

Star Wars (2005)

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1The image I selected is of Coruscant, the capitol world of the Star Wars galaxy. It is a planet-wide city that serves as the cultural center of the Star Wars world.

3) The setting is not an individual building or structure, but rather a mass of countless different buildings of varying styles. The general aesthetic of the city is futuristic, cluttered, grandiose, and a little bit dystopian. It is composed of skyscrapers scattered around, large domes, and small grids of tightly packed smaller buildings. The architectural styles can best be generalized as a mix of futuristic, modern, and brutalist. The large domes stand out, and the closest parallel I can draw to today's society is stadiums or venues (think the Tacoma dome). The skyscrapers seem to hint towards corporate offices or apartments. There are lines/pathways between the tightly packed buildings at the lower levels, seemingly representing streets or walkways. The materials seem to be non-colorful metals and concrete. Cinematically, the scene is well lit, and the camera angle naturally draws attention towards the horizon/skyline, which seems to be endless. However, the light comes from the sky and casts long shadows, that cover entire regions. Overall, the image emits feelings of awe, sophistication, and authority.

4) *Coruscant* serves as the ultimate parable to modern society. The vertical layout of the city is symbolic of the classism system that plagues its residents; the rich and powerful reside in tall, clean skyscrapers, while the poor are condemned to the crowded, dark underworld. This is apparent in the image: the skyscrapers are few and far between compared to the buildings at the bottom level, and many of the lower-level buildings are cast into shadow by taller ones. The buildings use a mix of futurism and brutalism to appear advanced, but under closer inspection, many of the buildings are worn and the dull color palette contributes to a sense of age and wear. This aligns with what the movie describes Coruscant as – a grand city symbolizing the height of civilization but also the depths of corruption. In the movie, we get to look at what life is like on Coruscant: the rich live lavishly, with guards, servants, and high-rises, while the poor must fend for themselves in a crime ridden underworld where the only order is provided by crime syndicates. Based on the image, viewers can quickly discern where they would want to live and where they wouldn't.