



## Three Reasons To Use An Architect

*Compiled by the American Institute of Architects.*

### **Architects save money.**

An architect's services are a wise investment because a well-conceived and designed project can be built more efficiently and economically. As ideas evolve, changes can be made on a computer screen or paper much less expensively than when construction is under way. Other ways architect-designed projects save money include:

- Designs that take full advantage of solar heat and natural lighting to save on energy needs.
- Flexible design solutions that accommodate future growth and usage needs.
- Accurate construction costs based on detailed drawings and specifications that result in quality materials and workmanship at a fair market price.
- Materials, finishes, and design solutions that reduce maintenance and replacement costs.
- Homes that sell faster and increase in value at resale.

### **Architects solve problems.**

The architect is the one professional who has the education, training, experience, and vision to guide the design and construction process. This broad knowledge helps architects focus individual home owners' needs to maximize their investment in livable square footage on time and within budget. Architects stay abreast of advances in roofing,

brickwork, floor tile, paint finishes, and other building materials to ensure a smooth and cost-effective building process.

### **Architects see the big picture.**

Few people realize how complicated it is to build until they find themselves lost in a maze of design options, building codes, zoning laws, and contractors. Architects don't just design four walls and a roof; they create total environments, interiors and exteriors that satisfy specific needs and functions. If a project requires engineering or other construction services, an architect can coordinate the team of experts. An architect sorts out complex building codes and zoning laws and can locate qualified contractors, visiting the construction site to ensure that the project is built according to plans and specifications.

### **For more information, contact your local AIA member:**

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