



WHY HIRE AN ARCHITECT

ARCHITECTS HELP YOU:

Clarify and define your building needs.

Architects can fully examine your requirements, budget, and building site to help define the scope of what's to be built.

Look ahead.

Architects look beyond your immediate requirements to design flexible buildings that will adapt with the changing needs of your business or home.

Manage your project.

From site selection to move-in, Architects act as project leaders. They manage and coordinate key project elements.

Maximize your investment.

Architects are a wise investment of today's dollars for big savings tomorrow. A building designed for maximum energy efficiency can reduce bills now and down the road. Plus, efficient use of space can reduce the total square footage you require. And a well-designed building can reduce initial costs and also increase its long-term value.

See the big picture.

Architects don't just design four walls and a roof—they create total environments, both interior and exterior, that are pleasing and functional for the people who live and work within them.

Solve problems.

Most building projects start with a want or a need. "I need more space in my office." Or, "We've outgrown our house." But how does that need or want get translated into square feet and three-dimensional space?

That is what architects are trained to do, solve problems in creative ways. With their broad knowledge of design and construction, architects can show you alternatives and options you might never think of on your own.

(Excerpted from information provided by the American Institute of Architects)

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AN ARCHITECT CAN SAVE YOU MONEY:

The architect's services are a wise investment for the money, not an added cost to your project. Why?

Because a well-conceived project can be built more efficiently and economically.

Architects plan your projects with you. As your ideas evolve, changes can be made on paper much less expensively than later on when construction is underway. Thorough drawings also make it easier for the contractor to accurately price and build your project.

Because energy efficient buildings can save you money on fuel bills down the road.

An architect can design a building to maximize heating from the sun and let in natural light, thus reducing your heating, cooling and electric bills over time.

Because the architect can work with your budget and help you select the appropriate materials and workmanship at a fair price.

Architects develop the drawings and specifications to help you get bids for construction that are based on your requirements.

Because an architect can help you choose materials and finishes that are durable as well as beautiful, saving on frequent maintenance and replacement costs.

Architects work to stay abreast of advances in roofing, brick work, floor tiling, paint finishes, etc. Their familiarity with the full range of materials enables them to suggest the appropriate materials for your project.

Because good design sells.

A well-designed house has a higher resale value. A well-designed work environment attracts employees and increases productivity.

The architect can make your life easier.

Let's face it, building is a long process that is often messy and disruptive, particularly if you are living and working in the space under construction. The architect you hire looks out for your interests and tries to find ways to make that process go smoothly.

If your project requires engineering or other design services, the architect can coordinate this team of experts so you don't have to. The architect sorts out complex building codes and zoning laws. The architect can help you find qualified construction contractors based on your requirements. The architect visits the construction site to help verify that the project is being built according to plans and specifications.

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