, marching and the hardware of the room and conforming to its mood, should be chosen. In the summertime the fireplace hole may be hidden by an attractive screen or by a large arrangement of leaves.

11. **Accent Furniture:** The accent furniture creates a centre of interest in any setting. It makes the eye rest on it and thus invites the guests to come and appreciate it.

12. **Candle Holders:** It also serve double purpose of utility and beauty. They are generally made of brass or wrought iron so that stand is heavy and stable. It holds the candle upright and at same time firmly catches the drip of wax. If to be placed in a corner of a room or on the side of the table. But if it is the dining table then it should be either low or high kept away from the eye level.

13. **Dining Room Accessories:** In a dining room, has set of china, tableware centre piece and place mats day after day, no matter how beautiful, can become boring and dull. Introducing a change in any one of these items in rotation would add interest to a room.

B. Decorative Accessories: The objects that exist entirely for the purpose of enhancing the style, theme and colour scheme of an interior. They add interest in the interior decoration and serve the purpose of decoration to the decor. Decorative accessories include plants and cut flowers, flower arrangements, wall arts, handicraft items, wood and metal collections, pottery and earthenware, stone carving and sculptures.

1. **Plants:** They are the most loved and used accessories of home. They give feeling of freshness and expresses love and interaction of man for nature and beauty by creating link with outdoor environment. They improve the look of any outdoor living space. In indoor it creates ambiance that is not only visually attractive, but also stimulates the senses of smell, taste, touch and sound. The unpleasant sides of the balconies entrance ways can be covered in a decorative way by placing the pots and planters.

2. **Flower Arrangements:** Provides more economical, effective and elegant accessory for any type of decorating scheme. They add warmth; bring in nature's flavour into an interior. Artificial arrangements are now days getting popular for both naturalistic and stylised effects.

3. **Pictures:** Rooms are more appealing by hanging pictures on the walls and by placing them as centres of interest.

4. **Wall Arts:** Works of art such as drawings, paintings, prints, photographs, wall hangings and sculptures can add considerably to the personality of the room if artistically chosen and intelligently placed.

5. **Small Sculptures/ Miniatures:** Sculpture commands high importance and becomes the center of attention. Large free-standing pieces or a small prominent piece on a shelf or table adds credit to an arrangement.

6. **Handicraft Items and Collections:** Handicrafts displayed enriches the space much in a creative way. It can be a collection of personal treasures. Handicrafts include pottery, leather work, baskets, wood crafts, needle work, strained glasses, rugs etc.

7. **Wood Work:** The characteristic features of Indian wood work lies in the precision and accuracy of the workmanship. The most common woods are rose wood, mahogany, oak, pine and walnut. Each wood has its own distinctive grain and colour.

8. **Metal Ware and Utensils:** These are more important for the type of metal ware which has its own characteristics. From brass various types of vases, candle stand, ash tray etc., are made.

9. **Pottery and Earthenware:** Articles of pottery which are in great demand are impressive in shape. Wholesome works from Jaipur and Rajasthan have a reputation for its pottery. Earthenware that are more artistic with exiting piece of art work are available in inspiring ranges and are very popular, using them in an interior add a unique exquisiteness.

10. **Baskets and Mats:** Basket making is the universal of all crafts in India. Mats are used for floor coverings and are used as same manner as carpets. Domestic articles like tables, chairs, wall brackets are made from bamboo canes. The advantage of this craft is the adaptability to any most of change in design.

11. **Stone Carving:** Indian stone carving has no equal craft anywhere else. The tools used are all simple and the entire beauty of the stone carving depends on the workmanship skill of crafts man.

12. **Bowls and Vases:** Vases are used for holding flowers as well as for decoration purpose. Jaipur pottery vases have floral design covering the entire surface to become part of structural design. But if flowers are arranged in such vase then both flower and vase will lose its individuality. These vases are then used for purely decoration purpose only. If a vase is to be used for holding flowers then they should be deep enough to hold water and stable to bear the load of the flowers. Certain bowls are also used for both beauty and utility. Such bowls are easy to handle, stable and large enough to hold something such as fruits or dry fruits or chocolates. both vases and bowls are made up of metal, glass, pottery, plastic or even of wood. They can be placed on center table, side table or on the top of the showcase. smaller ones can be placed within the shelves of bookcase.

13. **Natural Objects:** The shells, rocks, drift wood and other branches of unusual structures. They have individuality with no other identical piece and have natural beauty. They are available with little or no expense and have long life. They can be placed on the top or within the showcase, center or side of the table. Before placing them their harmony with the room should be considered.
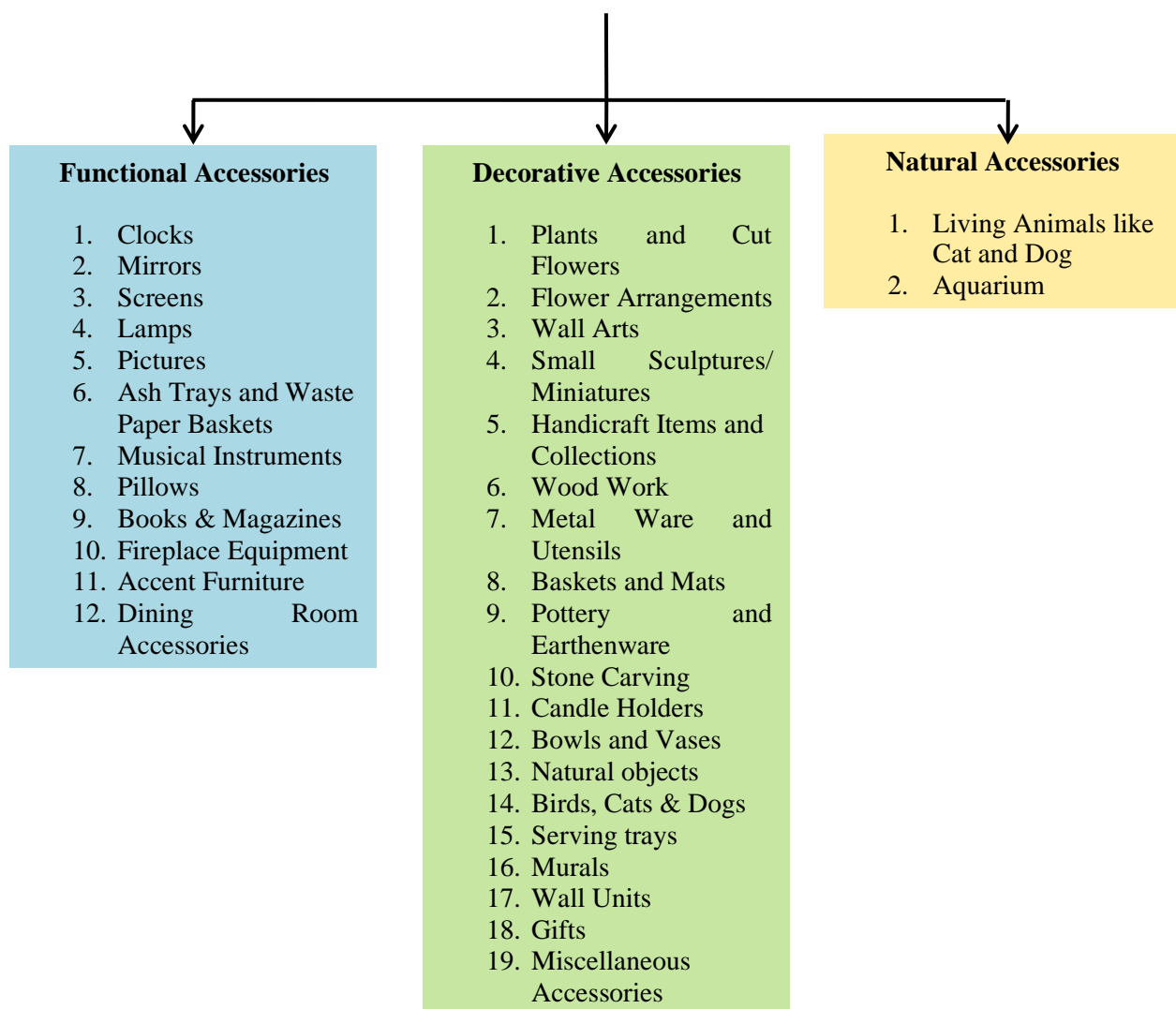
14. **Living Animals like Cat, Fish and Dog:** In an aquarium, colourful fishes with aquatic plants in the living room are live accessories. The aquarium should confirm to the line, texture and theme of the room. It can be placed on the wall between two rooms so that it will be visible from both the rooms. The pets- cat or dog is the most interesting accessory. Their everchanging graceful poses provide more interest than any static accessory.

15. **Serving trays** have become popular among useful accessories. Sets of lap trays or tray – tables are extremely useful accessories for buffet meals. One interesting or unusual tray may well become part of the decorative scheme in either a living room or dining area. It may be mounted on the wall or placed on a desk or table. Antique objects that includes remains of ancient art such as sculptures, furniture's, paintings, automobiles and armoury are all considered a privileged and precious hall mark in an interior.

16. **Murals:** It is a decorative surface (such as wall paper) applied to a wall. They are used on walls for colour, glamour and excitement. They create an intense decorating effect, as large in size, with bold colours and dramatic design.

17. **Wall Units:** The most remarkable aid to living room storage is the wall unit. Wall unit by means of consolidation and organization, produces a calming and cohesive effect, as well as an important focal point in a living room. Every room has a wall that a\can be used this way. A wall unit is very individualistic. Its base may be solid series of chests and cabinets with shelves rising above. Gaps may be allowed in the base furniture for a television set, desk, chair/sofa and shelves may be open for storage of books and ornaments shuttered and doored for storage.

18. **Gifts:** Accessories should express the owner's taste and personality; it is unfortunate to give them as presents. The art principles furnish valuable help in judging the artistic means merit of gifts. Even those with beauty should be excluded unless they are consistent in style and character with the home.

19. **Miscellaneous Accessories**: Various areas in the home will lend themselves to the use of other accessories. A hall way, living room, den or bedroom may be suitable for shelves or cabinets. The lovely colours of book bindings and jackets may be utilized to form a mosaic that becomes an interesting accessory. A good collection of them becomes an integral part of a particular room. Throw pillows can add a dramatic accent note to the colour scheme of a living or

bedroom. A folding screen may serve as a useful purpose as a area divider or it may be used for purely decorative purpose. An inexpensive screen covered with wall paper or fabric might be used as a background for some particular arrangement of furniture or accessories. A desk in any area of the home will need certain accessories. A lamp is probably the first requirement. The primary purpose is function but it should also blend with the décor of the room. Desk accessories can be attractive as well as useful.

❖ **Other Classification of Accessories**

The accessories are classified into three categories by many authors as functional, decorative and natural accessories.

Types of Accessories

Functional Accessories	Decorative Accessories	Natural Accessories
1. Clocks 2. Mirrors 3. Screens 4. Lamps 5. Pictures 6. Ash Trays and Waste Paper Baskets 7. Musical Instruments 8. Pillows 9. Books & Magazines 10. Fireplace Equipment 11. Accent Furniture 12. Dining Room Accessories	1. Plants and Cut Flowers 2. Flower Arrangements 3. Wall Arts 4. Small Sculptures/ Miniatures 5. Handicraft Items and Collections 6. Wood Work 7. Metal Ware and Utensils 8. Baskets and Mats 9. Pottery and Earthenware 10. Stone Carving 11. Candle Holders 12. Bowls and Vases 13. Natural objects 14. Birds, Cats & Dogs 15. Serving trays 16. Murals 17. Wall Units 18. Gifts 19. Miscellaneous Accessories	1. Living Animals like Cat and Dog 2. Aquarium

Different types of accessories used in home decor

❖ **Factors Considered while Selecting Accessories**

One should seek variety in accessories. Yet there should be unity and harmony with the other components in the room. The main factors considered while purposely selecting the accessories are:

A. **Proportion with other components of a room:** Proportion between accessories and size of the room, other components like furniture should be considered. In a room with large bulky furniture a broad cylindrical holder will go well instead of delicate holder. Further, in a small room few accessories are only required.

B. **Harmony with other components of a room:** Harmony in colour and texture is most important. It can be obtained by repetition of same colour or shape of the main component of the room in which accessories are used.

C. **Colour:** colour of the room and the accessory to be placed in the room needs special consideration. By using concept of related colour scheme i.e. monochromatic or analogous one can break the monotony in the room. According to the law of area, the largest wall should be lightest and smaller area i.e. accessories should be brightest. Accessories can be brightest then other things in the room. This will attract viewer's eyes.

D. **Line and Form:** The line and form should be reflected in the accessories. To break monotony in the room contrasted features can be introduced in a room. For example, room are generally rectangular in which large pieces of furniture and in the design of draperies can be contrasted with the oval or circular shape mirrors or pictures, photo frames.

E. **Texture:** Generally medium texture is preferred for every room as very coarse and very smooth textures blends easily with that. For example, a room a jute basket with of dry flowers suits well with cane furniture and handloom curtains. Here a glass picture can be used. Accessories in the small area of the room can have sharp contrast in texture but in large room one should consider while selecting any accessory.

F. **Expressiveness:** The accessories like the books displayed, paintings or pictures selected all reflects express the hobby, taste and personality of the family members. Hence, the special consideration should be given while selecting them.

G. **Character / Mood / theme of a Room:** The accessories selected should match with the theme of the room. In a room decorated in Indian style, flower vase of terracotta, brass or copper; traditional containers such as urns, pictures, lamps made of brass blends well.

H. **Age/ Period:** Certain type of accessories is needed to decorate the room in particular traditional period or age hence accessories should be selected accordingly. Second hand shop would be the best option for it where accessories will be available according to the period and in economic range.

I.   **Cost:** The budget is the main guiding factor in selection of accessories. With limitation in budget the substitutes may be possible. Within the allotted amount one should try to bargain for the items which are most suitable.

❖   **Placement of Accessories**

Carefully chosen accessories should find place in the room. One should go on changing the accessories from time to time and according to the theme. Some accessories may be discarded and some may be added. Certain guiding principles for their placements are as follows:

a.   **Theme/Mood/Style/Character of the Room:** Each room has its particular theme modern, traditional; mood as casual or formal style; masculine or feminine character etc. hence such accessories should be placed which would enhance these aspects of the room. For example, in formal room matching sculptures, table lamps on both side of table or sofa would suit most.

b.   **Harmony with Other component of the Room:** Accessories should be selected such that they harmonize with the components such as furniture placed in the room. Harmony of line, form, colour and texture should be maintained with existing walls, draperies, furniture, furnishings and floor covering. Sharp contrast in the accessories will break the monotony and dullness of the room. For example, flowers with bright colours, a picture with bright contrast colours adds interest to the room. Grouping of accessories with harmony in texture and colour can be done. 'Variety in unity' should be the guiding principle.

c.   **Consideration of Principle of Design:** It should be considered before placement of accessories. Balance in the placement will be guided by the kind of placement existing in the furniture of the room. In a large room with large furniture large scenic poster or grouping of accessories looks proportionate. Accessories should be so arranged that creates a rhythm leading viewer's eyes to move easily in the room and sliding smoothly from one object to other. By repeating colour and shape of the accessory rhythm can be created. Most beautiful accessory can be made focal point in a room, given emphasis through spotlight. Other accessories being secondary.

d.   **Background Space:** The spaces behind accessories should be silent to have proper emphasis. Flower arrangement will look attractive against a plain wall and table cloth otherwise its charm would be lost. If accessories are placed in a group than their distance should be less than their width and height, then only they will appear near to each other and gives unified effect. If a

single accessory is placed it should have enough and plain background space for example pictures, carved lamps and sculptures.

e.   **Security and Sculpture:** The accessories should be displayed in such a way that they do not fall easily from their place. Don't place accessories at the accident-prone space where they can injure the occupants if fall. Delicate accessories should be kept at out of reach from children. But not on the glass shelf or table top. Expensive ones should be ensured for security from theft. Precious sculpture, stones can be kept in transparent acrylic boxes which is secured and locked properly.

A room without accessories would be uninteresting. We might consider accessories as punctuation marks of decorating. They not only add meaning they also add personality and individuality to a room just as jewels and handbags enhancing the beauty of a dress. Accessories should represent interest and taste but they should also contribute to the unity of the room. By all means one should choose reasonable number of accessories to add expressiveness of a design rather than a number of objects nearly dispersed here and there.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

It is defined as "the art of organising flowers, other plant materials and receptacles into composition having harmony of form, texture and colour".

Its purpose is to add cheer, life and beauty to the surroundings. It gives feeling of refreshing look. We use this art not only in homes but also in temples, at the festivity and ambience on auspicious occasions (weddings, birthdays, parties, or any other events in life) by making decorations in the form of garlands, wall hangings, floor decorations etc. by using flowers and foliage. Also, these days we see competitions and exhibitions of flower and garden shows. The flower arrangement should have personality as well as beauty. The arranger should often practice her own moods in her composition.

This art needs lot of creative ability which can be developed by almost anyone through study and experience.

❖   **Elements of Art Used in Flower Arrangement**

1.   **Line:** The architecture of the flower arrangement should be considered first by everyone who is creating or judging it. The basic lines are the circle, the triangle, and rectangle.

2. **Form:** In a flower arrangement the containers take place of the trunk with lines radiating from it. The basic forms are the sphere, cone and cube.

3. **Texture:** The surface of plant materials determines their texture. Some flowers may be classified as delicate like sweet peas, coarse like zinnias or velvety like roses; however, plant materials have many textures than these three. Unity in texture is necessary between the flowers themselves and also between the flowers and their containers.

4. **Colour:** The plant material and container constitute the colour problem in flower arrangement. A dominant colour is necessary in any arrangement for emphasis and unity. If three colours are used one should be the first in quantity, one second and one third. In addition, only one colour may be brilliant in the intensity. Warm colours may be combined in the flower arrangement, for they are all harmonious. They included the yellows and all the colours that contain much yellows. The cool colours may be combined, for they are all harmonious. They included the blues and all the colours that contain much blues.

    The monochromatic harmony consists of tints and shades in one colour only. An analogous (adjacent) theme consists of neighbouring hues on the colour wheel. The analogous is the most satisfactory type of colour harmony for the flower arrangements in the home. A complementary scheme employs the greatest contrast possible, the colour that are opposite on the colour wheel. It is therefore most pleasing at a distance in a large room or in dim light. Split-complementary consists of one hue and the two hues adjoining its complementary colour, on the colour wheel. Triad scheme consists of the three colours at the point of an equilateral triangle placed anywhere in the colour wheel.

    The values (lightness or darkness) of colours are important in arrangements. Usually lightcoloured flowers look well at the upper part of an arrangement, whereas dark coloured flowers look best at the bottom, where they help to make a solid well-balanced foundation. Very dark flowers do not usually constitute an effective focal centre. Dark colours are rich and dramatic, light colours are lyrical and uplifting. Place tints look better by day light then by artificial life.

❖   **Principle Design used in flower Arrangement**

1. **Proportion/ Scale:** The fine relationship of parts in a flower arrangement is based on proportion. A very tall arrangement should be narrow in form and thin at the top. A horizontal

arrangement looks well if the plant material is one and a half times as wide as the low container; however personal taste should be the final guide.

2. **Balance:** A flower arrangement that appears stable has balance for the sake of balance the heaviest mass of plant material the largest flower and the longest stem should usually be close to a line extending upward from the centre of the container.

    •   In symmetrical or formal balance, the plant material on one side of the centre of the container is approximately equal to the material on the other side and is similarly arranged.

    •   In an asymmetrical or informal balance, the plant material is not similarly arranged on both sides of imaginary line above the vertical centre of the container. A heavy weight near the centre is balance on the other side by the lighter weight farther away from the centre.

3. **Rhythm:** All types of rhythm are based on movement and repetition.
    •   Radiating rhythm occurs in most flower arrangement but particularly in round or triangular composition where the lines radiated from one place.
    •   Curvilinear rhythm is felt in smoothly gliding lines which lead the eye in, through, and over a composition and container until they have seen at all, and then they rest at the point of greatest interest. Curved stems, leaves and flowers stalks are useful in directing and creating continuity in curvilinear rhythm.

1. Flowers and Foliage	2. Containers
3. Stem holders, flower foam (oasis) scissors, knife, wires	4. Accessories
5. Other Materials	

    •   Diagonal rhythm is the most active type of rhythm available in the flower arrangement. The main line of composition can be made dynamic by slanting it or static or placing it upright.

4. **Harmony and Unity:** This principle takes care of the appropriate use of flowers for the occasion. It also takes care of the blending of colours of the flowers used in the floral arrangement and that of the container such that they contrast each other.

5. **Emphasis:** For emphasis attention is usually drawn to a centre of interest or focal point where the flower is largest, most numerous, and usually more contrasting or brilliant in colour. For the sake of stability, the focal point belongs in the lower part of the plant materials and near but not usually at the centre of the container.

❖ **Material used for Flower Arrangement**

Flower arrangement is truly a work of art. Florists use their creativity and knowledge to arrange flowers that look perfect and effortless. For this they use variety of different materials and décor in order to achieve that look. The different types of materials that are used for flower arrangement is:

1. **Flowers and Foliage**
a. **Flower branches and leaves**

Any kind of flowers and foliage, fresh, dry, or artificial ones can be used for flower arrangement. Seasonal fresh flowers give a large variety of choice in all kinds of arrangement. Flower arrangements are made out of fresh cut flowers, dried flowers and artificial flowers as well. Roses are the most popular flowers used in floral arrangements, closely followed by carnations, gerbera, daisies and chrysanthemums.

• Dry flowers and foliage can be collected, bought and preserved. Such dry material is handy where flowers are not easily available and do not need much care and attention, ones the arrangement is made.

• Artificial flowers made of crepe paper, organdie, satin and velvet fabric, plastic and so on are also available in market which can be use skilfully. But these should resemble the natural flowers and materials otherwise these should be avoided.

• **Buying cut flowers:** Cut flowers are flowers or flower buds (often with some stem and leaf) that have been cut from the plant bearing it. It is usually removed from the plant for decorative use. Flowers are exceedingly perishable and expensive as well, so extra care must be taken. The following tips should keep into consideration while buying flowers.

➢ Foliage should be solid and the cut ends properly absorbed in water and the water should be clean.

➢ The flowers should be placed out of direct sunlight.

➢ For on-going display, the blooms should be selected at the just-open stage.

➢ It's good to buy flowers from wholesale market to insure the variety and reasonability of price.

b. **Preparation and care of flowers**

The best results are usually obtained by cutting flowers in the evening or early morning and putting them immediately in a bucket of water in the garden. Leaves, buds and half open or full bloom blossoms should be cut with a very sharp knife or flower shears at an angel under water. Woody stems should be slit to allow water to enter. Certain flowers need special treatments.

- After flowers have been cut, they should be allowed to remain dipped in water bucket for at least three hours in a dark, cool place to fortify them with water. In order to lengthen the life of cut flowers the stems should be trimmed daily while under water and water should be changed every day.

- Fresh flowers brought from the market should be carried in wet newspaper, put into polythene bags. Stems of these flowers should be cut again at home and immersed in a bucket of water for few hours before using them in flower arrangements.

- Leaves or foliage plays important role in flower arrangement. Not necessarily leaves of the same plant as flowers be used, but other leaves which will harmonise with the character of the flower can be used. Leaves when grouped with flowers and cut to give varied lengths provide beautiful transitional lines into a bouquet. They also help to unify the base of the flower arrangement. Further foliage, fruits and berries can be used for semi-permanent every day arrangement. Arrangement of coloured crotons, begonias, succulent plants like cactus and its varieties last long. These can also be complemented by adding flowers.

For different types of plants various materials should be used for an outstanding decoration.
- **Line material:** These position the height and width of the finished arrangements. Examples are golden rods, larkspur, palms etc.
- **Dominant/focal/point material:** These are mostly used for bold flowers or bunch of small showy bloom. Examples can be lilies, anthurium, gerbera, tulips roses etc.

- **Filler/secondary material:** These materials are used for smaller flowers, leaves that aid to the flower decorations. These help to fill the gaps and spaces. Example can be ivy, asters, carnations etc.

2. **Containers**

Containers are the used to hold the plant and flower arrangement. Waterproof containers should be used for flowers. The texture of containers depends on its base material. Colours like soft grey, off-white and dull brown are appropriate for these and the design of containers should match with the theme of decoration and surroundings. The container is not must for any arrangement.

These are receptacles that hold the flower arrangement. They may or may not be hidden by the plant material. The container must be waterproof and neutral colours such as soft grey, dull brown, off white, or earth colours are most suitable because they are inconspicuous and do not detract attention from flowers displayed. Theme and simplicity should be kept in mind while choosing the design of the container.

3.   **Stem Holders**

Floral foam is used in a flower shop. This is also known as 'oasis'. There are mainly two types of floral foams are used in flower arrangement- green foam which is extremely light until it is soaked into water, which make it 30 times heavier than before. These are mainly found in rounds and blocks shapes. The foam can be cut into any shape, is lightweight, and holds lots of water providing both water and support for flower bouquets, arrangements, and flower delivery. Stems can be held at any position in both shallow and deep containers.

4.   **Accessories:** Accessories are the materials used to create extra interest, support, or enhance decoration. These are non-plant materials included in or placed alongside the arrangement. Their purpose is generally decorative but could be functional at times. Accessories are added to the design for extra interest or to 'stretch' the flowers when they are in short supply. Accessories used in flower arrangement should be aesthetically beautiful, should confirm to the theme of the arrangement and should be integral part of the arrangement. Materials such as sea shells, corals, rocks, beads, idols, small sculptures of animals, birds, human figures, miniature dolls, hats, bronze lamps, candles, pebbles, silk flowers, baby shoes, wooden shapes, driftwood, tree barks and pottery items etc should be proportionate to the size of the flower arrangement and also in unequal amount of plant material.

5.   **Other Materials**

▪ **Support:** Tables, alcoves, shelves and side boards are the arrangements that work as support for containers for flowers decoration. Plinth or platforms which work as support can be made of wood, stone, or metal etc.

▪ **Florist's Scissors:** Specially designed to cut and trim the stems and flowers that prevent the crushing of tissues. The blades are short and one is jagged.

▪ **Adhesive Tape, Glue Prong, Pebbles and Marbles:** Apart from this adhesive tape, glue, etc. are also very useful. Sometimes it takes a little florist "magic" to get the right look for a flower

bouquet. Special florist glue, tape, pins, rubber bands, prong, pebbles and marbles can be used in tandem to create amazing displays, stands, and bouquets with endless creativity.

- **Flower Anchors:** Anchors are small heavy blocks that help to keep flower bouquets and arrangements firmly in place so that their position doesn't shift. A good florist will make sure that the anchors cannot be seen.

- **Mister:** Mister is a hand-held spray bottle to produce a fine mist of water droplets to keep an arrangement look fresh and this task is carried out daily especially in warm weather.

- **Floral tape:** Half inch-wide stem binding tape made of plastic or waxed paper is used to cover artificial stems.

- **Floral Wire:** Floral wire is another essential piece of material that's used in flower shops. Similar to chicken wire, floral wire is usually green and can easy to shape, wrap, and molding to flower bouquets either as a support or to add additional décor. Wire is very useful equipment used to support stems, to make false stems and posies etc. Stub wire is the strongest type of wire while Rose wire is thinner and Reel wire is used for biding plant material.

- **Decorative Paper and Flower Sleeves:** Flower bouquets need flower sleeves for protection during flower delivery and transport but it doesn't mean that they can't be pretty too! Decorative paper and sleeves are an essential part of the whole look of a flower bouquet.

- **Ribbons and Glitter:** Ribbons and glitter are used in a variety of flower bouquets, from wedding flower bouquets, birthday flower bouquets and even funeral flowers. They can accompany the wrapping of the stems or flower sleeves or near the blooms themselves.

❖ **Shapes of Flower Arrangement**

- **Horizontal Flower Arrangement-**A very shallow container is used to make this type of flower arrangement. It has a single big flower as the focal point and drooping flower branches are added to each side. Horizontal flower arrangements are very low and hence are suitable for center table decorations.

- **Vertical / Upright Flower Arrangement-** It is a very tall flower arrangement. This type of flower arrangement is mostly used in flower bouquets as well as flower baskets. Different types of flowers with varying colours and shapes are used prominently in this type of flower arrangement.

- **Diagonal Flower Arrangement-**The shape of the arrangement is diagonal. This is a symmetrical arrangement. This design is easy to make in long container.

- **L-Shaped Flower Arrangement-**As the name says L shaped arrangement designed using the shape of letter 'L'. This is one of the typical asymmetrical arrangements. The design is easy to make, in rectangular container place pin holder in one corner depending on which side you like to face 'L'.

- **Oval Flower Arrangement-**This floral arrangement is in an oval shape and comprises of brightest and tallest flowers in the centre. The colour and the size of the flowers are allowed to gradually reduce by degrees towards the sides. Oval flower arrangements look formal and hence it's used mostly in formal settings.

- **Crescent flower arrangement-** This type of flower arrangement draws its inspiration from the shape of the moon. Based on the size of the crescent, curved shaped flower stems are selected for the arrangement. Crescent flower arrangements are suitable for coffee table decoration.

- **Triangular Flower Arrangement-**It is a triangular flower arrangement where flowers are cut and trimmed in the form of a triangle. The arrangement makes use of the tallest flower stems in the centre with smaller flowers arranged on the sides in order to maintain a triangular shape. This type of floral arrangement is mostly used in wedding ceremonies and receptions.

- **Hogarthor "S" Shaped -** This is the most complex type of flower arrangement. The flowers are arranged to form a 'S' shape.

- **Fan shaped flower arrangement-** It is one of the commonly used classic floral arrangement styles that are used by various florists around the world. Here, the flowers and leaves are arranged in the shape of a fan. You can easily use the same or different type of flowers for the arrangement and the empty spaces are filled with the help of fillers.

- **Circular Flower Arrangement-**This type of arrangement is generally used in the centre and is low in shape. It is symmetrical and equally decorated in all sides.

❖ **Steps in Making Flower Arrangement**

Whatever the type of flower arrangement the simple rules or guidelines will help to arrange the flowers:

1. Make a definite plan for any flower arrangement based on the purpose, room, space and location in the room.

2. Select container, flower and foliage that express the mood of the room, the occasion and the colour scheme.

3. Use flower with stem of different sizes and select flowers according to the size of the vases – short or tall, eg: short stem in low wide vases.

4. Arrange the tallest stem first according to the type of arrangement- namely mass line or their combination Japanese and so on.

5. Large flowers with bright bold colours can be used in small numbers and at the centre in tall vases. Small short stem flowers may be easy to arrange in groups in low vases.

6. Do not mix up fresh flowers and artificial flowers.

7. The whole arrangement should keep proper proportion between the size and shape of vases and those of lower stems.

8. Small arrangement should be grouped with other objects.

9. Cover up the stem holders with foliage, marble chips or drift wood.

10. Pour enough water in the vases.

11. Change the water every day.

12. Special attention should be given to the focal point which is usually at the base of the arrangement. It is this part that the viewers' attention is first drawn. It is preferable to use flowers in this part of the arrangement.

13. Think of the arrangement as a whole not the beauty of an individual flower.

- **Prolonging the vase life of flowers-** How long the flowers kept in the containers remain fresh is referred to as vase life of flowers. This is dependent upon many factors like temperature, relative humidity, light, air velocity, composition of the holding water etc. The vase life can be extended by the following methods.

- **Prevention of pollination:** Flowers begin to fade after fertilization. Therefore main purpose is to delay this natural process. This explains why double flowers keep longer than single flowers. To prevent pollination, the easiest way is to remove the stamens from the flowers when they open. By this method, the vase life of lily flowers could be extended by 10 days.

- **Prevention of blocking of the conducting vessels of the flower stalks:** Air pockets sometime block the conducting vessels, thereby causing the flowers to fade quickly. Blocking can be prevented by the following methods.

  o By dipping the stems of cut flowers in boiling water for 20 -30 seconds. (e.g. Rose, Iceland poppy, Dahlia, Zinnia, Chrysanthemum, etc.) o By burning the stems of the cut flowers for 15 seconds (e.g. poppy).

  o By dipping in dilute acids like N/500 nitric acid.

  o Splitting the stems in woody flowers like hydrangea, Rhododendron before placing them in cold water.

  o Sometimes blocking is also due to bacterial growth at the cut end.

This can be prevented by any copper fungicide treatment or by dropping a copper coin into the vessel.

❖ **Aftercare**

The following points should be bear in mind for aftercare:

▪ The fresh flowers should be kept from window or fan to prevent from direct droughts. Likewise, the cut flowers should be kept away from direct sunlight as well as from fruits to prevent wilting of flowers.

▪ Water should be changed every day and the cut stems should be kept in warm water of about 45-degree C.

▪ In order to lengthen the life of flowers its necessary to slow down the bacterial growth in water. Charcoal, salt, sugar, Listerine, lemonade and camphor can be used.

▪ Clean vase, replace water, use clean containers and add preservatives time to time.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF TABLE SETTINGS AND NAPKIN FOLDING

The table setting components are chosen considering the aspects of suitability and variety. This practical approach is adaptable to any style of meal service. The choice of components required for table setting, depends upon one's taste and budget.

Starting with simple designs on dishes, glasses and flatware to choose the most exquisite sets should cater for all informal and formal functions. The enjoyment of the meal can be greatly enhanced by choosing appropriate table appointment thus due consideration should be given to them.

The table setting rules can be adopted to fit into a special situation. The golden rules are to keep the comfort and pleasure of the diners in the first place.

❖ **Laying the Table**

Cover

1. **The Cover:** The place set for each person on the table is known as 'cover' or 'place setting'. A cover includes crockery, cutlery and napkin arranged for an individual. Table mats should be placed parallel and 1" – 2" inside the edge of the table. Each cover should balance with other on the opposite side but should not over crowed the table. The space allowed for each cover ranges between 20" to 30" away from the edge of the table. The cutlery and napkin are placed equidistant from the edge of the table. The table appointment on the cover should be so grouped so as to present one unit or it will give a cluttered appearance to the table.

2. **Table Linen:** Table linen includes table cloth, table runners, napkins and mats. Table linens is available in different blends of materials and designs. The weave used may be plain or figured. The design may be subdued or bold but colors should be fast.

   a. **Tablecloths:** The basic foundation of your table settings, tablecloths do more than just cover and protect the tables. They have a big role in creating the right color scheme, flair, and theme to your event. The table cloth usually hangs 6-9" over the sides and 10-16" over the ends.

   b. **Table Runners**

   Similar to an overlay, table runners are a great accessory to boost a formal table setting. Typically, they are a long strip of fabric that "runs" through the middle of a table and across its length. They can either stop at the end of a table or hang decoratively off the ends. Not only do table runners help protect the table, but they are an easy way to incorporate patterns, accent colors, or a certain theme. Especially for events that make use of centerpieces, like flowers or

other items at wedding receptions, table runners are a great way to partition the table and highlight whatever is placed in the middle.

Table Runners

c. **Napkins**

A dining necessity, fabric napkins are also a key table linen for formal table settings. Available in nearly every type of fabric that tablecloths come in, napkins can either compliment or provide an accent color to your table setting. There are even patterned fabric napkins for those who like unique and visually impressive table settings. Napkins often match with the table cloth or used in contrast colours and designs. There sizes vary from 12" to 27" square. Napkins can be intended for guests to wipe their hands and mouths on or for purely decorative purposes, so choose napkins based on the needs of your event. The most common is a "lunch" napkin, which is usually 20 inches square. However, there are also larger "dinner" napkins (typically 24 inches square) and "cocktail" napkins, which are often 4 to 6 inches square. To keep napkins looking neat, they should be folded decoratively or used with napkin rings. Paper napkins are usually used for mass catering. Paper napkins are available in variety of light colours, designs and quality. The folded napkin is usually placed

Napkins

at the left of the fork in a way that its top open edge is nearest to the plate for ease in use.

3. **Formal and Casual Table Setting Ideas**

Since formal events often use more table linens, many people get confused about how to coordinate the different parts. As a general rule of thumb, a formal table setting should have a white or solid coloured tablecloth with matching napkins. In addition, the table runner and placemats should synchronize well, either as a secondary colour or texture accent.

On the other hand, table settings for casual events have almost limitless possibilities. Instead of formal white, feel free to mix and match bright colours with patterns. Ideas include a solid tablecloth with patterned placemats, a striped tablecloth with a solid table runner, or a solid tablecloth with alternating napkins in a different colour

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❖ **General Rules for Table Setting**

- Sitting down to dinner at a properly set table can be a little anxiety-inducing. What fork to use first? Is this the dessert spoon or is it for soup?
- This can be equally challenging if you're the host or hostess in charge of setting the table for a formal dinner. Many people are a bit perplexed as to how to arrange the silverware and other items.
- Understanding a few basics of table setting, however, can take the mystery out of this agesold custom. It can also help everyone feel like a fine diner when sitting down to a formal meal. Depending upon the occasion, you may want to use a "formal" or an "informal" table setting. Most of us will infrequently use a formal setting.

1. Formal and Informal Style
- After dusting the table, the silence cloth and table cloth should be laid with the middle lengthwise crease up. A silence cloth is not required if a runner and mats are being used.
- The decoration should be then placed in the center, at the end or elsewhere desired.
- Sufficient space should be allowed for each cover. Cover should be opposite to each other when even in number.
- If plates are to be placed, put them 1" away from the edge of the table.
- The water glass should be placed approximately one (1) inch from the tip of the dinner knife.
- Flatware is also laid 1" away from the table edge and perpendicular to the plate.
- Knife is laid to the right of the plate with its cutting edge inward, fork to the left of the plate with its tines up.
- A desert fork or spoon is placed above the cover, horizontal to the edge of table. The spoons are laid to the right of the knife in order to use with their hollow up.
- When there is no knife, the fork may be placed on to the right side.
- If a soup spoon is being used, it will be on the far right of the knives.
- The soup spoon should be placed far right of the outside knife.
- The flatware for dessert and coffee are placed just before the course is served. Service flatware should be provided for all serving dishes.
- Individual flatware should never be used for serving.

- The folded napkin is either placed on the left or center of the cover on the plate or in glass. The water glass is placed at the tip of the knife slightly to the right of it.
- Tea or coffee cups should be placed at the right of the spoons with their handles parallel to the table edge.
- Milk glass is placed to the right of the water glass.
- The salad plate is placed to the left of the forks.
- Salt and pepper holders are kept at convenient places spacing them uniformly for every 2-3 persons.
- Bread and butter plate when in use, is kept at the tip of the fork slightly to the left.
- The butter knife is kept across the top of the edge towards the center of the plate.
- The napkin will be placed on the far left, unless a decorative napkin fold is used. Then the napkin may be placed where the hostess decides.
- Use of a table on castor wheels or trolley is common. Articles required for the next course or an extra water jug etc. It is also used for the exchange of dishes between the courses.
- No extra cutlery should be laid unless desired.
- It is best to consider the menu before laying cutlery. Water glass should be filled three- fourth full.
- Bread should be cut into small slices before serving.
- Food is also served from the left and liquids from the right side. Hence, all glasses are kept on the right side. White wine and red wine glasses will be alongside it.
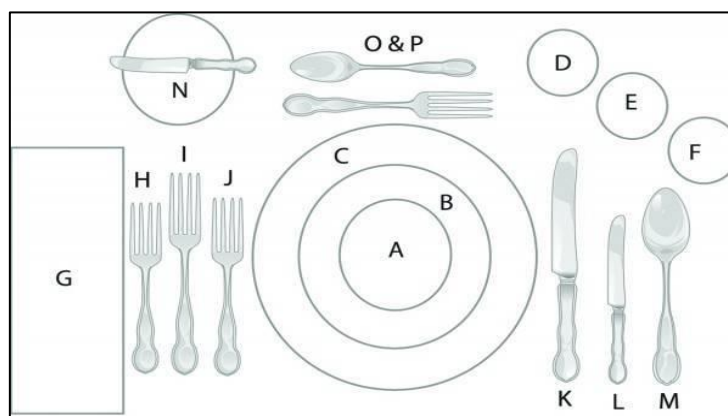
- **The details of the diagram are as follows-**

S. No	Particulars	S. No	Particulars
A.	Soup bowl	I.	Dinner fork
B.	Appetizer or salad plate	J.	Salad fork
C.	Service plate	K.	Service knife
D.	Water glass	L.	Fish knife
E.	White wine glass	M.	Soup spoon

F.	Red wine glass	N.	Bread and butter service
G.	Napkin	O.	Dessert spoon
H.	Fish fork	P.	Dessert fork

- **Characteristics of Formal and Informal Settings**

- White table linen is necessary for a formal setting. No mats and runners are necessary. For informal settings, colored table linen may be used. They are not necessary if, the table has a good smooth finish.
- For formal occasions, the hostess serves the food after every one is seated at the table.
- In case of an informal setting, the food is all arranged on the table and the dishes are passed on. The guests serve themselves.
- For serving meals formally, a change of cutlery and crockery is necessary with each of the courses according to the menu planned. But for informal setting, the same dish is used for all food courses except for soup and dessert courses.

❖ **Types of Table Settings**

There are basically four types of table settings:

1. Formal
2. Informal
3. Basic
4. Buffet

To figure out which table setting to use, you'll want to know how formal your event will be. Having a formal table setting for a dinner party at home may make your guests feel a bit uncomfortable. On the other hand, using a buffet table setting for a formal gala would also be rather inappropriate.

Choosing the right table setting for your event will depend on several factors, including: the formality of the event, how many courses to be served, and how it will be served. You'll want to choose a table setting that will give the guest the best experience at your event.

Each of these four table settings have their own rules and include different components including utensils, glassware and dishware.

© Melissa Fuller Photography

❖ **General Table Setting Rules:**

To start, let's begin with a few general table setting rules that apply to each type of table setting.

1. **Utensils** – For starters, utensils are placed in the order in which they are used with the first ones placed on the outside. For example: the salad fork is placed on the outermost edge of the left side before the dinner fork. This is because salads are usually served before the main course.

2. **Forks** – These are usually placed on the left side of the main service plate. The exception is the dessert fork which can be placed above the plate and the oyster fork which is placed on the right side.

3. **Knives** – Knives are always placed on the right side of the plate, with the cutting blade facing inwards towards the plate. The exception is the butter knife which is placed on the butter plate, with the blade pointing downwards and left.

4. **Spoons** – Spoons are typically placed on the right side of the plate. The exception is the dessert spoon which is placed directly above the service plate.

5. **Placement** – All utensils should be placed about an inch from the edge of the table and lined up evenly from the bottom ends.

6. **Set only what you use** – Only set the utensils that will be used throughout the service. If there is no soup, there's no need to set a soup spoon.
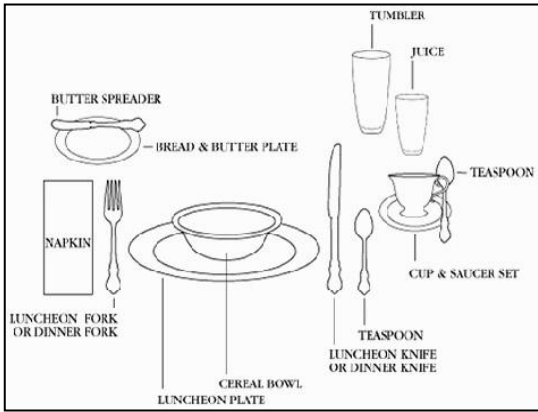
Breakfast Table Setting

Lunch Table Setting
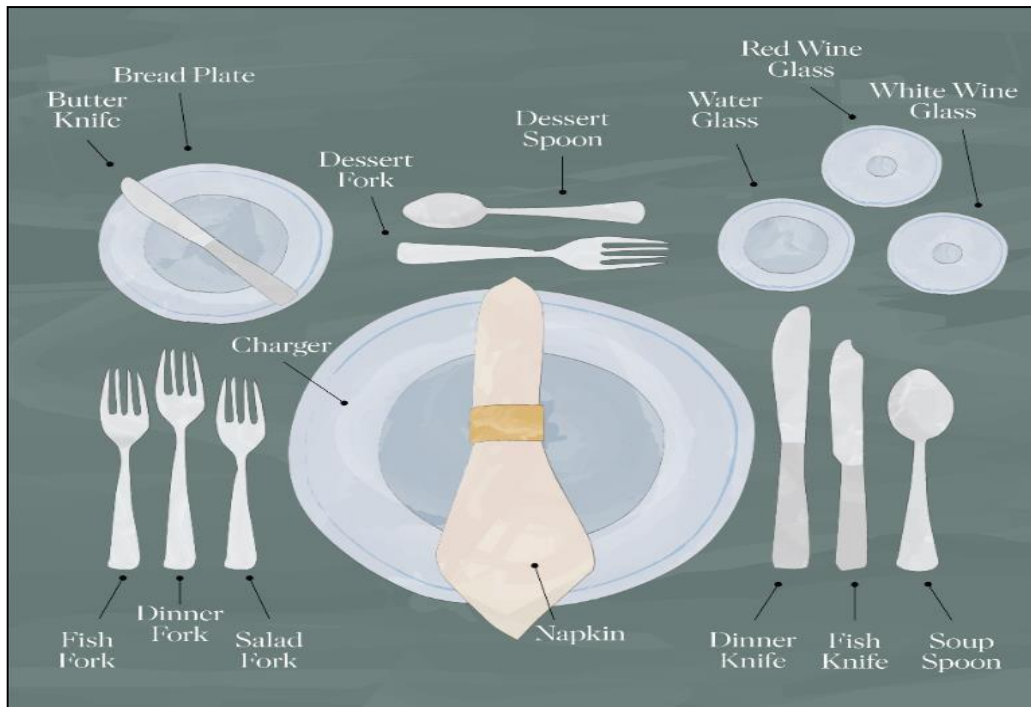
Dining Table Setting Violet

❖ **The Table Setting Types**

1. **Formal Table Setting**

The formal table setting is popular for weddings, holiday meals, or any occasion when more than three courses will be served. You may also find the formal table setting at high-end restaurants that serve multiple courses. In a formal table setting, the service plate comes with each course, so it is not necessary to include it when setting the table.

Out of all the table settings, the formal table setting is the most symmetrical. Therefore, the utensil placement is the most important factor as this table setting includes the most utensils.

Symmetry applies to the table decor as well. The centrepiece goes strictly in the middle, and there must be an even number of candles lining the table. The overall result is a well-balanced table setting that is optimal for a formal dining experience.

FORMAL TABLE SETTING

The most symmetrical out of all the table setting types. Appropriate for formal weddings, holiday meals, or any occasion where more than three courses are served.

1. charger	7. dinner knife	13. dessert fork
2. napkin	8. fish knife	14. white wine glass
3. menu card	9. salad knife	15. red wine glass
4. salad fork	10. butter plate	16. champagne flute
5. fish fork	11. butter knife	17. water glass
6. dinner fork	12. dessert teaspoon	

Formal Table Setting Yellow

 Formal Table Setting Elements

a. **Center**

- **Charger** – The charger is the center stage of the table setting. As various courses come and go, they are set on top of the charger, including the salad course, soup course, and fish course. When the dinner course arrives, the charger is taken away.

- **Service plate** – The service plate, or entrée plate, is placed on top of the charger, and is usually taken away before the next course.

- **Napkin** – The napkin is folded and placed on top of the charger before service begins.

- **Menu card** – The menu card can either be placed on top of the napkin or inserted into the folds of the napkin for a more formal display.

b. **Left-side**

- **Salad fork** – Salad is the second course that is served, so the salad fork is placed at the outer left edge of the table setting. The salad fork is usually smaller than the dinner fork.

- **Fish fork** – Next to the salad fork is the fish fork. In a formal setting, the fish or seafood course is served after the salad. Traditionally, the shape of the fish fork is designed to optimally lift

the flesh away from the bones. In a dinner without a seafood course, the fish fork is used as the second course fork.

- **Dinner fork** – The dinner fork is placed to the immediate left of the charger or service plate. The dinner fork is usually the largest of the three forks.

c.   Right-side

- **Soup spoon** – In a formal service, soup is the first course that is served. Therefore, the soup spoon is placed on the outer edge of the right side.
- **Salad knife** – The salad is served after the soup; therefore, the corresponding knife is placed to the left of the soup spoon.
- **Dinner knife** – The dinner knife is placed to the immediate right of the service plate, corresponding with the placement of the dinner fork.

d.   Top
- **Butter plate** – This plate is placed to the top left corner of the place setting.
- **Butter knife** – This is placed on top of the butter plate, pointing left and the blade facing down so that the handle is towards the guest.
- **Dessert teaspoon** – Placed above the entrée plate, this is the smallest of the spoons.
- **Dessert fork** – Placed beneath the desert teaspoon, and can be used for the fruit course.
- **White wine glass** – The white wine glass is placed closer to the guest, as it is usually served before the red wine — along with the second course.
- **Red wine glass** – The red wine glass is larger and taller than the white wine glass.
- **Champagne flute** – The champagne flute is placed to the outer right of the glasses, because it accompanies the first toast.
- **Water glass** – This glass is the largest of the glasses, and is placed closest to the guest directly above the knives.

2.   Informal Table Setting
The informal table setting is probably the most widely used. It is a great fit for casual weddings, dinner parties, or any occasion that needs a just bit of dressing up without being too formal.

There are subtle differences between the informal table setting and the formal table setting. There are fewer utensils involved in an informal table setting, as well as fewer glasses. Also, a butter plate may or may not be provided.

INFORMAL TABLE SETTING

A modern take on the formal table setting. It is the most widely used, and is a great fit for casual weddings and dinner parties.

1. service plate
2. napkin
3. menu card
4. salad fork
5. dinner fork
6. soup spoon
7. dinner knife
8. salad knife
9. dessert spoon
10. water glass
11. wine glass
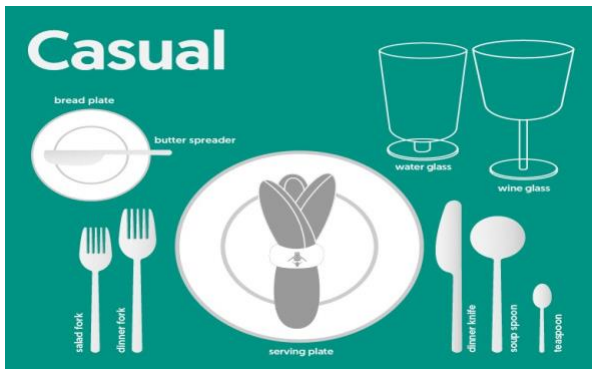
Informal Table Setting

□ **Informal Table Setting Elements:**

a. **Center**

- **Service plate** – The service plate, or entrée plate, is placed on top of the charger (if one is provided), and is usually taken away before the next course.
- **Napkin** – The napkin is folded and placed on top of the plate before service begins.
- **Menu card** – The menu card can either be placed on top of the napkin or inserted into the folds of the napkin for a more formal display.

b. **Left-side**

- **Salad fork** – Salad is the second course that is served, so the salad fork is placed at the outer left edge of the table setting. The salad fork is usually smaller than the dinner fork.
- **Dinner fork** – The dinner fork is placed to the immediate left of the charger or service plate. The dinner fork is typically the largest fork.

c.   **Right-side**

- **Soup spoon** – Soup is typically the first course that is served. Therefore, the soup spoon is placed on the outer edge of the right side.
- **Salad knife** – The salad is served after the soup, so the salad knife is placed to the left of the soup spoon.
- **Dinner knife** – The dinner knife is placed to the immediate right of the service plate, corresponding with the placement of the dinner fork.

d.   **Top**

- **Dessert teaspoon** – Placed above the entrée plate, this is the smallest of the spoons.
- **Water glass** – This glass is the largest of the glasses.
- **Wine glass** – A single wine glass is all that's needed for the informal table setting.

WINDOW TREATMENT

A **window treatment** is a cover or modification of the window, often with the aim to enhance the aesthetics of the window and the room.

Window treatments are divided in 3 categories:

- Hard window treatments are made of hard materials like wood or vinyl. Such as: shades, blinds and shutters.

- Soft window treatments: anything made of soft materials such as: sheers, curtains, drapes, swags, valances, roman shades - from flat to hobbled styles.

- A combination of both is called a **layered window treatment.**

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                        ┌─────────────────────┐
                        │  Window Treatment   │
                        └──────────┬──────────┘
               ┌───────────────────┴────────────────────┐
               ▼                                          ▼
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Exterior Window Treatment	Interior Window Treatment
1. Awnings	**A. Hard Window Treatment**
2. Shutters	1. Fabric Roller Shades
3. Grills and Fences	2. Bamboo or Split wood Shades
4. Overhanging Roof or Trellises	3. Venetian Blinds
5. Tree and Tall Shrubs and Vines	4. Vertical Blinds
	B. Soft Window Treatment
	1. Curtains and
	2. Draperies
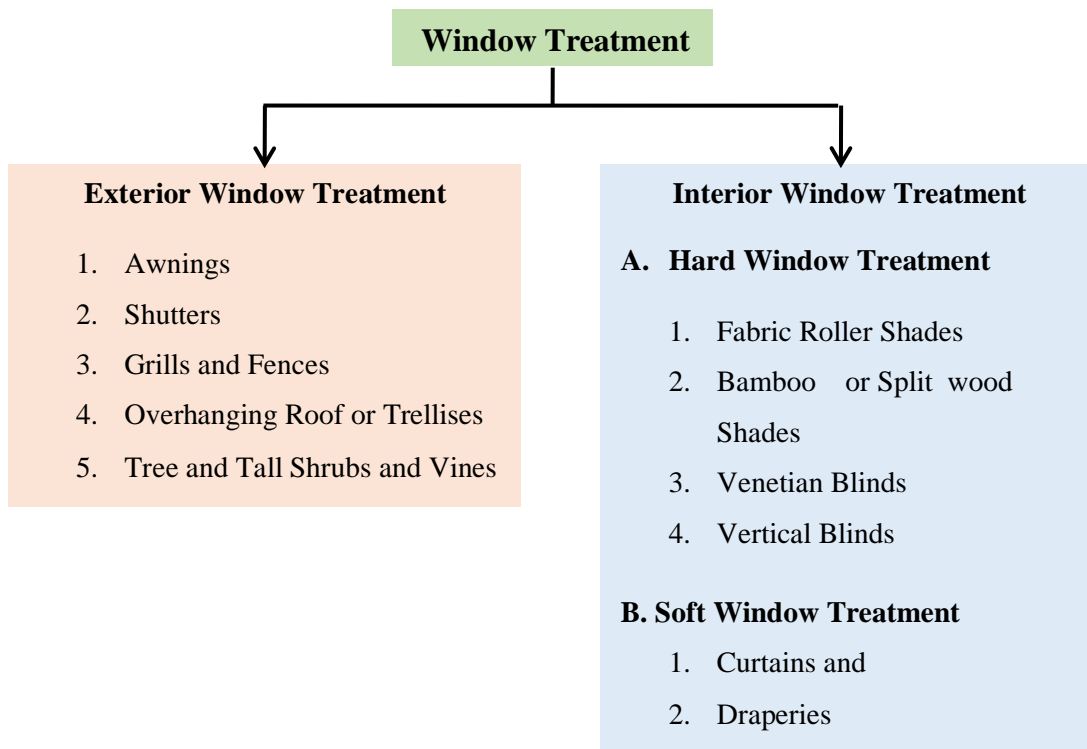
Window treatment can be classified as exterior or interior.

HARD WINDOW TREATMENT

❖   **Exterior Window Treatment**

A. **Awning:** They protect the windows from sun, rain and dirt. It is made up of fabrics available in variety of design and colours and gives pleasant appearance.

B. **Shutters:** They are used for security as well as to control excess of light, heat and cold. It prevents rain water from entering into the room. They are made up purely of wood, two-three panes of glass and remaining parts of wood

C. **Grills and Fences:** These are made of masonry, wood, plastic, aluminium, steel etc. They can be placed closed or some feet away to the windows. They help to control privacy, sun and wind to a certain degree depending upon their design and location.

D. **Overhanging Roof and Trellises:** The overhangs are generally masonry and help to shade light but not privacy. Trellises are of wood, plastic, glass or just a framework for vines. They can be used to shelter outdoor living areas.

E. **Trees and Tall Shrubs and Vines:** They are planted near or in direction of windows to give cool and ventilated shade. They protect house from heat thus cool interiors.

❖   **Interior Window Treatment**

A.   **Fabric Roller Shades:** Fabric stretched on rollers are generally used in air-conditioned compartments, cars or luxury buses. They shade glass area, reduce light and provide privacy depending upon the thickness and quality of material used.

B.   **Bamboo or Split Wood Shades:** These shades reduce light, heat and give some privacy. They are used in veranda to control heat and light in summers. They can be rolled up or down.

- **Bamboo or Split Wood Shades:** These shades reduce light, heat and give some privacy. They are used in veranda to control heat and light in summers. They can be rolled up or down.

- **Roman Blinds:** These are made of Fabrics attached to cords. When the cords are pulled, the blinds rise up in accordion pleats to form pelmet. They are heavier and warmer than roller blinds.

- **Venetian Blinds:** Its use is to completely control light and air straight into the room and diverted towards floor or ceiling.

- **Vertical Blinds:** They are used on odd sides opening. They are used to control light from side to side and to emphasis height of the window. They are made up of fabric, metal or plastic. They collect less dust and dirt than venetian blinds.

- **Vertical Louvre Blinds:** These are most effective on large floor-to ceiling window. They work on the same principal as the venetian blinds, except that they close across the window rather than down. The slats are wider than the Venetian type but less opaque.

- **Pinoleum Blinds:** These inexpensive covering for large windows. They are made of fine strips of wood held together by cotton, and let a pleasant, soft light filter through. They may be mounted on a spring-operated roller or moved up and down by cords.

- **Balastore Blinds:** These are inexpensive blinds made of strong paper fibre. It is accordion-pleated to act like a folding blind (similar to the venetian blinds). Balastores are perforated with small holes to let the light through without glare.

- **Pleatex Blinds:** These are made from stronger paper than balastores and have smaller pleats. The paper gives privacy, but let's sunlight through, which is filtered and tinted

the colour of the paper. The four most common colours are orange, green, blue, and parchment (natural).

- **Austrian Blinds:** These are ruched fabrics (trimmed with gathers). They may be used partially raised, and when fully raised, they form a decorative pelmet. They are used in banquet halls and large lobbies for a sumptuous effect.

SOFT WINDOW TREATMENT

Purpose of Using Curtains and Draperies: They are the soft window treatment. The purpose of curtains and draperies is to:

   a.   Give privacy
   b.   Control light and heat
   c.   Absorb noise depending upon the thickness of material and depth of folds.
   d.   Make the room look homelike.
   e.   Cover bareness of windows
   f.   Change apparent size, shape and character of room.
   g.   Conceal architectural awkwardness.

1. Curtains

   a.   They are made of sheer lightweight fabrics.
   b.   They cannot be used alone and are always accompanied by draperies.
   c.   The term 'curtain' refers to various types of fabric covering that may extend only over a part of the window, all of it or from the top of the window to the floor.
   d.   Are always hung next to the glass.

- ❖ **Six Types of Curtains**
   1.   **Tailored Curtains:** These are named for their clean lines. Used alone or with a coordinating valance, they can hang straight or tied back.

   2.   **Priscilla Curtains:** It is one of a pair of ruffles curtains with short ruffled valance attached and with tiebacks of the same material.

   3.   **Crisscross Curtains:** This curtain panels overlap each other the entire width of the window and then criss-cross each other when they are tied back.

4. **Cottage Set Curtains:** They are short lengths, shirred and hung in informal style within or on the window frame. They may be tiered, or layered to slightly overlap one another, and may include a ruffled curtain valance and longer side panels under which are cafe curtains.

5. **Cafe Curtain Curtains:** These curtains cover only the lower part of the window due to which at one level provides privacy and light at another. They may be shirred, pleated, flat or scalloped panels

6. **Tier Curtain:** It is a tailored or ruffled window treatment that is hung in the middle of the window to the window sill. It is often used with a valance or swag hung over the tier. A tier is also referred to as a cafe or a privacy tier.
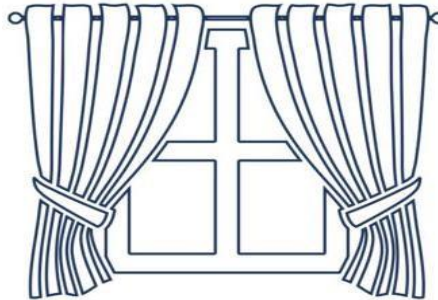
| **Priscilla** | **Cottage Set** | **Crisscross** |

| **Tailored** | **Café Curtain** | **Tier Curtain** |

2. Draperies

a. They are made of heavy fabrics.
b. Can be used alone or with curtains.
c. Draperies extend from the top of the window to the sill or the floor and cover the entire window.
d. They are hung next to curtains if used.

❖ **Top Window Treatment**

a. Cornices: These may be made of wood, plastic or mirror glass. Wood cornices are the most frequently used, and a plain wooden board with an interesting molding at the top and bottom is always in good taste.

Cornice

b. Valances: These headings may be made of gathered or pleated cloth. Lambrequins have a backing of buckram, plywood or masonite which is shaped in different designs.

c. Swags and Cascades: This type is appropriate for large formal rooms with high ceilings. The depth of the swag in the center after it is draped should be about one-seventh of the drapery length or of the distance between the top of the frame and the floor. The cascade at the top should coincide with the width of the drapery when hung.

Swags and Cascades

❖   **Problematic Window Treatment**

Awkwardly placed or awkwardly sized windows present problems. They can be corrected as:

1. **Small Windows:** A window that is very small will need to be made to appear higher and wider. This can be achieved by:

- A strip of wood four or five inches wider than the top of the window frame and long enough to extend several inches over the frame at each side may be placed over the window.

- The resulting cornice is actually higher than the window, and its extra width permits the draperies to extend over on the wall on each side of the window, giving an appearance of additional width. For the greatest effect of height, the cornice should be covered to match the drapery.
- To create the appearance of a large window, fasten a board the width of the window above the window frame. Paint the wood the colour of the woodwork; mount a mirror on it if desired treat the area as one window.

2.   **Long and Short Window**

- If window is too long and narrow, nail small strips of wood to the wall at the top of each side of the window frame, and fasten the drapery rods to these extensions. Use a cornice in a colour which contrasts with the draperies to further break the height.
- If a short window needs height, add a shaped valance above the window so that the lower edge of the valance covers the top of the window frame. Use vertical striped material for the drapery and as a covering for the valance.

3.   **Double windows**

These are best treated as unit.
- A Venetian blind the width of the two windows may be used, and the windows may be decorated with one pair of very full ruffled curtains tied back from the center, or with full tailored curtains hung on one rod.
- A drapery on each side of the double window with a cornice, a valance, or a swag running the full width of the two windows will also give an interesting unit.
- If two windows are close together but not adjoining, they may also look more interesting if treated as unit. This may be done by placing a window length strip of mirror from frame to frame between the two windows.
- The cornice, valance, or swag treatment may be used and if desirable at intervals within the unit, other full lengths of the draperies may be added.

4.   **Corner or Bay window**

- For bay windows, full, floor-length tailored glass curtains with colored pliable rayon draped in swag across the top of the windows and allowed to cascade to the floor at each side are attractive.

- Curving valances or cornices with side draperies may also be used. Draw draperies of traverse rods with wood cornice is probably the most frequently used treatment for corner windows.

5. **Arched Windows**

- Windows with a glassed arch above them may be draped as a single unit by using an arched rod, and by tying the draperies back.
- If tie backs are objectionable for any reason the curved top may be covered with a glass curtain held into a rosette at the center. The lower part of the window may be treated as a single window with tailored curtains and straight draperies.

TO ADD HEIGHT   TO ADD WIDTH   'TO ADD HEIGHT AND WIDTH
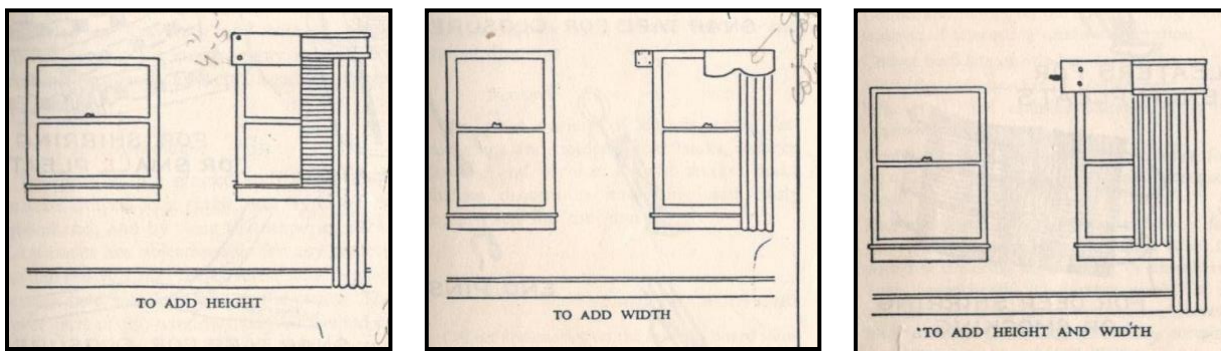
Problematic Windows

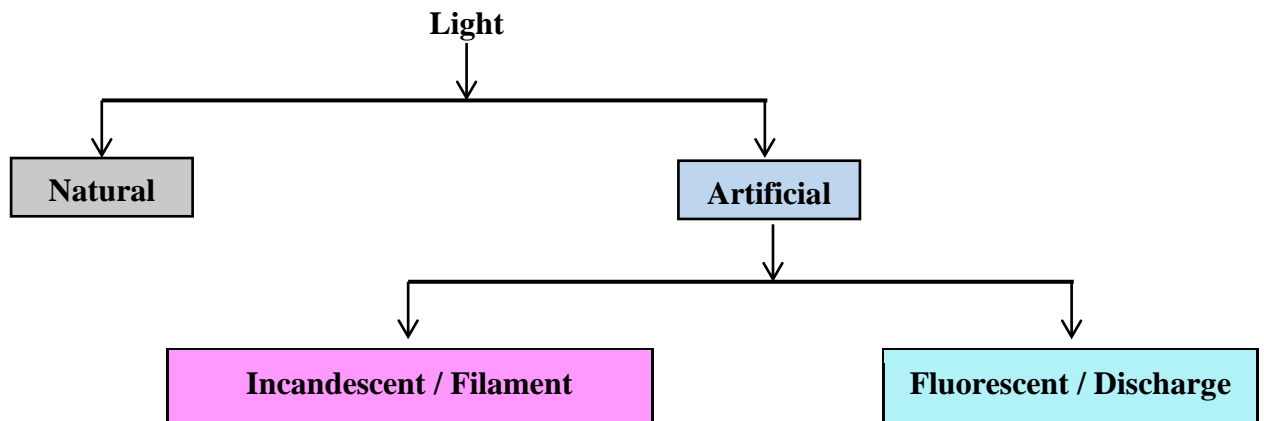# LIGHTING, FIXTURES AND THEIR UTILITY

Objects are visible because of light. Good day light and artificial lighting can enhance the design and materials in a house and create a living environment for good health, eye-sight and disposition. During the day, the sun is the source of light during day times and at night artificial sources of light are candle, oil lamps, electric incandescent bulbs and fluorescent tubes. Lighting is also used in the decorative aspects of interiors. General illumination of a room should be supplemented by individual purpose lighting needed for reading, writing, sewing and dressing.

❖ **Utility of Lighting**
  a. See quickly and easily
  b. Prevent accidents and protection
  c. Minimise eye strains
  d. Contribute to attractiveness
  e. It enhances the aesthetic appeal and creates the mood and ambiance of a living space

f. Good lighting increases efficiency

g. It is a silent partner in enhancing surroundings.

h. It helps to perform tasks with appropriate speed, accuracy and comfort.

❖ **Types of Light**

Light

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                    ┌──────────────┴──────────────┐
              ┌──────────┐                   ┌──────────┐
              │ Natural  │                   │Artificial│
              └──────────┘                   └─────┬────┘
                                    ┌──────────────┴──────────────┐
                        ┌───────────────────────┐     ┌───────────────────────┐
                        │ Incandescent / Filament│     │Fluorescent / Discharge │
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Classification of Light Based on Source

❖ **Sources of Natural or Artificial Lighting**

During the day, the sun is the source of light. Light received from the sun being reflected forms the sky, ground, water or building. At night, the artificial sources of light are reliable which is reflected from the walls, ceiling, floor and furniture. Part of light is also absorbed by the objects. Therefore, how much light is available will depend upon how much light is reflected.

a. **Day time lighting:** Three things must be considered in using day light to its full advantage:

− The admittance of light

− Use of proper surface reflectance within a room and

− Control of glare

Most commonly day light is admitted through windows. The size and location of windows determines the quality and quantity of light made available in a room. Large windows, skylight may be used for better distribution than small conventional windows.

| Day Lighting from Window | Glare Reducing Glass | Trees Screen the Glare | Screening Light |

Day Lighting from Window **Glare Reducing Glass** **Trees Screen the Glare** **Screening Light**

b. **Artificial light:** The two most common source of light used in our homes are incandescent bulbs and fluorescent lights. Incandescent bulb is used in table lamps, floor lamps, wall brackets and hanging fixtures. This produces more heat and less light in proportion to the power used than other sources. A standard 100-watt bulb emits about 1630 lumens.

Recommended Lumens for Different Areas in a home are:

Areas	Lumen per sq. Ft.
Living room	-	80
Dining room	-	45
Kitchen	-	80
Bathroom	-	65
Bedroom	-	70
Hallways	-	45

(a)

1. The foot- candle is the measure of illumination falling upon a book.

2. The lumen is a measure of light leaving the light source.

3. The foot lambert is a measure of brightness reflected from the book or the light source. (It also measures the brightness of a source.)

❖ **Types of Lighting**

A. Source Based Lighting

On the basis of source, light may be classified as natural or artificial light.

Natural Light: The bright radiant energy of the sun, daylight is a major determining factor in the design of hotel guest room and homes, especially where large wall areas have been decorated with glass.

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Artificial Light: Well-planned artificial illumination helps us to see without strain and helps to prevent accidents. It makes a vital contribution to the attractiveness of homes and hotels. At night, much of a room's character is determined by artificial illumination. This can be further classified depending upon the way it is produced and the way it is used.

Characteristics of filament and fluorescent lamps

S. No.	Filament	Fluorescent
1.	The average life is 1,000-2,000 hours	The average life for a hot-cathode lamp is 5,000hours and that for a cold- cathode type is 15,000 hours.
2.	Low cost	Initial installation high cost
3.	Gives direct or diffused light of varying intensity	Gives diffused light with a flat appearance.
4.	Generates s considerable amount of heat and soils walls.	Operating temperature is much lower and does not cause any soils.
5.	Can be used with many different types of shades and fitting.	Does not enjoy the same demand, so that fewer shades designed for these shapes are available.
6.	Ideal for pendant lights, spotlights, table and floor lamps.	Suitable for cornice lights, obscure comers and concealed lighting.

B. Function Based Lighting

• **Ambient Lighting or General Lighting:** This is one of the most common types of lighting. A basic form of lighting that replaces sunlight, general lighting is fundamental to a lighting plan. It is a soft glow that blankets spaces just enough to function without causing a harsh glare. These lightings brighten and enhance the glow of your room. The ambience of the room can be altered by using dimmer switches to achieve the desired feel and look. Also, lanterns and wall scones can render an ambient lighting effect.

How to Light a Room with General Lighting?

When used correctly, ambient light creates a fantastic environment to relax from an overly stressful day or to have a warm conversation with an old friend. Ambient lighting is often referred to as *mood lighting*, because this light captures the soft curves of your face and allows your pupils to dilate slightly (a physical sign of affection).

The lights to create ambient lighting are:

- Chandeliers
- Pendants
- Recessed
- Track
- Ceiling

Ambient Lighting

Ambient lighting usually comes from indirect fixtures that provide a diffused spread of illumination. Directional fixture can also be aimed at a wall to provide a wash of soft light. General Lighting may emanate from troughs at the top of the walls or above doors or windows, from ceiling or wall fixtures, from ground glass panels flush with ceiling or walls or from indirect lamp. Cove lighting or other architectural lighting is a great improvement over fixture as it is inconspicuous and conforms to the lines of the architecture.

- **Task Lighting:** To focus on special task areas task lighting is perfect. This is a smaller more concentrated

light. For example, hanging lights over dining tables can perfectly complement the decor of your rooms. Some people call it as *office lighting*. Task lighting is meant to help work that needs finer light, such as, reading, cooking, writing, sewing and many other things. It only works well when it is used as a contrasting light. Task lighting should be free of distracting glare and shadows and should be bright enough to prevent eyestrain. For example, in a low lit room with a swing arm lamp turned on over desk, the light over the desk surface will be more effective with less glare or shadow-effect than if the entire room was lit with a brighter light.

Task lighting helps naturally stimulate your brain. The contrasting light allows to be more alert and concentrated. This will help to see more details as you work, creating higher quality results.

The following fixtures to create task light:

- Pendants
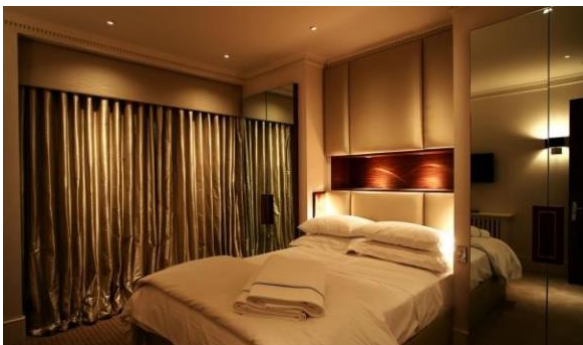
- Swing Arm Lamps
- Under Cabinet

Task Lighting

- Vanity

- **Accent Lighting:** This is a very concentrated light with the intention of drawing the eye to its focal point. This will help you illuminate the wall washing, artwork, bookcase displays,

Accent Lighting pieces of furniture, collections or architectural features you want on display, while shadowing dull areas. Accent lighting requires at least three times as much light on the focal point as the general lighting around it. An accent lighting effects can be created from halogen spotlights and table lamps adding style and drama to home. These lightings can be implemented to show a piece of art or a photograph.

Accent lighting creates a very sophisticated atmosphere. It evokes feelings of meaning and importance to the images it displays. This type of lighting is used a lot for museums, historical buildings and art shows.

The following lights create accent light:
- Wall Lights
- Recessed
- Landscape ☐ Track

❖ **Methods of Lighting**

There are two methods of lighting commonly used- architectural and non-architectural lighting.

A. **Architectural and built-in lighting:** This method of lighting supplies light that is functional and unobtrusive and is particularly good for contemporary rooms. It may be achieved in the following ways:

a. **Valance lighting:** A horizontal fluorescent tube is placed behind a valance board, casting light upwards so that it reflects off the ceiling and also downwards to shine on the drapery, thus producing both indirect and direct lighting.

b. **Cornice lighting:** A cornice is installed under the ceiling, with a fixture hidden beneath so as to direct light downwards only. This can give a dramatic effect on drapery, pictures, and wall covering.

c. **Cove lighting:** This consists of placing a continuous series of fluorescent tubes in a groove along one or more walls of a room, about 12 inches from the ceiling. The light reflects off the ceiling and bathes the room in indirect light.

d. **Track lighting**: Plughole-type wire mould strips or track lighting consists of lamps fixed to the ceiling or wall in an array to offer great variety. One strip often holds spotlights, floodlights, and even hanging fixture that may be turned around to follow furniture placements. The tracks can themselves be movable as well, for still more flexible arrangement.

e. **Soffit lighting**: This refers to a built-in-light source under a panel. It may be fixed to a ceiling or under a cabinet. Soffit lighting is often used over a sink or other work areas.

B. **Non-Architectural Lighting:** These types include various fixtures and lamps.

a. **Ceiling fixtures:** These have become common nowadays owing to vastly improved designs. Some are inconspicuously recessed into the ceiling or set flush with it. They may soften light with louvers or diffuse it with lenses. Some may be in the form of soft luminous panels that illuminates large areas evenly.

b. **Wall fixtures:** These remain out of the way and free table and desk surfaces for other things. As the same time, they give direct light where it is needed.

c. **Portable lamps:** Floor and table lamps can be moved when and when they are needed. They also act as decorative accessories. The placement of such fixtures affects the atmosphere of the room as a whole and the ease with which tasks can be done.

❖ **Lighting Fixtures**

When buying lighting fixtures to implement a lighting scheme, their appearance as well as the light they produce should be satisfactory.

Shades, globes, and even lamp bases can look quite different when illuminated. They should look good in both their daytime and night-time roles.

Translucent shades contribute a distinct colour cast to their surroundings while opaque shades give localised pools of light rather than all around illumination. The material chosen for the shade should not be discoloured, faded or ruined by heat. Various kinds of lighting fixtures are:

❖ **Lighting Fixtures for Various Activities**

Area	Purpose	Lighting Fixtures

Entrance	• It should be well lit to see the house number, doors, locks and name plates • Place of first impression for visitors • warm but bright light enough to illuminate all corners and avoid tripping of people • Needs 70-100 watts	• Concealed down lighters • Lanterns • Bulbs
Foyer and Stairways	• Proper lights avoid accidents • To see the edges, width and turns of stairs	• Down lighter • Low sconce • Halogens
Corridors	• Corners and turns should be adequately lit • Lights in corridors enable one to see tables. artifacts, paintings etc	
Dining Room	• Overall ambient lightings are good. • It needs two basic lighting sources: one for table, and the other for the rest room.	• Pendant • Down lighter • Chandelier with dimmer switches
Living & Family Room	• Flexible and diverse, functional and aesthetic lightings are required for it as this room is used for multiple activities. • Room needs two lighting options − one that give bright and festive look − a more subtle, sophisticated atmosphere • Needs 1000 watts of lighting	• Halogen up lighters • Recessed lightings for sloping roof • Task lighting-spotlights, table lamps • Incandescent & recessed directional
		fixtures for beauty of walls
Study	• The room for where much of reading is done. • Needs sharp, clean, lights without glare for reading. Avoid harsh lights and deep shadows • Minimum amount of light recommended for reading is 200 lux whereas for writing is 400 lux • General lighting for computer table should be low and diffused.	• Table & Floor Lamp • Desk Lamp • Task Lights

Kitchens	• Natural light can be harnessed by windows above the sink and other work areas. • Task lighting is better option than general lighting. • Under walls and cupboards should be lit with direct lights • For eat in kitchen lights over table is must.	• Spot Lights • Fluorescent tubes • Incandescent lightings- bulbs with white glass or plastic diffusers • Pendant lights
Bedrooms	• Needs varied lighting so several light sources are preferred which are glare free. • Dressing or working areas needs strong light • Reading needs soft lighting • Wardrobe and closets should also be well lit.	• Task Lightings • Subdued Lighting • Lamps • Spot Lights • Recessed Down Lighters
Bathrooms	• Needs both soothing lights to relax and functional lights to perform grooming chores. • Large mirrors provide ample of light • Bath tub and shower areas should be safely lit.	• Low Wattage Halogen Lighters • Waterproof lights • Pull cord switches are safer
Children's Room	• Safety is the primary need of lighting in children's room. • Bright light is most suitable.	☐ Low voltage bulbs

DIFFERENT TYPES OF WALL COVERINGS

The portion of the super structure which carries the load of the roof is called as the wall. Wall is a structural envelope of a building. The primary function of wall is to enclose or divide the space. It composes a stage setting for interiors space and the people who lead lives within their enclosure.

Walls create an animated, functional environment for living. Walls govern the size, shape and character of a room. They reflect family's need and preferences. The over-all function of a wall, in conjunction with floors and roofs, is to provide a barrier between indoor and outdoor environments. It supports doors, windows, ventilators, staircase and fireplace and ensures boundaries, background, connectivity, circulation, privacy, safety and also contributes exterior and interior aesthetics.

Other functions served by the wall are they provide background to the furniture and decorative objects making space liveable. They related furniture to the room's architecture. It can be used for built-in storage and furnishings.

❖ **Types of Wall Treatment**

Functions of Wall Treatment

The basic functions of wall treatments are to make the building look good. Wall treatments act as a background for all other elements in the room**.** So, they are vital to the harmony of building's exterior and interior design.

− **Control Environment Detrimental Effects:** In traffic areas, corridors, passage, staircase area, and wet areas like washroom and urinals, it is a necessity to look for wall coverings that are easy to clean and resist dirt, stains, fingerprints and scuffmarks. These can be taken care with right selection of material like tiling, use of vinyl wall coverings or washable paint with colours or designs that will minimize the visibility. Control of noise is necessary in conference rooms, theatres where panelling in wood, cork or fabric can be a choice for soundproofing.

− **Mood Influencer:** Since the walls are the largest decorated area in any room and strongly influence the mood of the occupants. The brightness, drama and gender of the room can be established by the selective wall treatments. For a *subdued mood* to the room use darker tones on the wall, and for *dramatic moods* use high gloss paint and for a *feminine mood*, the room could be finished with small floral patterns in wallpaper.

Interesting wall treatments can turn an ordinary building or room into an extraordinary one. This can be accomplished with a simple coat of paint, the application of wall coverings, decorative faux treatments, or custom wall decors or murals.

❖ **Purpose of using different wall finishes in interiors and exteriors**

Purpose	Interior	Exterior
Structural	Plain plastering, glass, bricks	Plain plastering, glass, Bricks, Glass, Masonry blocks
Aesthetic	Marble, textured plastering, granite, brick, vitrified tile, stucco, metal coverings, paints, wall fabrics and wall paper.	Marble, wood, granite, vitrified and non-vitrified tiles, decorative steel plate, paints, sandstone, terrazzo, wall fabric.

Ease of Maintenance	Tiles, wallpaper, Paint	Oil based paints, plastering
Strength/ Durability	Metal, wood, granite, tiles, Stucco	Masonry blocks, granite, terrazzo, tiles, wood
Moisture Resistance	Wood shingles, ceramic tiles	Wood shingles, sandstone,
Safety (Slip and Fire Resistance, Anti Hazard)	Cork, stucco, tiles	Stucco
Thermal Insulation	Wood and ceramic mural	Wood
Sound Absorption	Wall fabrics, Embossed or textured wall paper	-
Light Reflection	Marble	Decorative aluminium alloy plate, marble
Weather Resistance	Granite, ceramic mural,	Masonry blocks and granite
Resistance to Abrasion, Chemicals and Stain	Granite and ceramic mural,stucco	Masonry blocks and dranite
Cost Effective	Tiles, stucco, bricks	Masonry blocks
Concealed Effects	Non – woven wall fabric, decorative wall fabric, wallpaper	Paints and wall fabric.

❖ **Types of Wall Treatments**

An external application of new materials or finishes to masonry or dry wall produces modified effect for enhanced beauty, protection and control from radiation, absorption in an inner partition or exterior siding of a building. These include different finishes, covering, panelling, and cladding.

Wall covering come under three main groups are paint, wallpaper and wood panelling. Less frequently used covering are linoleum, textiles, tile and simulated tile. The structural finish may be plaster, concrete block, brick, glass brick, tile, and wood or wall board. Glass brick and tile are structural finish requiring no applied decoration. Plaster, concrete block, brick, and wood or wall board may be painted.

a. **Wall Finishes:** These are plasters and paints that cover exterior and interior walls to enhance appearance or cover-up the structural defects and protect surface from moisture.

b.   **Wall Coverings:** These are surface coverings specific to interiors to produce plain or textured effect. For this wood laminates, self-adhesive films, wallpaper, fiber wall, fabric, cork, ceramic tile, mirror and wood panelling are best choice. These vary in cost, suitability, maintenance, durability, degree of light absorption or reflection, degree of heat-cold insulation, and the newest trends in decorating walls.

c.   **Wall Panelling:** It is a surface covering done with pieces of flat wooden slats cut into a rectangular shape, laid along the wall that serves as the visible and exposed covering for a wall. Wall panels are functional as well as decorative, providing insulation and soundproofing, combined with uniformity of appearance, along with some measure of durability or ease of replaceability.

d.   **Wall Cladding:** It is a non-structural treatment that covers a portion or total wall of building exteriors and interiors for functional or decorative reasons. This can include a degree of water-proofing, a barrier against the wind, or other protections. Cladding can take a number of different forms, be made from many different materials, and is often used to create a decorative building cover-up/facade. Some of the popular materials for cladding include various metals, stone, and composite sidings.

❖   **Exterior and Interior Wall Finishes**

1.   **Wood**

a.   **Wood shingles** are tapered, thin pieces of wood, available in different patterns, sizes and shapes. The process of applying shingles or any type of wood finish over the surface is termed as 'siding'.

b.   **Wood siding** is laid horizontally with overlapping wood boards. Vertical and veneer siding are also prepared using boards or panels of wood.

c.   **Cork** is made out of the bark of oak tree; this wood finish is less noisy.

d.   **Baseboard** is made by utilizing planks, tongue-and-groove strips, and veneers. Both plastic and wooden baseboards are available.

2.   **Stone**

a. **Masonry blocks** can be laid in positions similar to that of wall tiles. Decorative masonry blocks made of concrete are one of the traditional materials used over wall surfaces.

b. **Marble** is moderately hard. Natural marble is available in a variety of colours. It is the most desirable high-ranking finishing material, as it can be polished to give a neat, smooth and rich look. Artificial black marble, marble panels and tiles are also available for exterior wall finishing.

c. **Natural granite** is composed of feldspar, quartz, sand and mica. It has features such as high decorative quality, durability, and intense hardness, resistance to abrasion, weather and acids.

d. **Sandstone** is obtained from sedimentary rocks and it constitutes mainly of lime, silica and iron oxide.

e. **Terrazzo** is expensive but durable material composed of marble chips bonded together with cement, is an appealing colourful finish.

3. Brick

Though commonly used in exterior, brick tiles of natural and synthetic colours such as buff, light brown or light ash are purposefully manufactured for interior walls. Thinner bricks are preferable to serve as a wall finish. It is popular in family rooms and recreation rooms. Bricks may be used in combination with wood panelling, wallpaper, or painted walls. Bricks may be painted with dull finish colours for decorative effects too.

4. Plaster

- Plaster is applied in a thick, mud-like consistency.
- It is usually applied to floorboard/lath, foundation of a plaster wall i.e., thin sheets of wood, expanded metal or specially prepared gypsum boards and also to any masonry surface rough enough to hold it.

- For interior work, two coats of plasters are generally applied- first rough sandy undercoat and second smooth white finish coat. The second coat is painted, papered or covered with canvas or other fabric as embellishment and protection.

- Plaster is cheap, can be applied without visible joints to surfaces of almost any shape and smoothly hides anything behind it. It is an excellent background for varied surface treatments. Its disadvantages are it does crack and often chips. So, it has been used for ages.

5. **Stucco**

☐ Stucco is a type of finishing plaster used as an excellent exterior finish. provided precautions are taken to prevent cracking and the air is clean enough so that it is not soon streaked with soot and other dirt.

☐ It is a fine plaster and applied wet in wall areas and it hardens to a very dense solid.

☐ It is used as a decorative coating for walls and ceilings and for decoration.

☐ At times it may be used to cover less visually appealing construction materials as concrete, cinder block or clay brick and adobe.

☐ It is also used in interior decoration to produce intricate carving work that is durable, attractive and weather resistant.

☐ *Decorative plaster* and stucco impart sculptural enrichment in the walls and ceilings of many historic homes

☐ *Putty* is white cement-based ready-mix putty which fills the pores of concrete walls and ceilings to provide a white, smooth, dry surface for painting. It has superior water resisting and adhesive properties, and can be applied on both exterior and interior surfaces. Being water resistant it doesn't flake even if the walls are damp.

☐ *Textura finish* is a ready-mix white cement-based textured plaster finish in powder form. Popular internationally, it is available in a wide variety of surface textures, designs and colours. It decorates as well as protects interior and exterior walls.

☐ *Coolant* is a white cement-based ready-mix coating material with dual properties. This reduces the indoor temperature and arrests minor cracks thereby arresting leakage.

☐ *Levelplast* is a white cement-based superior substitute of Plaster of Paris (P.O.P) for walls. It is an ideal material to cover major undulations on a wall. It fills the fine pores of concrete walls both internal and external as well ceilings, providing a white, smooth and dry levelled surface for painting.

☐ *Glass fibre Reinforced Concrete (GRC)* is an extremely versatile and lightweight plastering material. It combines the moulding properties of cement with the tensile strength of glass fiber. GRC can be used to produce pre-cast elements for wall cladding, columns, domes, arches etc.

6. **Ceramic Murals:** These modern finishing materials of high artistic value are formed by sticking ceramic veneer and slate. Each piece of ceramic mural is a thin plate, with a flat or embossed surface.

7. **Tiles:** A ceramic surfacing unit, thinner than the surface of application, is called the tile. Wherever moisture is an issue, glazed or unglazed ceramic tiles can be used. They are easy

to wash, durable and economical. Tiles are available as natural clay, mosaic, conductive, impervious, vitreous and non-vitreous types.

8. **Glass:** Blocks of glass made walls that admit light, but maintain privacy are obtained as panels or sheets. Those with double insulated thickness can serve as partitions. Clear glass may be used as an entire window wall. Patterned glass is usually used for a divider wall which let in more light than opaque walls, but is translucent enough to give privacy. Patterned glass comes in plain panels, corrugated, and screen or checked effects.

9. **Glass Bricks:** With development of modern architecture, glass brick is sometimes used as a wall finish. They are strong and provide insulation. Bricks used as a wall are translucent, admit some light but ensure privacy within the area in closed. these Bricks are transparent are often etched or painted and used purely as decoration. Glass bricks are best adapted to modern rooms.

10. **Linoleum:** A wainscot finish with a border, linoleum is sometimes used on walls in nurseries, playrooms, kitchens, and bathrooms.

11. **Metal and Non-metal Finishes:**
   a. *Decorative Aluminium Alloy Plate* is anti corrosive and is rolled with specific beautiful patterns and colours. It also has strong light-reflecting ability.

   b. *Decorative Steel Plate* available in a variety of colours is suitable for interiors and exteriors.

   c. *Plastic Wall Coverings:* As plastics present fewer problems in application and are easier to match the seams, they blend themselves well to super graphics and large patterns.

12. **Wall Papers**: Ranging from plain to patterned, endless colours, and textures, they have the advantage of being easy to use, remodel and maintain; they are washable, and can be painted with oil paints.
   − Wallpapers are printed by machine rollers and by a silk-screen process.
   − Silk-screened wallpapers usually have large patterns and more versatile design than roller-printed wallpapers.
   − Truly scrubable wallpaper is vinyl coated or oilcloth and cost more than other wallpapers.
   − Scenic wallpaper requires an unbroken wall, and may be used in vertical or horizontal panels.

13. **Wall Fabrics:** Different fabrics of varied dimensions are draped over, pasted, stretched on or hung on the walls to create visual appeal.

   a. *Non-woven wall* cloth is processed without the weaving procedure, coated with resin and printed with colourful patterns. As it is permeable to air and moisture, this non-aging, nondissipating material is not affected by mildew or moisture.

   b. *Decorative wall cloth* is made by coating the cotton calico with abrasion-resistant resin and printing it with certain patterns. It is more suitable for inner wall surfaces.

14. **Grass cloth**: It is a unique material made up of fibres taken from the honey suckles vines. The fibres are processed, and woven in different sizes and patterns and mounted on specific paper.

☐ **Paint:** Paint is applicable on wood, stucco, masonry, metal, asbestos and gypsum boards. It is important to have clean, smooth surfaces, good equipment, and a good quality paint. A good paint will have resistance to sun, weathering, colour stability, alkali resistance, strong adhesive power, and will not chip. All paint is made up of three components: a pigment, a vehicle, and a solvent.

Paints can be divided into three groups according to drying or curing mechanism-

1. **Physically Drying Paints**- drying process involves evaporation of solvents.

2. **Oxidative Drying Paints**- drying process combines evaporation of solvents with a chemical reaction between the oil in the paint and the oxygen in the air.

3. **Chemically Curing Paints**- drying process involves chemical reaction between the base and a hardener. The two components must be mixed properly.

•   **Sealer or Primers:** A primer is a preparatory coating put on materials before painting a plastered surface to fill in the pores and give a good painting base.

☐ Priming ensures better adhesion of paint to the surface, increases paint durability, and provides additional protection for the material being painted.

Primers can usually be coloured / tinted to a close match with the colour of the finishing paint. If the finishing paint is a deep colour, colouring/ tinting the primer can reduce the number of layers of finishing paint that are necessary for good uniformity across the painted surface.

 Wood primers are partly penetrative and provide a mechanically adhered base for the undercoat.

 Metal primers in general are corrosion reducing base coats that adhere specifically to the metal surface. Some metals like galvanized metal, aluminium etc require more specialized preparation or to be allowed to weather before painting for better adhesion.

- **Undercoat:** On nonporous surfaces an inexpensive undercoat gives a good base for the final coat of paint or enamel.

- Paints are available as:

A. **Oil-based** - appropriate for exterior surfaces, can withstand heavy scrubbing. These come in flat, semi-gloss and gloss finishes. They are usually thinned with mineral spirits or paints thinner. Two coats of oil paints are needed-three coats if a very light colour is painted over a dark colour.

B. **Water-based -** could be applied on moist surfaces and are easy to clean

C. **Resin emulsion-** made from pigments, dries quickly, ideal for both exterior and interior walls.

D. **Plastic emulsion –** consists of vinyl acetate and acrylate mixed with water; more ideal for interiors, as they are quite attractive.

E. **Enamels** - prepared from pigments and special varnishes. It comes in high, semi or low gloss. Before its application rub the surface slightly with fine sandpaper and with a cloth slightly dampened with turpentine. It is made by adding varnish or lacquer binder which has synthetic resin. A dryer is also added to speed up the drying process which otherwise very slow process. Its finish is exceptionally hard and durable. It is suitable for wooden walls, wood works, bathrooms, toilets and places where water is used and they protect the walls. Often produce strong odours which are irritating and sometimes even toxic in nature. The advantage with these paints is that they really last long and produce rich and desiring effects on the wall.

F. **Alkyd paint**- It has practically replaced oil paint. It is resin enamel that is fast drying, resists yellowing, and cleans better than latex. Depending on the colour, one coat is generally sufficient. They are thinned with solvent. They are recommended for mouldings, woodworks, trim and anywhere moisture, fingerprints and scuff marks maybe a problem. They are probably the best choice for painting metal. Some disadvantages of alkyd paint include:

1. It is more expensive than latex paint
2. Odour intensive when drying and gives off VOC's (volatile organic compounds)
3. Requires chemical solvent clean up using mineral spirits (paint thinner)
4. A hazardous material is created by it in the waste stream.

G. **Latex** - These paints have rubber or synthetic rubber as binder and needs a strong volatile solvent. It is thinned with water. It is less expensive, easy to use, dries quickly in about 30 minutes to a durable finish. It has little odour soon fades, leaves no overlap marks, does not shows brush marks. It tools can be cleaned in a soapy water. They are recommended for plaster, gypsum board, masonry, wood siding, acoustical tile and occasional metal.

H. **Vinyl:** It is thinned with water. It is washable, easy to apply, dries fast, covers well and has very little odour.

I. **Calamine:** This is a water-soluble paint made if whiting, glue, water and colour pigment. It cannot be washed.

J. **Cement paint** – It is made out of white cement and pigments, It is a glossy paint resisting the alkaline concrete.

K. **Varnish:** It is a colourless liquid which gives a firm hard surface. It comes in dull/matte, semi-gloss and high gloss finishes. It should be applied only in dry weather and only when there is ventilation. It takes at least 24 hours to dry. There are clear streak less varnishes that may be applied to wallpaper to make it washable. It is commonly used on wood to protect the surface and allow the natural grain to show through.

L. **Shellac:** It comes clear and in orange colour and it is thinned with alcohol. It is made of a resinous substance called 'lac' deposited on trees and found in India and Asia. Shellac dries more quickly than varnish. But it is less durable and is subjected to water spots. Clear shellac doesn't discolour when applied to a light coloured surface.

M.   **Lacquer:** It's a superior quick drying varnish like finish made from resin from Asiatic sumac or from a synthetic nitro cellulous resin. The finish ranges from matte to high gloss and comes in white, black, brown or beige. Commercially made furniture may be finished with lacquer.

N.   **Texture:** Paints that stimulate different textures can be sprayed on or applied with a brush. One coat usually covers. Flecked and crepe like surfaces are obtainable by using special brushes.

O.   **Acrylic paint**- It is water based synthetic resin paint. The more acrylic the paint contains better is the quality. It is extremely durable, odourless, easily applied, quick drying and washable. Some acrylic paints resemble baked-on-enamel and are impervious to damage. Straight acrylic paints are not commonly used on interior finishes.

P.   **Epoxy paint**- There are two types of epoxy paint. The first type is ready mixed in a single can. The second type is a two stage finish or catalyzed epoxy, which puts a tile like coating on almost any surface. Once it hardens, this coating can be scratched, struck, or marked with crayon or something and still be washed to a high gloss. They are used in basement walls, shower stalls and swimming pools.

- **Paints for Interiors**

Choosing paints for interiors depends first of all on the particular spaces to be painted verandah, kitchen, living room, lobby etc. There are four categories of interior paint - Dry Distemper, Acrylic Distemper, Matt Emulsion and Silk Emulsion in ascending order of price and quality.

a.   **Distempers:** The traditional economy paints, they can produce a perfectly satisfactory finish at reasonable cost, given proper application and workmanship. Their lifecycle is shorter. Dry Distempers which come in powder form and Oil Bound / Synthetic Distempers are not washable. Acrylic Distempers, being partly based on acrylic resins, produce greater smoothness and washability. Properly maintained, they keep their good looks for 3 to 4 years.

b.   **Emulsions:** Generally known as "plastic" paints. These are based on a fine dispersion of resin in a solvent, which on drying creates a remarkably tough, adherent, durable coating. Special additives in emulsions give them an incomparably smooth finish, in beautiful shades that last for years. Resistant to

water and chemicals, washing makes them smile again. Other special properties keep them free from fungus and algae. They come in three categories:

- *Silk Emulsions* are premium acrylic emulsions, with silky smoothness and a luxurious silk-like finish which looks fresh long years later. Presence of very high acrylic resin content it enhances durability. It creates reflectance and smoothness of high order on which dust cannot settle.

- *Regular Emulsions* produce a smooth eggshell finish. They are available in wide choice of colours, and have almost the same durability as Silk. By combining silk and regular emulsion give the right balance between great looks and a long-cycle economy.

- *Economy Emulsions* offer the basic strengths of emulsion paint at economy prices. They are still a generation ahead of distempers on durability, washability, faderesistance and smoothness.

c. **Functional Paints:** Functional paints are decorative paints with specific functions like anti-condensation or mould and mildew resistant paints for eliminating insects, bacteria, fungus or dust mites. They have an in-built, safe and non-toxic mechanism to humans. But, they are fatal to insects, fungus, bacteria or dust mites and can greatly lessen their effects. These are generally used in kitchens, baths, basements and any other area that may be damp.

d. **Heat Resistant or Fire-Retardant Paint:** Other category of specialty paint. These paints cannot completely prevent fire but withstand much higher temperatures and slow the spread of fire. They are often used for painting radiators and fireplace surround

e. **Wood Paints**: These are varieties of paints influenced by types of sealers and fillers. These are special substances applied to new surfaces as a base coat ensuring a more professional finish.

f. **Satin:** It is a glossy ingredient penetrates wood pores and contains various colorants that can enhance natural colour or give a different colour to wood. Before application, they are tested in an inconspicuous area first as different woods react differently to the same colour stain. A varnish is generally required over the stain to steal it.

❖ **Types of Material Used in Interior and Exterior Wall**

The term "materials" refers to all the physical substances that are assembled to create the interior and exterior of a building.

A. **Materials for Exterior Wall:** An exterior wall assembly contains materials that keep the rain and wind out, thermally insulate the inhabitants from exterior temperatures, structurally support the building and the associated enclosure system, and provide desired interior and exterior finishes.

Exterior Wall Finishes	Interior Wall Finishes
1. Masonry Wall	1. Masonry
2. Stone Wall	2. Stone
3. Brick Wall	3. Brick and Tile (Clay)
4. Solid Masonry without steel reinforcement	4. Concrete
5. Reinforced concrete & Concrete blocks	5. Wood
6. Prefabricated Wall	6. Glass
7. Wooden Wall	
8. Glass Wall	

B. **Materials for Interior Wall:** A variety of materials are used to finish interior wall. Wall finishing in different colour, pattern and texturing is fun and the interior wall finish results can be quite astonishing. There are endless design patterns that can be created. In addition, colour tinting, glazes, and objects to the compound to make your walls truly unique.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF FLOOR COVERINGS

Floors are horizontal flat surfaces meant various activities like walking, running, jumping or dancing and supporting furniture. A floor needs to have adequate strength and its stability should be fire resistant. It should have good insulation and be damp proof. It accumulates most dust and dirt and has more wear and tear than any other part of the house. But it contributes to the expressive character of the house. Different flooring materials are available to define and separate areas of a house.

The floor consists of two components, one which is designed as a structural component and the other finishing on floor or the floor covering which is decided taking into consideration the use of the floor and the aesthetic appearance. The floors resting directly on the ground surface are known as ground floors and the floors of each storey which are above the geared level are known as upper floor. The materials used for construction of ground floor are cement, concrete, bricks, stones, lime, concrete wood.

Floor coverings are used on the base floor. It makes a room comfortable, gives a finished appearance and adds to both actual and visual warmth to the floor. It reduces foot fatigue, has cushion impacts and reduces noise produced from walking. It can be used to divide space, suggest traffic pattern and gives character to a room.

❖ **Floor coverings:** Floor coverings make a room comfortable and give an aesthetic appearance. Soft floor coverings include the carpets and rugs. A carpet as the floor coverings softens footsteps, subdues sound and enchants the eye. Floor coverings can be wall to wall carpet and rug can be an area rug. Usually carpets and rugs are available in the standard sizes.

❖ **Selection of Floor Coverings**

Some factors to be considered while selecting floor coverings are:
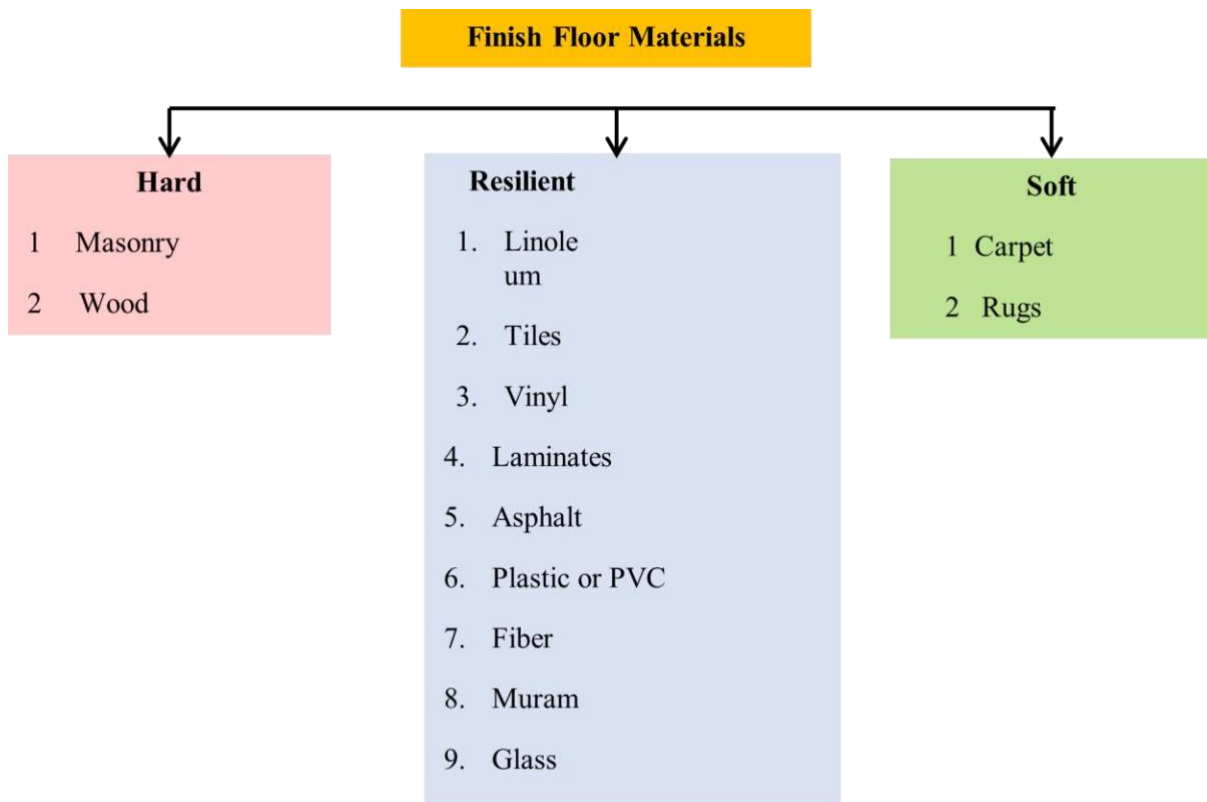
1. **Durability:** It is very important as floor bears maximum wear and tear due to abrasion of feet and weight of furniture, when moved. Therefore, material should be resistant to corrosion humidity, tough; not crack, splinter or disintegrate easily; nor should get marked permanently due to hard treatment they receive. The flooring of marble, terrazzo tiles and granolithic are most suitable from this point of view.

2. **Economy of Upkeep:** This is of great importance since floor receives maximum dust and dirt. The material should resist stains and bleaches, do not absorb liquids or dirt. Neutral colours, middle values and close pattern can cover-up stains. Floor area which are smooth and without any crevices are easy to clean.

3. **Resilience:** The floor material with resiliency reduces floor breakage, foot fatigue and noise produced when things are moved.

4. **Warmth:** The floor covering should give warmth or creates an impression of warmth in cold. The apparent warmth of the floor can be achieved through the warm hues, middle to dark value and soft textures.

5. **Light Reflection:** Light coming in the room hits the floor and is reflected in the room. More the floor reflects more brighter will the room hence lower electricity bills. But if too much bright light enters the room then dark flooring and coarse textures will absorb some of the light and less will be the glare.

6. **Sound Absorption:** The floor material should be such that they should absorb the noise produced in the room. Rough, porous materials deaden the noise already made as they absorb the sound. Pile rugs can absorb sound to a great extent.

7. **Dampness:** For the purpose of maintaining healthy conditions in the house flooring should offer sufficient resistance against dampness. Flooring of concrete brick, terrazzo, mosaic etc. are preferred, while flooring of rubber linoleum wood etc. are not suitable for damp condition.

8. **Fire Resistance:** Concrete and brick flooring provide maximum fire resistance. For fire proof construction fire resistance flooring is necessary.

9. **Cleanliness.** The flooring should be non-absorbent and capable of being drained easily. The marble and terrazzo are the easiest to clean in comparison to timber and concrete flooring.

10. **Appearance:** Floors expresses the aesthetic taste of the people. It should give pleasing appearance e.g.; terrazzo and marble flooring give excellent appearance.

11. **Beauty of the Room:** It depends upon the proper selection of the floor coverings. The type of material used for covering, its effect on the space for which it is used and relationship of all the floors in home to one another and to whole house.

    The application of principles of design to floor involves specific consideration:
    a. **Harmony:** The colour, pattern, texture should be in accordance to the function of floor.
    b. **Proportion:** there should be 'variety in unity' in form, texture and colour.
    c. **Balance:** the colour of the floor should be darkened than the wall furnishings and ceiling but in balance to the colours used in the room.
    d. **Rhythm:** It can be created by the strong lines, checks and sweeping curves. It should suggest easy walking.
    e. **Emphasis:** The plain floor coverings and neutral colours emphasize spaciousness and free the eyes for other things.

12. **Use:** One should know about the amount and kind of floor used i.e. heaviness of traffic, amount of dust and dirt etc.

13. **Cost:** The initial cost of flooring as well its maintenance costs both are to be considered in terms of money and time. Marble, terrazzo and granolithic flooring are easy to maintain.

14. **Individuality:** The floors should reflect a definite character i.e. your own personal taste.

❖ **Types of Floor Covering**

Finish Floor Materials

Hard	Resilient	Soft
1 Masonry 2 Wood	1. Linoleum 2. Tiles 3. Vinyl 4. Laminates 5. Asphalt 6. Plastic or PVC 7. Fiber 8. Muram 9. Glass	1 Carpet 2 Rugs

Classification of Types of Flooring

1. Hard Floor Covering: Hard surface flooring materials are remarkably durable and ageless in their versatility; high initial cost and lack of resiliency are their chief drawbacks. Hard floors of masonry materials and wood are popularly used these days.

A. Masonry: Stone, bricks and ceramic tiles have high original costs but lasts for generations, indoors or outdoors.

 Stone floors of slate, marble, or other composition: noisy and hard to walk, fairly expensive to install but easy to maintain.

 Unglazed brick and tile seem especially suited to kitchens, bathrooms, and sunspaces because of their natural, earthy quality. They are to be sealed unless absorbs grease and stains that are difficult to remove.

 Finished and glossy stones should not be used on floors for safety reasons and the reflective gloss and colour with water.

 Honed or rubber finishes produce more appropriate smooth surfaces with little or no gloss.

 Vinyl tile and sheet vinyl imitate clay-tile as well as stone and brick are used for flooring.

 Stones

☐ **Marble:** It is a kind of metamorphic rock formed due to impact. It is soft, cool, elegant, but quite slippery. All in many colours and designs.

☐ **Granite:** A type of igneous rock formed by the cooling of molten magma. It is hard stone, expensive, but has good durability, carving can be done easily, maintenance free, simple wet mopping is enough, become smooth when polished, porosity is less, long lasting, becomes slippery when wet, doesn't take stains, easy to replace, hard and aesthetically good so used in both interiors and interiors. It is available only in limited colours with different standard thickness.

☐ **Limestone and Sandstone:** Limestone has its origin from deposited organic materials i.e. bones and shells. It will give a rusty and earthy appearance to any space.

☐ Sandstone is obtained from deposited sand grains i.e. quartz. It is an attractive floor covering as it features irregular natural design from stripes to speckles.

☐ **Kota Stone:** It is a grey coloured stone. It is economical, easy to clean but takes stains easily, absorb water less but more than marble and granite; provide more thickness as well hardness than marble and granite. It can be beautifully finished hand cut, machine cut, mirror finish or polished. Its tiles are small sized only; they do not give the appearance of seamless flooring.

☐ **Dholpuri Stone:** Dholpuri comes into two white and red colours. These stones are laid mostly on 'otlas'.

☐ **Flagstone:** It is a variety of sandstone obtained from splitting sedimentary rocks. It is available in many colours, which can add to the attraction of an area.

☐ **Slate:** It is a type of metamorphic rock that consists of silica, alumina and iron oxide. It is soft stone and generally used in interiors. They are not polished but are varnished and kept rough only. It can be easily split into layers, has good durability and can withstand more scratches. It is not used for flooring.

☐ **Cuddappah Stone:** It is black in colour. It is available in south India. It is economical but takes stains easily. In comparison to marble and granite cuddappah stone absorbs more water, it is harder, provide more thickness but break easily.

- **Mosaic:** Mosaic tile is made by baking excellent ceramic dust into small and thin square, rectangular and hexagon ceramic pieces, and by sticking them adversely on a piece of cowhide paper.

- **Pebbles:** These are bigger than granules. They are usually available on the beaches and riverside as smooth stones of different sizes, textures and colours offering a wide range of applications.

- **Bricks:** The most common architectural material made up of made of clay, kaolin and shale available thinner, as pavers. Such flooring is used in cheap, construction especially where good bricks are available i.e. ware houses. It has good durability and hardness and if maintained its finish lasts for longer.

- **Tiles:**

  - **Ceramic tiles:** Best flooring for bathrooms as it's easy to maintain. It has wide range of colours, design, size, shapes and texture from mosaic of 8 inches pieces to tile of 24 inches tiles. It has smooth or grooved and abrasive surfaces fro slip resistance.

  - **Vitrified:** This tile goes through the process of nitrification which makes it less porous and moisture absorbent. It has good stain resistance, but is slippery and less eco friendly.

  - **Quarry tile:** It is an unglazed form of a baked clay product. It is quite durable and impact resistant, but chips off easily on severe blows.

- **Concrete:** Concrete is used as an outdoor or subflooring material and covered with finish flooring that will provide resilience, sound insulation, warmth and greater aesthetic appeal.

  - **Plain cement concrete:** They are normally inexpensive, but to create beautiful effects in interiors, they have to be masked with other sheets like vinyl or linoleum or soft finishes.

  - **Coloured concrete:** It is a recent development, quite durable and long lasting, if proper sealants are used. Numerous colour options with unique designs are available.

- **Terrazzo:** It is a man-made product made from a mixture of marble chips and binder or matrix. It consists of marble chips embedded onto concrete surface and polished smoothly. It can be poured in place with other materials like brass, zinc, plastic used to separate colours or form a design.

☐ **Terracotta**: it is prepared by firing refined brown or special red clay mixtures at high temperatures. They are quite tough, but not very cold. Its rugged durability permits the same tiles to surface and unite indoor and outdoor spaces.

In spite of warm or cool appearance of colour and texture all the masonry floors are hard and cold unless radiantly heated. Masonry materials are dark and unglazed for maximum heat absorbency use a reserve heat lag to advantage in passive solar homes.

B. **Wood:** It is the most popular of the hard-flooring materials. It varies in cost with the type, the method of cutting and the method of placement. The most common material used for wood floors are oak, maple, teak or birch.

☐ They should be well preserved to make them more durable and rot free, as well as properly seasoned to get a well dried product for further usage. Some wood floors are waxed, irradiated or impregnated with polyurethane or acrylic can be cleaned with a damp mop.

☐ It is high in initial but low in maintenance cost.

☐ Plain-sawed wood is least expensive but quarter sawn is more resistance to shrinkage and wrapping.

☐ Less expensive alternatives include surface application of paint, stain or clear urethane.

☐ Laminated wood expands and contract least with changes in moisture.

☐ It is the least hard, the quietest and warmest of all hard surface flooring, making it more comfortable than the others.

☐ In kitchen and bathroom, wood surfaces are generally avoided as they catch moisture and may get dent if hard objects are dropped on it. But if finished with polyurethane wood can be used in these areas.

2. Resilient Floor Covering: Resilient floor coverings are made from materials that have springing capacity or elasticity. These are used in areas where noise needs to be minimised, such as study room or libraries as well as on wooden or stone floors. Resilient flooring offers many choices.

☐ Linoleum, asphalt, cork, vinyl cork, rubber asbestos and pure vinyl are composition of resilient flooring. They differ greatly in cost, use, resilience, resistance, to grease, durability and ease of maintenance.

☐ Resilient material needs its own mastic or cement and special care in handling.

- **Linoleum:** It is obtained in a variety of colours and designs by compressing powdered cork, linseed oil, fillers, resin and pigments, baked at high temperatures. It appears like a stone flooring or wood flooring.

- **Tiles:** It can be easily installed with less wastage. They are basically maintenance free if required can be cleaned with weak acid, acid proof and do not absorb water, durable, odour,

dirt, fire, water and scratch resistance and environment friendly. They are available commonly in size of 9- and 12-inch squares. Tiles of asphalt, rubber, cork, vitrified and leather are also available.

☐ **Rubber tiles:** Sound absorbent, resilient and moisture resistance. Sheet rubber flooring is used in restaurants and aeroplanes.

☐ **Cork tiles:** very resilient, has good sound absorbency, excellent insulators, expensive and needs a lot of maintenance. It is not generally used in India. It is obtained in various sizes, shades and thicknesses. This material gives a good cushioning effect to the feet.

☐ **Glazing Tiles:** These tiles can be earthen wall, having top surface glazed and underside unglazed so that the tiles may adhere property to the base. They are used for finishing surface of floor of water closure, bathroom, kitchen, hospital, and similar places where cleanliness is an important factor.

☐ **Vitrified Tiles:** It is mixture of marble and granite chips. It has a zero-water absorption property, costlier, lustrous, harder and thicker than tiles. It is non-slippery, maintenance free, economical, easy to install and handle. It fades easily, has less strength and due to rough surface cleaning is difficult.

☐ **Leather tiles:** available in tile form for floor, expensive, quiet and used only in low traffic area.

☐ **Sheet vinyl** is produced in rolls 6, 9 or 12 feet wide. It is flexible and may be coved to form its own seamless base. It has less dirt catching seams, expensive, and required installation by professionals.

- **Vinyl:** It is the floor with style as it only offers variety of coloured and patterned vinyl flooring. It is mainly used for heavy traffic areas like offices, hospitals, hotels, restaurant, railways, etc. Its light weight, easy to replace, good moisture resistance, totally hygienic, nonslippery, cleaned and maintained easily and can be polished. Rubber can discolour vinyl flooring, average stain and fade resistant, cannot be repaired easily, poor damage and scratch resistant.

- **Laminates:** They are stronger and durable. They are usually confused with wood but they are not wood. It is easy to maintain, durable, stain and fade resistance and not soft under foot.

- **Asphalt:** It is made up of mineral fibers and pigments along with asbestos. It is ideal for utility areas as it has good resistance to mild acids, oil and grease. It is of many types asphalt mastic types, asphalt tiles flooring, asphalt terrazzo and acid proof mastic flooring.

- **Plastic or PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride):** It is inexpensive, easy to install and has good durability. As this material has a backing of foam or felt, it is comparatively softer than wooden flooring.

- **Fiber:** The size of it is 1.2-5.5 mm in length, 12 mm in width & 3-12 mm in thickness. It is fibrous in texture and is heat and sound proof. They used for internal finish as well as panelling, suspended ceilings and for floors.

- **Muram:** It is a form of disintegrated rock with binding material. Its flooring has practical the same properties as that of mud flooring.

☐ Cork, solid, vinyl and rubber are much more resilient than asphalt or vinyl composition tile. Some cushioned sheet vinyl's have an inner core of foam and is used to increase springiness, warmth and quietness. Colour and pattern choices are plentiful in it.

☐ A smooth, level, clean sub floor is necessary beneath resilient flooring as the finish surface will reveal any bumps, cracks or holes.

☐ A moisture barrier is also needed to prevent mildew infestation if resilient flooring is installed in places where moisture is a problem e.g. basement.

☐ If flooring is laid over existing material it should be clean, levelled, smooth and securely attached on which resilient flooring will be pasted.

- **Glass:** It is a very rare type of flooring because of its delicacy & brittle properties. It is costliest so not much in practice. They are used in discos, hotels and stages. Glass mats are used for floating floors and flooring.

- **Soft Floor Covering:** Rugs and carpets are the soft floor coverings. They represent a major item in home furnishing. Carpets can be on wall or floor whether as rug is for floor area only. It adds maximum warmth, texture, resilience and quietness as well as visual appeal to floors.

With wallpaper, soft coverings gives room an intimate "furnished look" even with little furniture. With their colour, texture and pattern they contribute markedly to the character of a home. Their selection depends up on the personal preferences, the condition of the floor and the amount of money available.

- **Carpets:** It gives a floor the appearance of luxury, absorbs shock and noise and helps to establish a colour scheme. The chances of falls are fewer and less severs on carpeted floor. But carpets are poor moisture and stain resistance, cannot be repaired, average fade and

damage resistance. A carpet originally means a floor covering made by seaming together strips of narrow carpet. It is woven in looms varying in width from 27 inches to 18 feet but there is no limit of length. Carpet woven on 9-, 12-, 15- and 18- foot loom is called broadloom carpet. Some type of carpets are Pashmina, plain & embroidery carpets, Kashmiri carpets, Silk kashan carpets, Richroso carpets mostly used for interior decoration. Hitkari and Bajaj tex carpets, gives the floor looks & durability.

☐ **Wall to wall carpet:** They increase the apparent size of the room and tend to give furnishings unity. It is safer than any kind of rug. It conceals floors in bad condition and is easier to clean than a rug with floor around it. They must be cleaned on the floor, and on location cleaning is rare as thorough as factory cleaning.

☐ **Carpet tiles or squares:** They may have a self-stick backing, can be glued down or may be loose-laid. They function well when used wall to wall, are uniform in colour and texture.

- **Rugs:** It is any floor covering made in one piece and generally not intended for covering the entire floor. It may have pattern and a border with fringes or it may be cut from broadloom carpet. They can be used on top of hard, resilient or soft flooring materials. Their mobility and cleanability make them more useful. There are the eight most common rug materials wool rugs, silk rugs, cotton rugs, jute and bamboo rugs, leather, hide, and sheepskin rugs, faux fur/ faux hide rugs, polypropylene rug and microfiber/polyester rugs.

  ☐ A **room size rug** that comes to within 12 inches or less than the wall on all sides.

  ☐ An **area rug** is a smaller rug used to define a certain area. In a large room, area rug can be used to separate living, reading and eating areas. They often have sculptured borders.

  ☐ A **scatter or throw rug** is any small rug used to complement a room feature or a piece of furniture. They should be well anchored.

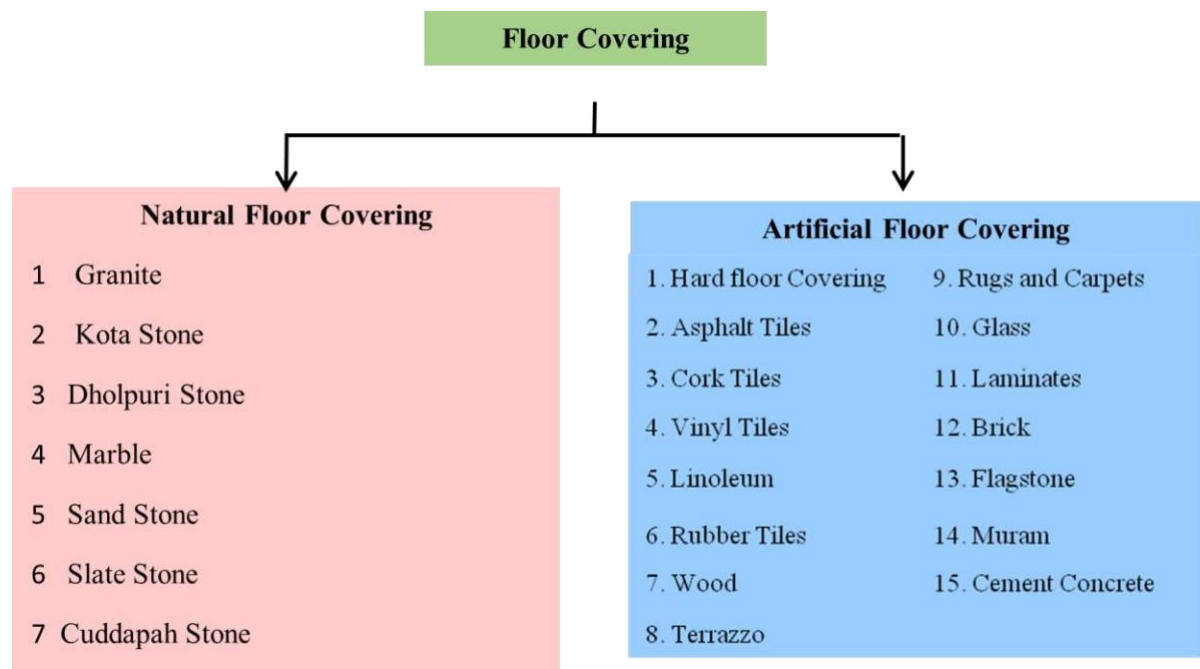 ☐ An **accent rug** is a small rug with definite colour and pattern placed on top of solid colour.

  ☐ **Runners a**re long, narrow rug usually 27 inches wide designed for hallways or stairs

  ☐ **Oriental rugs** are expensive and priced possessions, but they require furnishings in keeping with them in colour, in design and in quality. The term "oriental" may be applied only to hand woven rugs that have been made in or near the orient by the same methods used hundreds of years ago. There are two main type of hundred oriental- the knotted and the flat or tapestry-woven rugs. Yarns for oriental rugs are carefully prepared and dyed with secret dye formula each knot is tied by hand, and a definite

pattern is followed. The expert weaver may tie 8,000 -12,000 knots a day. The colours and design show through on the back of oriental rugs; the nap runs in one direction and a fringe- rarely an extension of warp. Extends beyond one end of the rug. Six types of oriental rugs are- Persian, Chinese, Turkish, Caucasian, Turkistan or Turkoman and East India.

☐ **Indian Daris** are the flat woven rugs of India. It is used by commoner and royalty alike: at its simplest it was a multi-purpose textile used as floor covering, bedding or packaging. They have beautiful geometrical patterns and are colour fast.

Beside this above-mentioned classification there is another classification as natural and artificial flooring.

Floor Covering

Natural Floor Covering	Artificial Floor Covering	
1 Granite	1. Hard floor Covering	9. Rugs and Carpets
2 Kota Stone	2. Asphalt Tiles	10. Glass
3 Dholpuri Stone	3. Cork Tiles	11. Laminates
4 Marble	4. Vinyl Tiles	12. Brick
5 Sand Stone	5. Linoleum	13. Flagstone
6 Slate Stone	6. Rubber Tiles	14. Muram
7 Cuddapah Stone	7. Wood	15. Cement Concrete
	8. Terrazzo	

❖ **Purpose of Flooring for Interiors and Exteriors Areas**

S. No.	Purpose	Interior	Exterior
1.	Structural	Lime stone, Kota stone, Plain cement concrete	Kota stone, Flagstone, Cement concrete, Sandstone
2.	Aesthetics	Marble, Mosaic, Ceramic, Granite, Coloured Concrete, Terrazzo, Wood, Rubber, Rugs and carpet	Sandstone, Flagstone, Mosaic, Pebbles, Slate, Quarry, Terracotta, Wood, Rugs and carpet
3.	Ease of Maintenance	Vitrified tiles, Ceramic, Terrazzo, Vinyl, Asphalt, Cork, Granite, PVC, Wood	Ceramic, Wood, Vitrified, Non-Vitrified tile, Granite

4.	Strength / Durability	Granite, Slate, Marble, Vitrified Tiles, Wood, Vinyl, PVC, Rubber, Linoleum	Granite, Quarry, Bricks, Terracotta, Wood
5.	Moisture Resistance	Slate, Pebbles, Kota stone, Ceramic, Vitrified tiles, Rubber, Vinyl, Asphalt	Kota stone, Ceramic , Pebbles, Slate
6.	Safety (slip and fire resistance anti-hazard)/ Comfort	Kota stone, Limestone, Cork, Linoleum, Rugs and carpet	Kota stone, Tiles, Rugs and carpet
7.	Thermal Insulation	Rubber, Limestone, Flagstone, Rugs and carpet, Wood, cork	Wood, Rubber, Limestone, Flagstone
8.	Sound absorption	Rubber, Linoleum, Asphalt, Rugs and carpet	Rubber tiles, Rugs and carpet
9.	Light reflection	Marble, Vitrified tiles	Marble, Vitrified tiles
10.	Weather resistance	Brick	Brick and stones
11.	Damage resistance to abrasion, chemicals and stains	Granite, Rubber, Ceramic, Wood	Granite, Ceramic, Wood
12.	Cost effective	Kota stone, Brick, Ceramic, Vitrified tiles, Plain cement concrete, PVC, Linoleum	Brick, Terracotta, Plain cement concrete,
13.	Concealed effects	Linoleum, Rubber, Cork, Asphalt, Vinyl, Rugs and carpet	Rubber, Rugs and carpet

Finishing works applied to various surfaces of the building is the final stage of construction. These finishes help to correct or mask the architectural defects. This feature in building construction creates a charm to both the interiors and exteriors. Depending on its execution, finishes enhance the overall visual design of the structure. The decorative details given to the surface in the present era can be a dramatic change to the edifice.