

# Understanding building planning

COMMUNICATION

LEVEL  
Intermediate

NUMBER  
EN\_BE\_2545X

LANGUAGE  
English

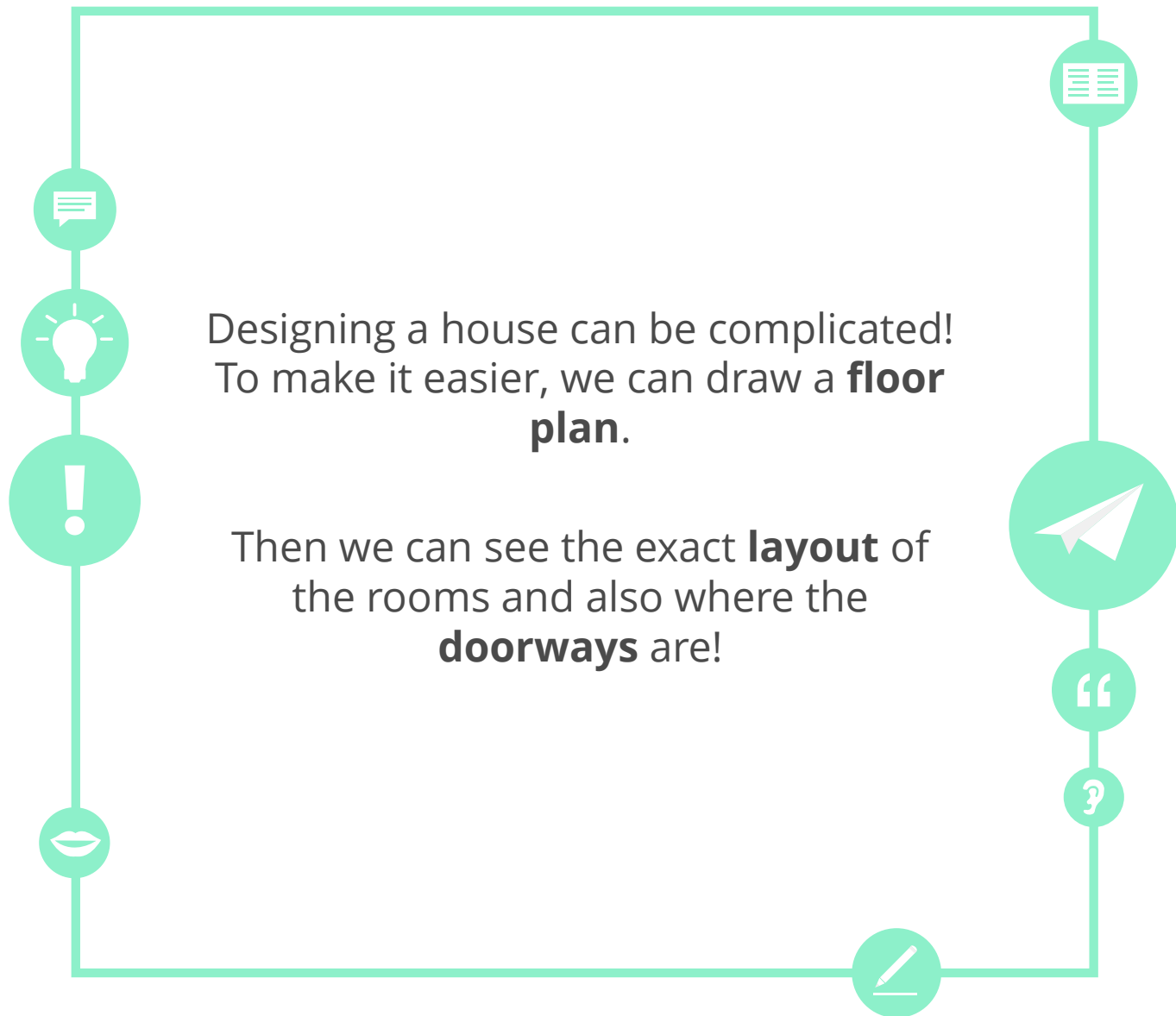




## Goals

- Can discuss how to plan the design of a building.
- Can correctly describe materials used in construction.







## Preview

In this lesson, you will practise talking about the **planning of the design** of a house or building.



First of all, let's review vocabulary related to the house.



## Vocabulary review

kitchen

bedroom

veranda

bathroom

windows

upstairs

chimney



downstairs



## Vocabulary review

**wood**

**stone**

**durable**

**brick**

**strong**

**concrete**

**dense**

**glass**

**fragile**



**insulating**



## Sentences slide review



The floors in our **kitchen** are made of **wood** as it's so **strong**.

Our walls are made of **stone** which is not very **insulating**. It gets cold!



The **windows** are made of **glass** which is quite **fragile**, they can break!

Their fireplace is made of **brick**, it's so beautiful!





## Sentences slide review



**Concrete** is very **durable**, it lasts forever!

We need a **dense** material to put on the floor of the **bathroom**.



My bedroom is **upstairs**.

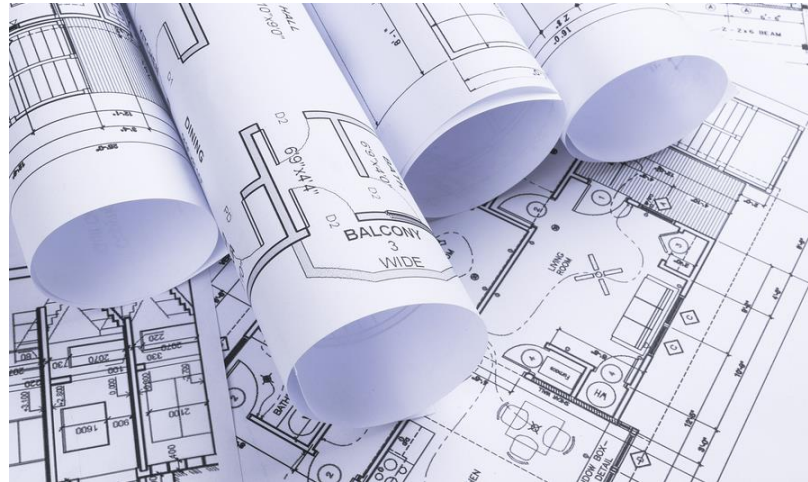
I left my keys **downstairs**.





## a floor plan

The **floor plan** is a drawing of the house from above, showing all the rooms.



On the **floor plan**, the kitchen is next to the lounge.

## layout

The **layout** of a house tells you which rooms are next to each other.



Our home has an open **layout**.

## levels

**Levels** are different floors in a building.



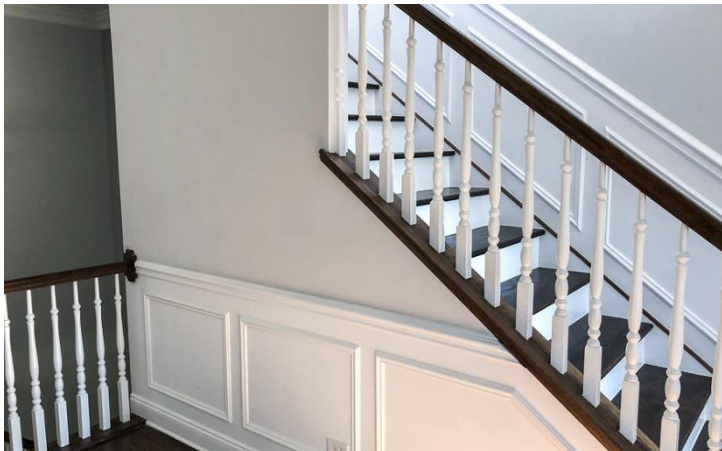
Our kitchen is on the first **level**



## New words

stairways

The house will have a **stairway** up to the bedrooms on the first floor.



doorways

You can enter the living room through two separate **doorways**.





## Sentences slide review



We were excited to move in after seeing the **floor plan**.

The **layout** of the house is very well designed.



I walk up the **stairway** and then go through the **doorway** to my bedroom.

My home has three **levels**.





## Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps below using the words in the boxes.

levels

floor plan

stairway

doorway

layout

1. This house has a strange \_\_\_\_\_, the kitchen is upstairs!
2. A duplex is divided across two \_\_\_\_\_ an upstairs and downstairs.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ is very clear, I can see where each room is.
4. If you go down the \_\_\_\_\_, you reach the basement.
5. You can walk out to the veranda through this \_\_\_\_\_.





## Discuss

Answer the following questions as a group.



What is the layout of your home?

How do you like this layout?

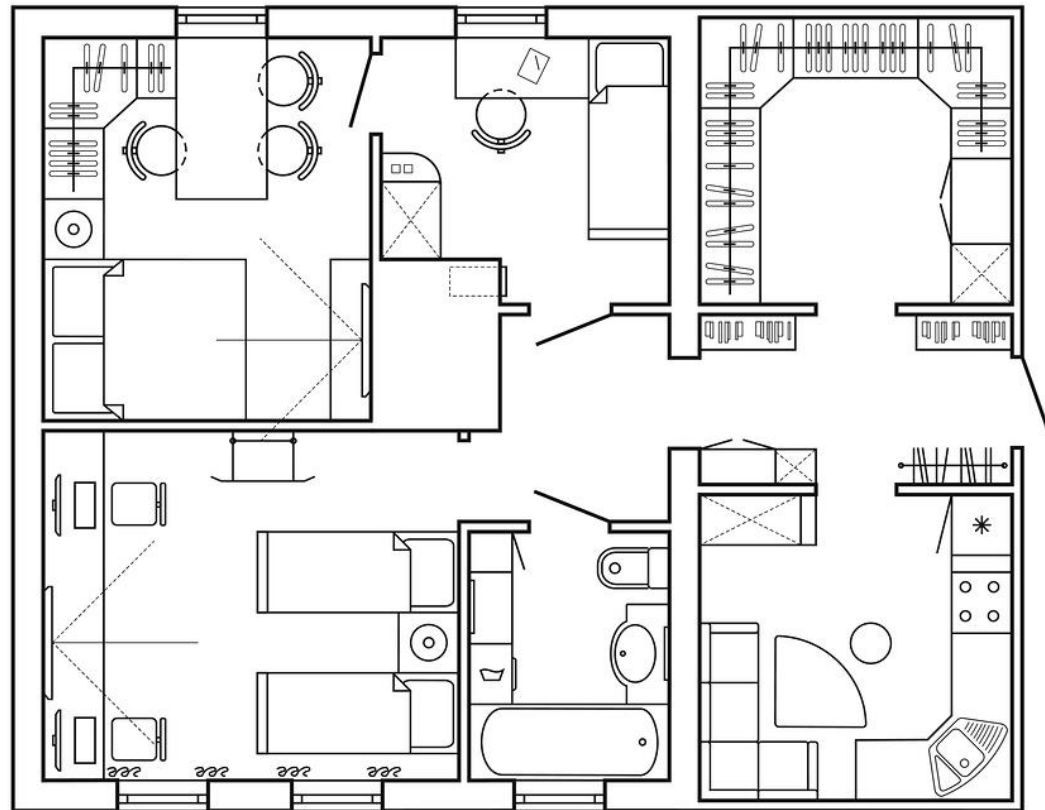
How many levels does your office building have?

Can you give a simple floor plan of your office?



## Look at this floor plan

Imagine you are an architect and have to explain it to your clients.







## Write an email

**Now drop your clients a quick email with a summary of their house's layout. Remember to keep it brief!**

The image shows a simplified email client interface. At the top right, there are three window control buttons: a minus sign, a square, and a red 'X' button. Below these, there are two input fields. The first is labeled 'To:' and contains the text 'David@mail.com'. The second is labeled 'Subject:' and contains the text 'My new home'. Below these fields is a large rectangular area for the email body, which contains several horizontal lines representing text input.



## The infinitive of purpose

- Remember, we use the **infinitive of purpose** to express a **reason** for doing something.
- We can use ***to***, ***in order to*** or ***so as to***

■ I will buy some paint to add some colour to the walls.

■ We will build a stairway in order to connect the two levels together.

■ He will clear this forest so as to have land for building.



## The infinitive of purpose

- Here are some more examples:



We have high ceilings **in order to** make the rooms feel larger.

Let's look at the floor plan **so as to** understand the layout.



Climb the stairway **to** get to the bedroom.



## Describe the purpose

Use the *infinitive of purpose* to express the use of these parts of the home.

chimney

stairway

levels

doorway



## Dialogue



Hi Jack, I wanted to discuss some changes I've made to the floor plan.

Well, we've moved the bathroom upstairs so as to make it closer to the two bedrooms.

Yes! We've added two more windows to increase light!

Ah yes, go right ahead.

Sounds good to me, what about the ground level? Any changes?



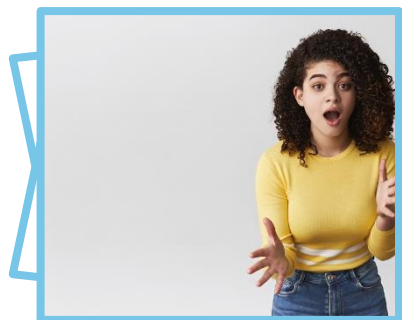
## Explain the changes

**You're an architect and you've made some changes to these clients' floor plans. Choose one and write some notes to explain the changes and why you made them.**

Added a veranda and swimming pool.



**John**



**Kirsty**

Increased the size of the kitchen.

Changed from two levels to one.



**Phil**



**Debbie**

Removed a bedroom.



## Role play

**Now act out the conversation between you, the architect, and the client. Your teacher will play the role of the client. Be sure to convince them your changes are a good idea!**

So, we've decided to make some changes to the floor plan...



Oh, really? What are they?

**Student A:**  
**You are the architect**

**Teacher:**  
**You are the client**



## Write about design

**Make some notes about how the style, design and materials of homes could be different in the following places. Then share your ideas with the group.**

In a country with extremely hot summers.

In an eco-friendly village.

In a city with a high population

A spiral-bound notebook with lined pages. The pages are white with light blue horizontal ruling. There are faint circular icons on the pages, including a play button, a document, and a checkmark. The notebook is shown from a slightly elevated angle, with the spiral binding visible on the left side.





## My dream home!

- Think about your dream home.
- Describe it to the group.
- Use the notes at the bottom to help you.



How many levels does it have?

Describe the floor plan and layout.

How would you decorate it?

Where would you build it?



## Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

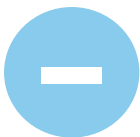
no





## Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.  
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over  
the most difficult slides again



## Answer key

- Exercise 1, p.14**
1. layout
  2. levels
  3. floor plan
  4. stairway
  5. doorway





## Describe

A

I walk up the \_\_\_\_\_ to get to the second level.

B

His office is through the second \_\_\_\_\_ on your right.

C

I can see the \_\_\_\_\_ of my home on the floor plan.

D

I design and build homes for my customers. I am an \_\_\_\_\_.

1. doorway

2. architect

3. stairway

4. layout



## Write an e-mail

**Write an e-mail to your friend explaining how you decorated your bedroom. Remember to use discourse markers to describe the process in order.**

- □ ×

To: jennifer@lingodafriend.com

Subject: Decoration

Hi Jennifer!



## Homework answer key

**Exercise 1, p.30**

- 1. B
- 2. D
- 3. A
- 4. C





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