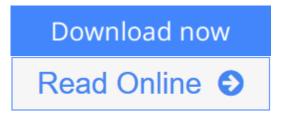


Designing Your Perfect House

By William J. Hirsch Jr. AIA



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Designing Your Perfect House:Lessons from an Architect is the ideal guidebook for navigating the often mystifying process of house design and building. It's full of sage advice from a master architect about how to design the perfect house for you.Presented in twelve understandable lessons, this book moves from wonderful concepts to a finished dream home. Beginning with an exploration of the philosophy of design, the grammar of architecture, the creation of space, and discussions of how to make spaces be appropriate and gratifying for the people living in them, the lessons explore issues of scale, daylight, how to make a house feel like a home, unifying a design, flow, and proportions. This book answers questions like: How do I get started? How do I select a building site? What kind of house can I afford with my budget? How do I make my dream house just right for me? Other topics include: site analysis and selection, programming, schematic design, style, room relationships, budget, working with professionals, methods of contracting, and more. Numerous color photos and drawings illustrate the book's major points



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Editorial Review

Review

"This is such a good book! I've seen many while trying to create homes for prospects, but not one as detailed and user-friendly as "**Designing** *Your* **Perfect House**". Hirsch certainly is providing a guide for creating a house that becomes a home." Irene Watson, Readerviews.com

- "Color photos and drawings profusely illustrate Hirsch's major points. "Designing Your Perfect House: Lessons from an Architect" is not just another "How to" or "do it yourself" manual. It is an informed and informative guide through the whole process of taking your concepts and dreams and making them into a lovable, livable, home." "Recommended for anyone wishing to design their dream home." Midwest Book Review, Oregon, WI
- "We have been building custom homes for over thirty years, and this is the first time we have seen the design process so thoroughly explained and easily understood for prospective home owners (as well as builders). **Bill Hirsch**'s liberal use of illustrations, check lists and photgraphs aid in refining the reader's ideas and organizing the design process." July Malloy, Brightleaft Development Co, LLC
- "The decision to build a new home can be daunting for an amateur. Architect Hirsch takes one through the process form idea to completion. Drawing many examples from his own practice, he explains the process and philosophy of residential design as seen from a professional's view and discusses what to consider when creating one's dream home. Recommended" Library Journal

From the Author

As an architect, my job is not to impose a vision of what a house should be, instead, the architect is there to realize the client's unique vision. The consumer needs an advocate in the creative and building process, and the architect's role is to advocate the customer's desires and balance those with the realities of time, money, and energy. I hope that when you read this book, it will help you with the complex issues involved with residential design and construction. If you are remodeling, or just have an interest in home design, I expect that you will be able to find things of interest as well. Please let me know what you think!

From the Inside Flap

Designing Your Perfect House

A series of twelve "lessons" from a master architect, this book will show you how to move from wonderful concepts to a finished dream home. It begins with an exploration of the philosophy of design, the grammar of architecture, the creation of space, and discussions of how to make spaces be appropriate and gratifying for the people living in them. Subsequent discussions address such issues as symmetry and composition, flow, light, zoning and orientation. The final sections follow the process through site analysis and selection, programming, schematic design, style, room relationships, controlling the budget, and methods of contracting for the construction. Throughout, color photos and drawings illustrate the book's major points. If you are considering a custom home, then **Designing** *Your* **Perfect House: Lessons from an Architect** will be an invaluable tool for helping you to think through and participate in the whole design and building process. It will ensure that your expectations are realistic and that you understand how to work with an architect to achieve your perfect home.

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