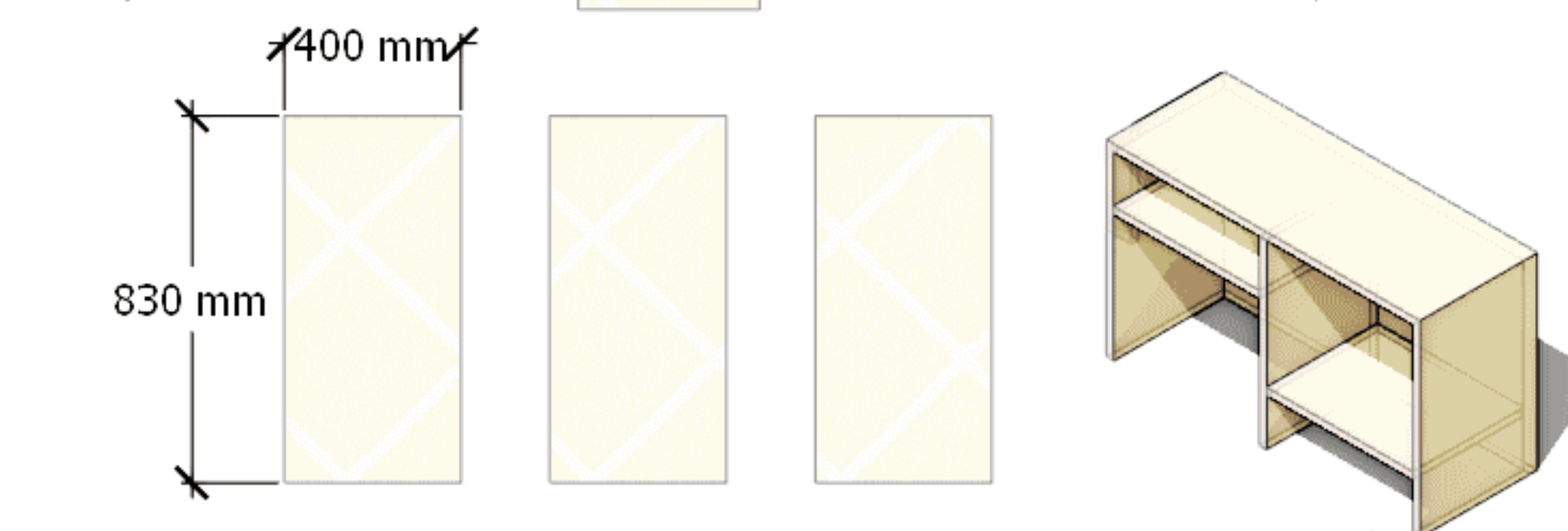
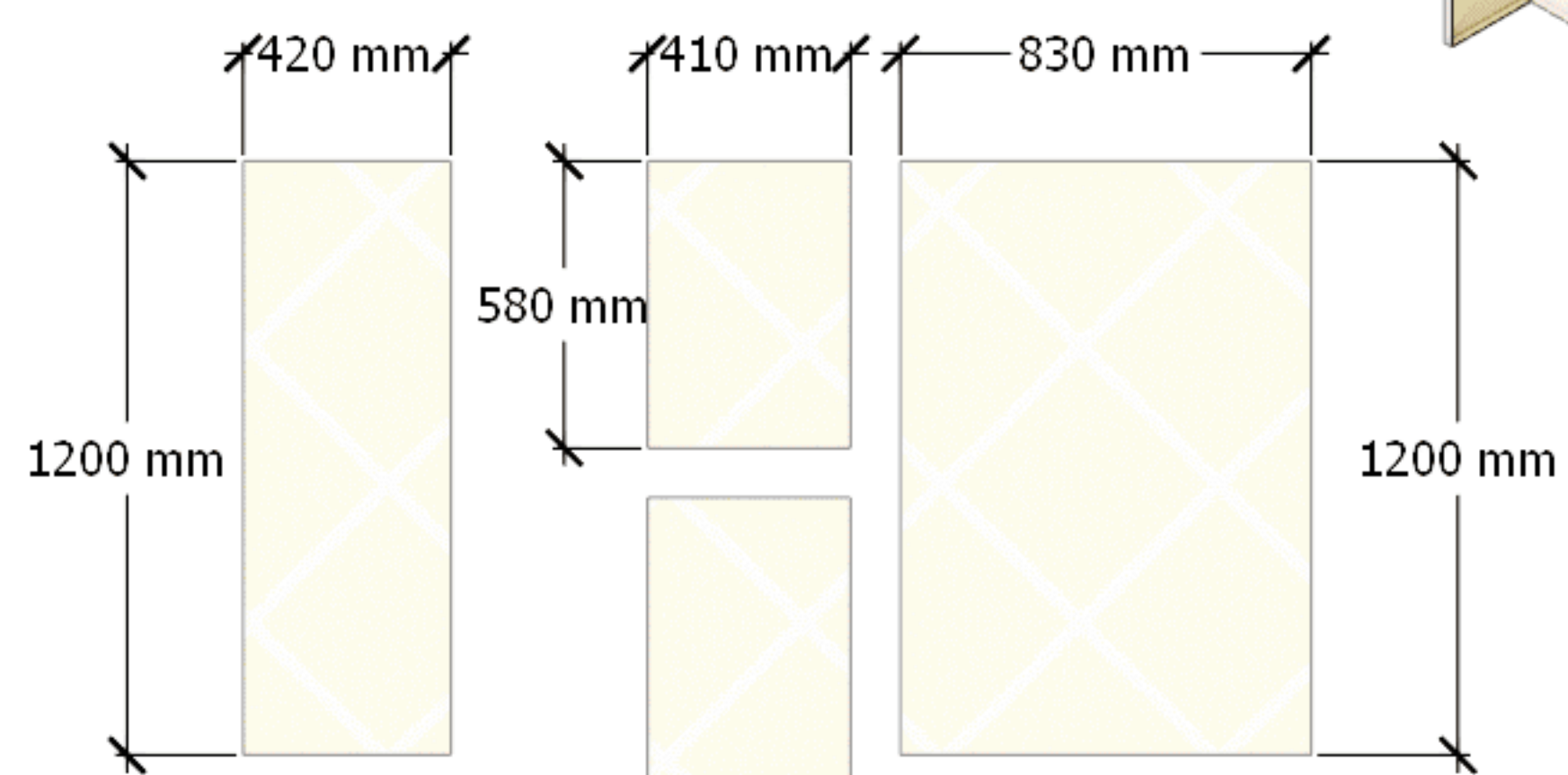
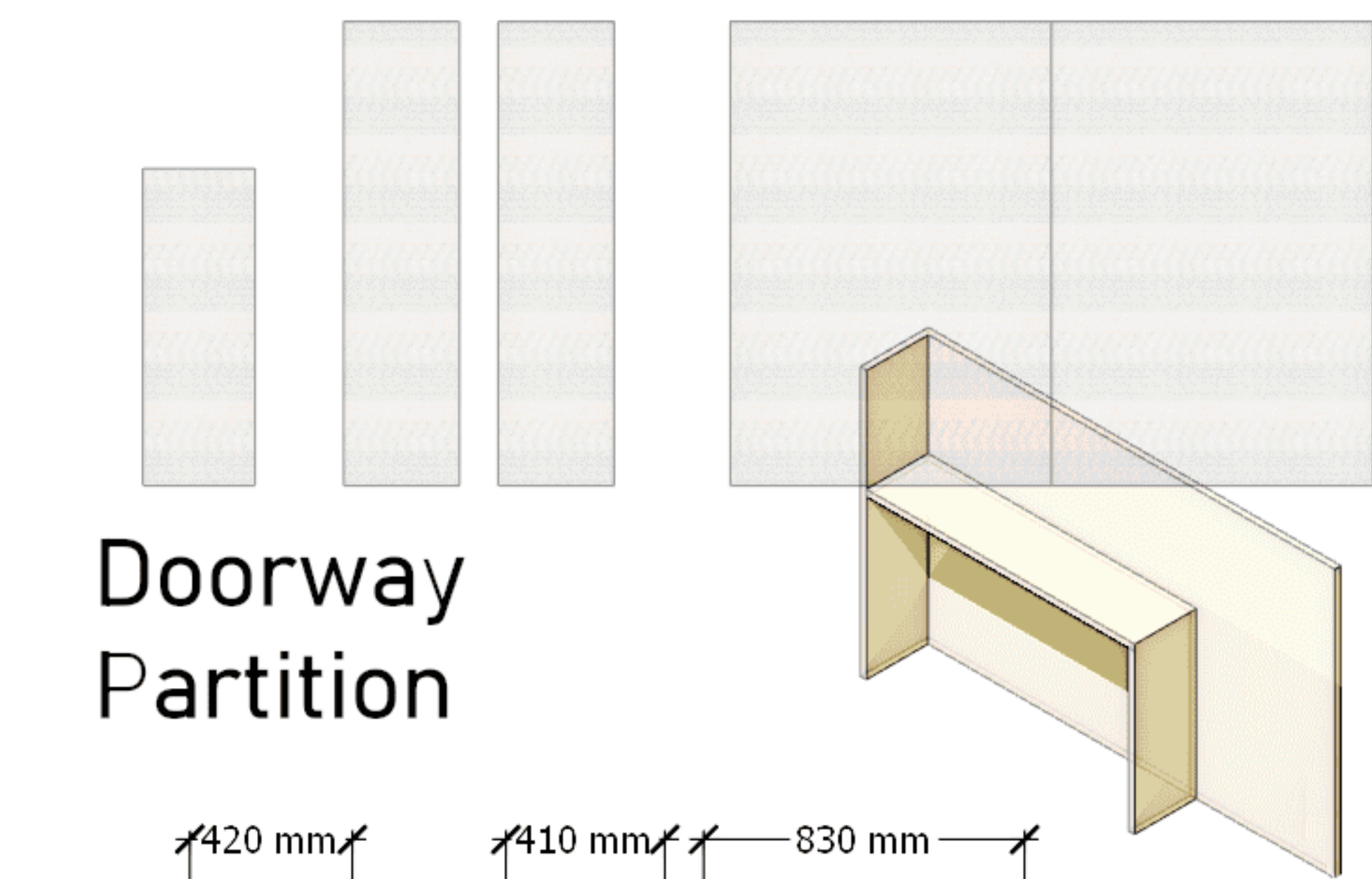
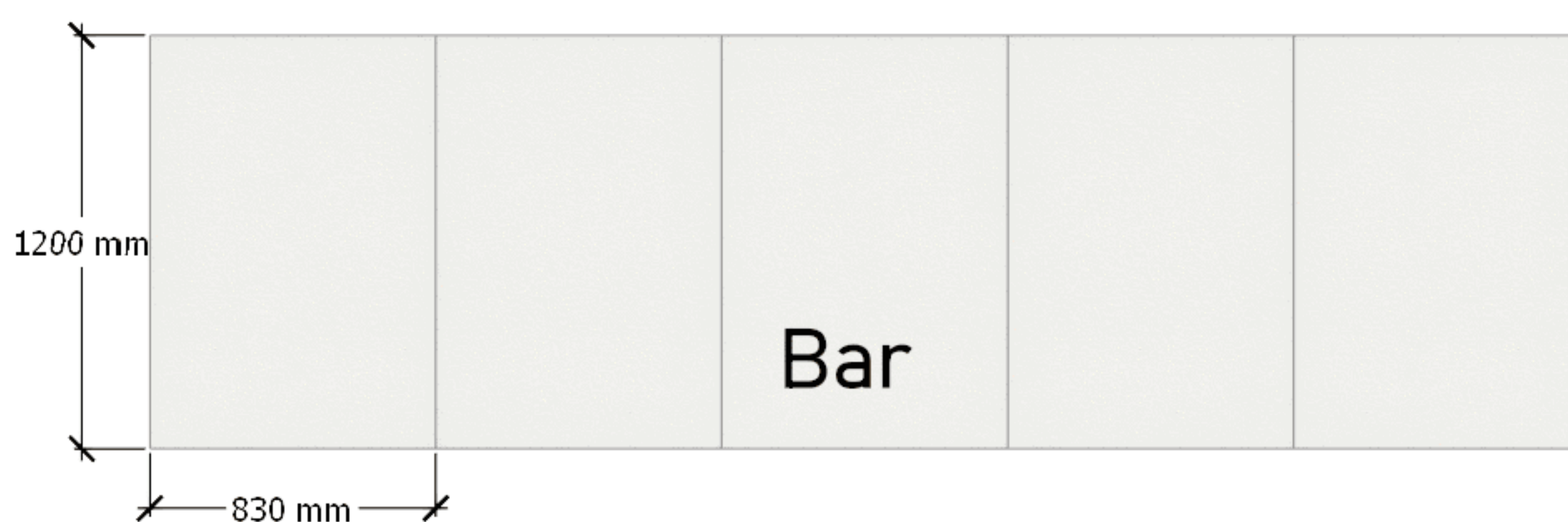
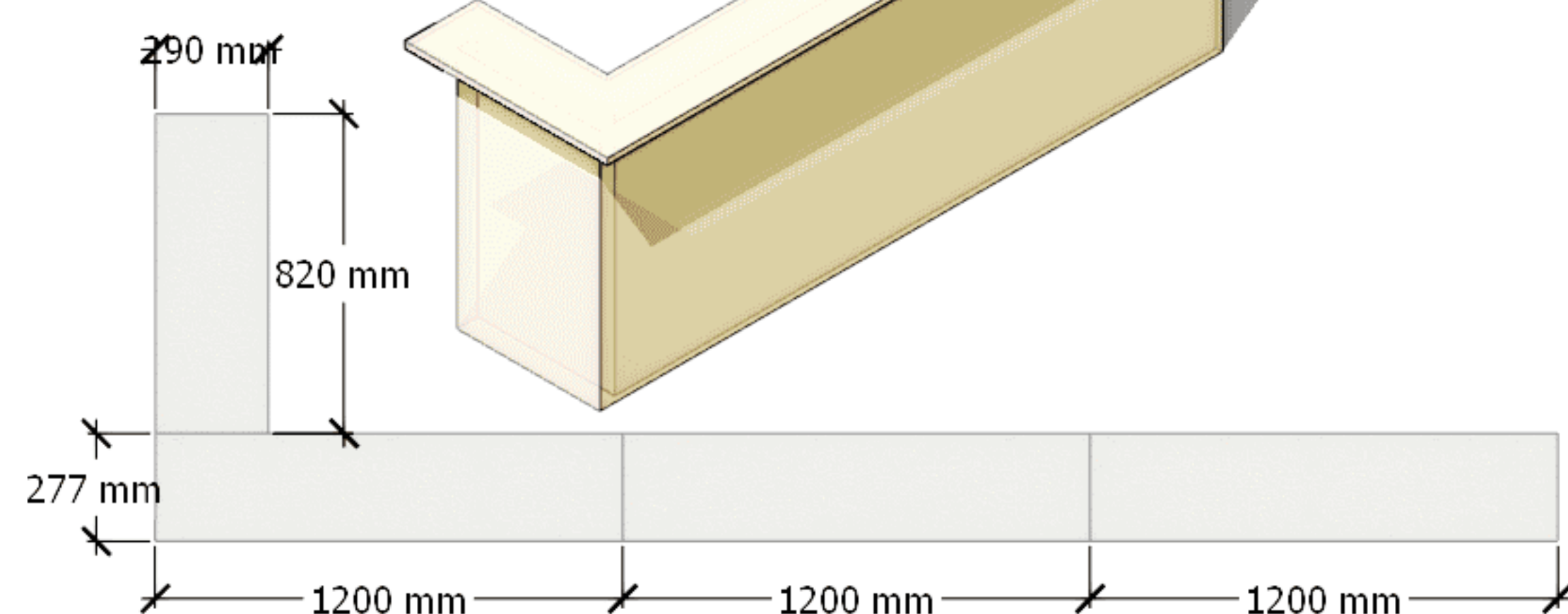


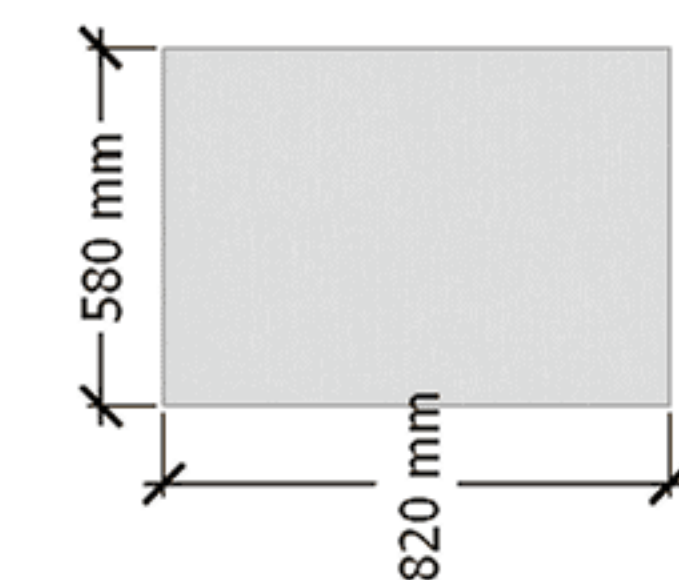
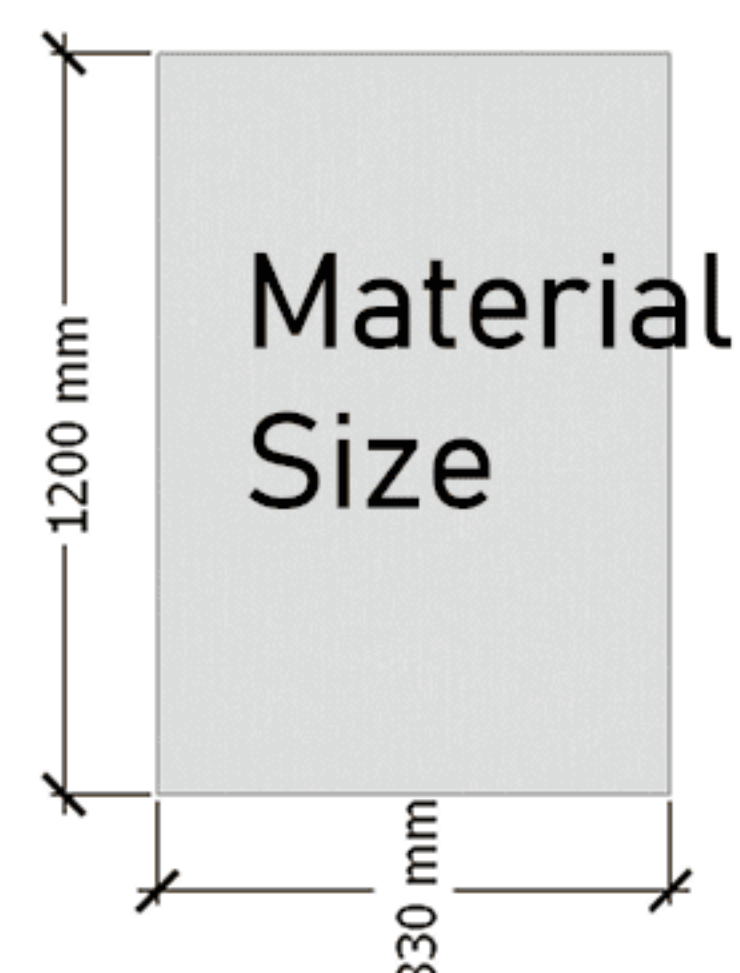
Doorway Partition



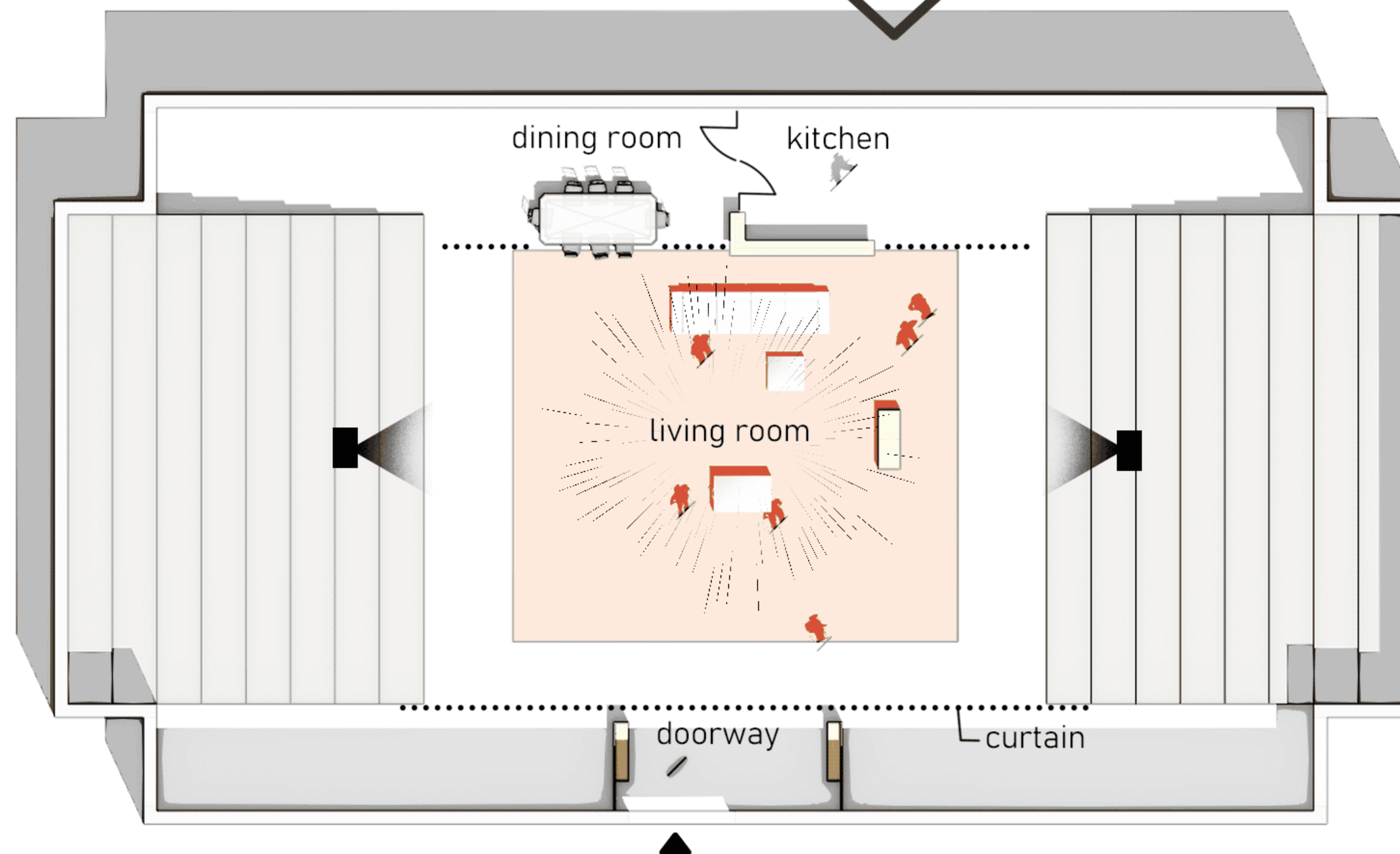
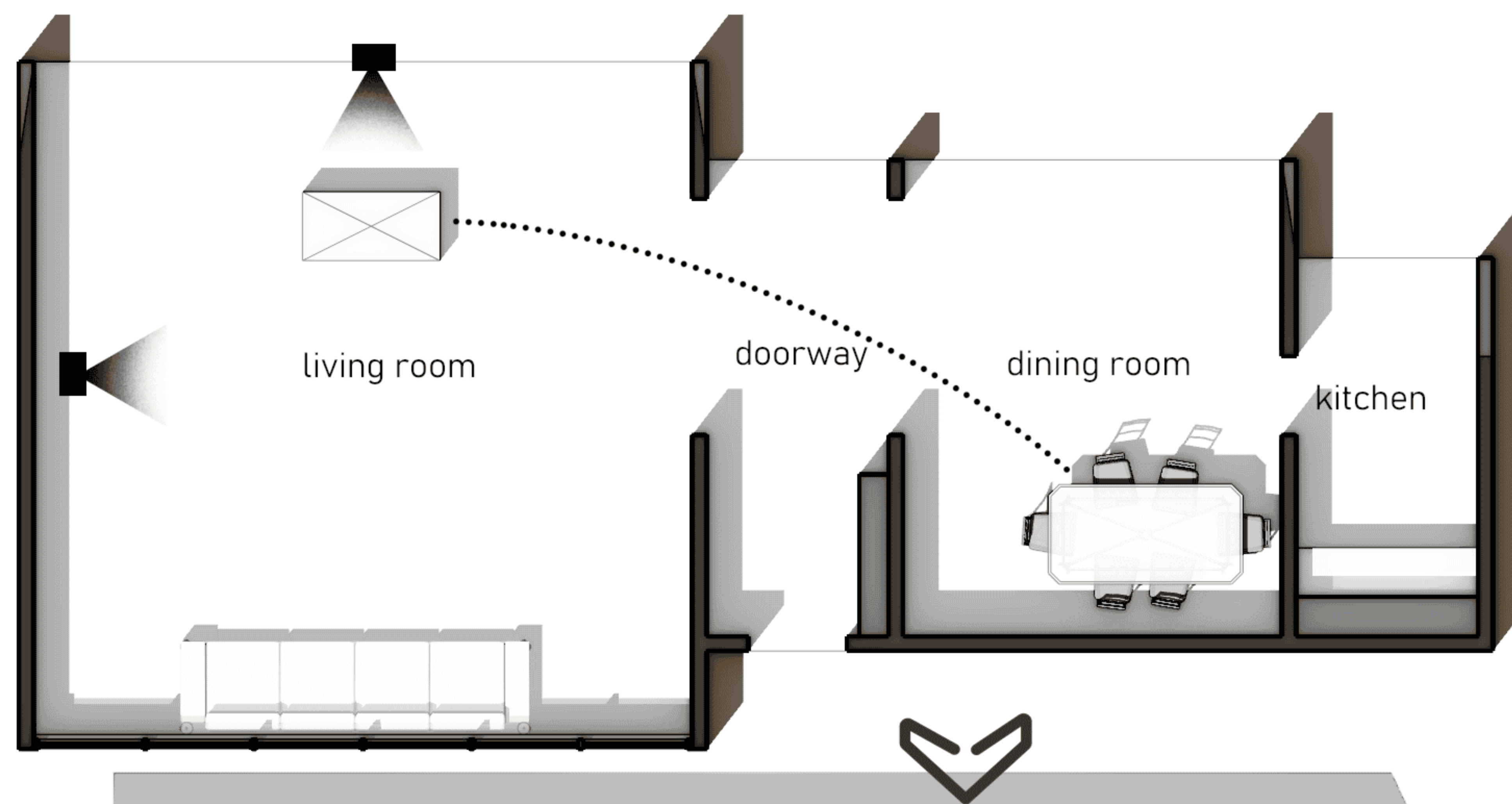
Sideboard



Bar



Material Size



In Rehearsal, props finished.



Performance due December 15, 2023

Thinking from Film to Stage adaptation:

How to adapt the classic designs that need to be preserved in the newly completed university YIJIA Building stage?

Contrast between the site and the audience's sight line:

Original movie:

Living Room - Foyer - Dining room - Kitchen
The audiences' viewing Angle often exists within the 90 degrees shown below, providing a viewing experience similar to that of a stage play, where the audience perceives the scene like a stage without a fourth wall.

YIJIA stage:

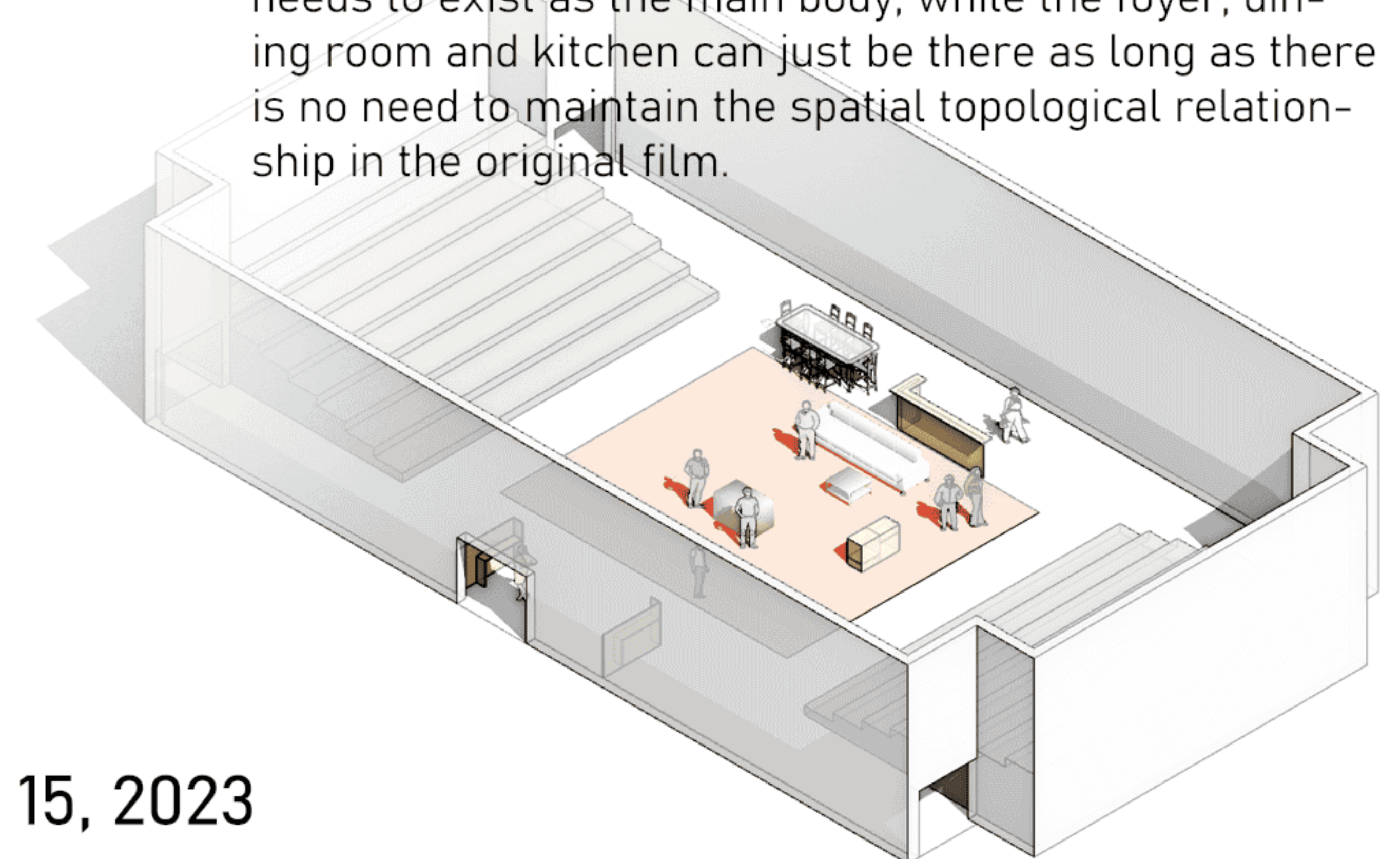
On the two ends are stepped auditorium, and by the side of the auditorium are small activity areas (only for the relevant personnel, not as performance venue) and 4 evacuation doors. Slightly off the center, a double door serves as the main entrance.

The stage is symmetrical, and the audience watches from opposite directions at the same time, which may require everything in the site to be arranged symmetrically, which is difficult for the design.

The crew's budget was only 2,000 RMB, which was very tight for a scene with a large number of props.

Preliminary analysis of the solution:

The main event of the play takes place in the living room. The foyer serves as a place for guests to enter and leave, but the story seldomly takes place here and has little to do with the nature of the "foyer" itself. The dining room and kitchen serve the plot of "transferring items on the table" and provide storage space out of the audiences' sight. To sum up, the living room needs to exist as the main body, while the foyer, dining room and kitchen can just be there as long as there is no need to maintain the spatial topological relationship in the original film.



The Stage Adapts to Film: Rope - Alfred Hitchcock

Stage planning

The central section directly opposite the auditorium serves as the **living room**. The eye of the whole play, the bookcase, is placed in the center of the stage. The remaining strip areas on both sides serve as auxiliary Spaces.

One side with double doors is the **entrance hall**, and the entrance door serves as the door of the house where "guests" appear. The door will be decorated to enhance audience participation. This part needs to be simply enclosed to create a sense of privacy when the characters whisper.

Curtain: at the boundary as shown in the picture, continuing its role in suggesting the opening and closing of scenes in the original film. The symbolic meaning is greater than the actual effect.

The strip on the other side is split down in the middle to house a kitchen and a dining room.

* A classic scene in the movie: When Brandon hides the rope in the drawer, the kitchen door rotates and echoes, contrasting Brandon's pride and mastery inside the door with the ignorance of Mrs.Wilson outside, which is very ironic.

This shot is possible because the kitchen and dining room have a lengthways relationship from the viewer's point of view. But whether the two sides are inside or outside the door makes no difference. Therefore, the space arrangement as shown in the picture can still maintain the effect of the original film and let the audience on both sides have the same experience simultaneously.



As a large prop, the sofa is also an important place where the story takes place. It is arranged at the intersection of the living room and the kitchen, emphasizing the space division and reducing the difficulty of making separate structures.

* All of the partition structures mentioned above: 1.2m high KT board (with wallpaper) allowing both sides of the audience to see the upper body movements and expressions of the characters in it.

Intro

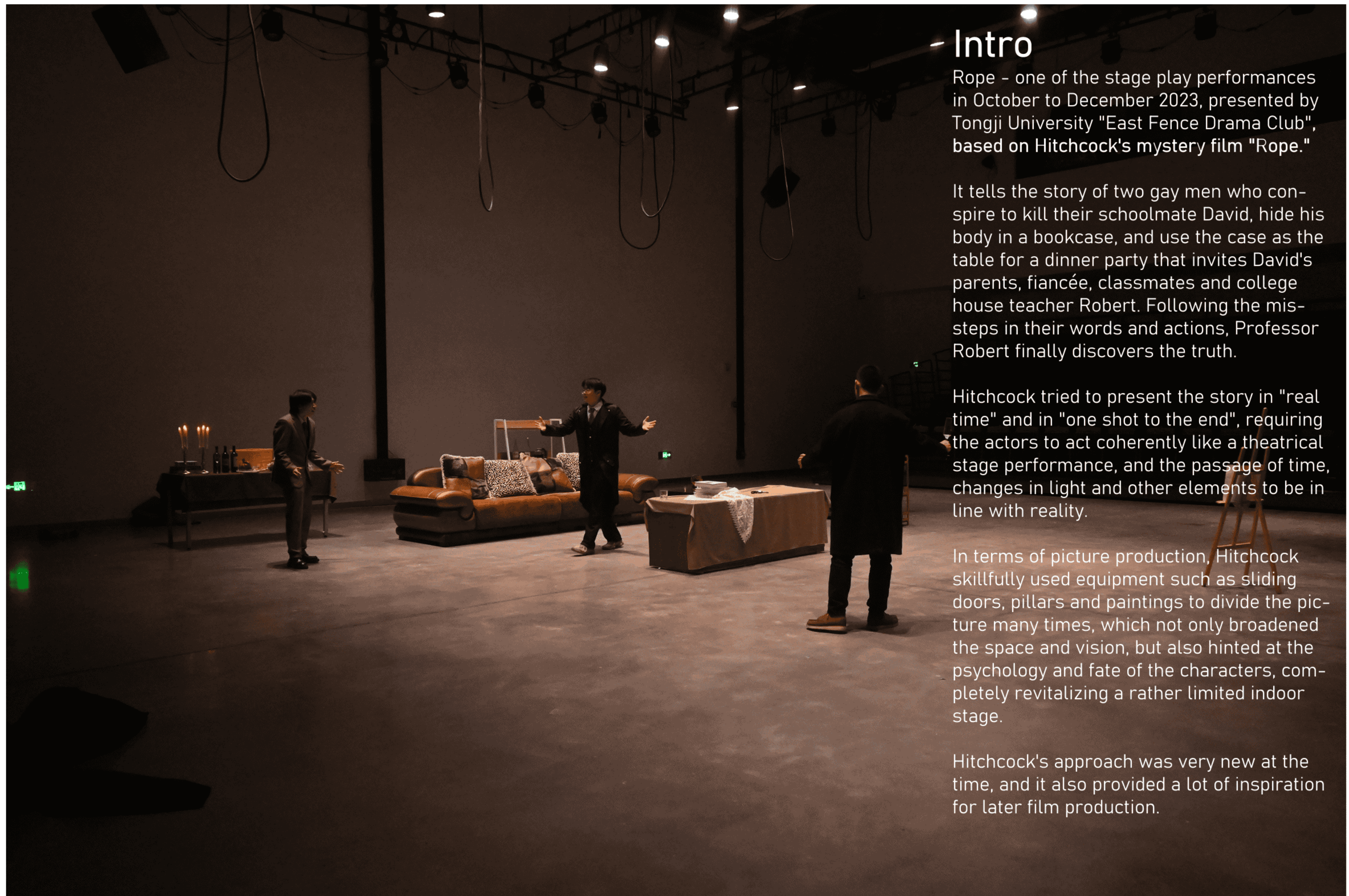
Rope - one of the stage play performances in October to December 2023, presented by Tongji University "East Fence Drama Club", based on Hitchcock's mystery film "Rope."

It tells the story of two gay men who conspire to kill their schoolmate David, hide his body in a bookcase, and use the case as the table for a dinner party that invites David's parents, fiancée, classmates and college house teacher Robert. Following the missteps in their words and actions, Professor Robert finally discovers the truth.

Hitchcock tried to present the story in "real time" and in "one shot to the end", requiring the actors to act coherently like a theatrical stage performance, and the passage of time, changes in light and other elements to be in line with reality.

In terms of picture production, Hitchcock skillfully used equipment such as sliding doors, pillars and paintings to divide the picture many times, which not only broadened the space and vision, but also hinted at the psychology and fate of the characters, completely revitalizing a rather limited indoor stage.

Hitchcock's approach was very new at the time, and it also provided a lot of inspiration for later film production.



The Stage Adapts to Film: Rope - Alfred Hitchcock