



UDC 747-045.43

THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF INTERIOR DESIGN

Student A.O. Korniienko, gr. BDI3-15

Research supervisor O.V. Nazarenko

Kyiv National University of Technologies and Design

Interior design is all about how we experience spaces. It's a powerful, essential part of our daily lives and affects how we live, work, play, and even heal. Comfortable homes, functional workplaces, beautiful public spaces — that's interior design at work. Before the creating interior design, the designer must know and be able to apply the Principles of Interior Design. What is meant by "Principles of Interior Design"?

1. The Principles of interior design are the ways that designers use to create good Compositions (decoration/arrangements).
2. Design principles are ways of arranging or organizing design elements.
3. These principles evaluate each element in design.
4. The way the elements are arranged to create a feeling of stability in a work.

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the Principles of Interior Design and how it effects on creating interior design. The main Principles of Interior Design are Balance, Space, Focus/Emphasis, Rhythm and Unity.

The first principle is Balance. Balance in interior design refers to the proper distribution of objects in a room to create visual balance. Balance refers to the distribution of visual weight within a composition. Lack of balance disturbs the harmony of a composition? And a work that is unbalanced visually creates tension. Balance is created when there is equilibrium of elements that need each other and together they create Unity. There are three different kinds of balance: symmetrical (formal), asymmetrical (informal), radial.

The easiest way to achieve balance is by using the symmetrical or formal form, objects are repeated or mirrored along a central axis. It's when the space is evenly split into two sides that mirror each other. Symmetry is created by dividing a space and the elements within it equally. Symmetry can create order, formality, calmness and stillness.

Asymmetrical design is typically created with an odd number of disparate elements. Lines, colors, forms and textures are balanced in a space without duplication. The two sides of art work are not exactly the same, but are still visually balanced. Asymmetry can look informal, natural and energetic. A design effect in which elements on either side of an imaginary central line are unmatched but appear to be in balance. Asymmetrical balance makes for a more relaxed and lively interior space. This balance scheme uses a central line but relies more on the eye's sense of balance to complete the design. Rather than having identical objects on either side of the central axis, asymmetrically balanced spaces have different objects of equal visual weight on either side of the line. Asymmetry helps us stay interested. Asymmetrical interiors tend to feel more dynamic and less rigid because in these spaces a variety of objects types are working together to create balance. This form of balance can be more difficult to achieve because it often requires an "eye for design".

When there is a central focal point with other elements radiating from it or around it, this is radial balance. Radial balance is almost circular – distributed arrangement of items around a central point either extending outward or inward. You see radial balance less often in traditional homes; round rooms are difficult to link to other spaces. But the result can be stunning. The central elements of a radially balanced room — like the dining table and light fixture in this dining space — become the immediate focal points. The chairs, sculpture and print all radiate out from this central point.



The second principle of Interior Design is Space. Space is the area in and around something. Designing involves arranging design elements in space. The distance is the area between, around, above, below or within things. Three-dimensional designs have: form, length, width, height and occupy space.

The next principle is Focus and Emphasis. Accent, stress, or importance placed on a part of a piece of artwork. Focus is used to center attention and can be created by contrasting elements that attract attention. Emphasis is something we all know about. It simply means that every room or space has a focal point, whether it is architectural or an object. A fireplace is the most common architectural focal point. Oversized artwork or a large piece of furniture can also be a focal point in a room. Interior design elements like color, texture and form are used to add emphasis to a focal point. If you refaced your fireplace with bronze glass tiles, you have used color and texture to create emphasis.

The design principle of Rhythm that suggests connected movement between different parts of design by using colors, lines, forms, or textures also referred to as continuity. Rhythm is visual flow: the eye should be able to 'flow' smoothly across the room. Regular repetition of lines, shapes, or colors creates a movement. Patterns have rhythm. Rhythm refers to a way of utilizing the art elements to produce the look and feel of rhythmic movement with a visual tempo or beat. Rhythm is a feeling of structured movement created by the repetition of elements. Repeated elements and the spaces between them make patterns that we experience as rhythm. This helps to give a composition visual harmony by creating unity in a layout. Rhythm can be accomplished through the following means: repetition, alternation, progression.

Repetition is the repeated use of certain objects or physical attributes of decor elements. Repetition is the simplest way to attain rhythm and can be achieved by repeating any of the elements of design (line, color, texture and pattern, light, and scale and proportion) or other design concepts in an organized and regular way.

Alternation is used to create rhythm by alternating two or more elements in a regular pattern. Interior design elements placed according to size from smaller to bigger ones, or perhaps according to the gradient of their colors. Rhythm can also be achieved through progression. Examples are a gradation of color or a series of objects that start small and become large in a very regular manner.

The principle of Unity is achieved when all of the different elements in a design work together to create a unified whole. Designers use unity to make elements in a composition appear to belong together. When each element has a clear visual relationship to one or more other elements, the composition is unified. All parts of work of art are interrelated, balanced, and organized to achieve a quality of oneness. A unified design is greater than the sum of its parts; the design is seen as a whole first, before the individual elements are noticed. Unity can be compared to harmony, integrity or wholeness. When unity is achieved, a composition does not become cluttered or confusing; a concept can be communicated more clearly; a design evokes a sense of quality and organization. Some of the ways to achieve unity include alignment, similarity, proximity, repetition, continuation and overlapping.

Thus, all principles play an important role in creation of interior design. When you know the basic interior design principles you can transform any space to look fabulous. You know what it feels like when you walk into a well-designed room. You can sense how everything feels cohesive and put together. You can achieve that effect in your own home with knowledge of basic design principles. Pair that knowledge with practice and experimentation and you're on your way to creating a beautiful home.