



INTERIOR DESIGN

Interior Design Defined
Design, in general, is a way of making sense of things people see, interact with, or perceive in their environments. Through design, professionals try to make environments better, safer, healthier, more effective, and understandable. When design moves into the interior—a space enclosed by walls, ceilings, and floors with such openings as windows and doors—it often reflects how people work and live in their spaces. An interior space, a volume within an enclosure, is a location where life takes place. These places often have unique characteristics depending on their function, the people living in or using them, and the construction of the building itself. For the purpose of this text, the following definition

design is an applied, practical, and functional art that addresses serious human problems. Such problems include living well with chronic illness, as well as ordinary, everyday needs such as more storage in a bedroom. People often undervalue the artistic nature of interior design for the primary reason that it is difficult to measure beauty and its impact. Therefore, it is difficult to explain and sell to potential clients. It is much easier to applaud efficiencies and productivity than it is to sell aesthetics. It is the art of interior design, however, that ensures beauty in a space, and elicits the human response—often touching the human heart, Figure 1-1. Interior design as a business is similar to such professional services as medicine or dentistry. When a client leaves the interior designer's office, however, often the product a client buys is intangible (abstract). It is a creative idea rather than