

HAWORTH®

AFFORDANCES

THE WORKER / WORKPLACE RELATIONSHIP

AFFORDANCE • (noun)

The characteristics of an object or space that encourages a particular behavior, or—put more simply—the opportunity for action.

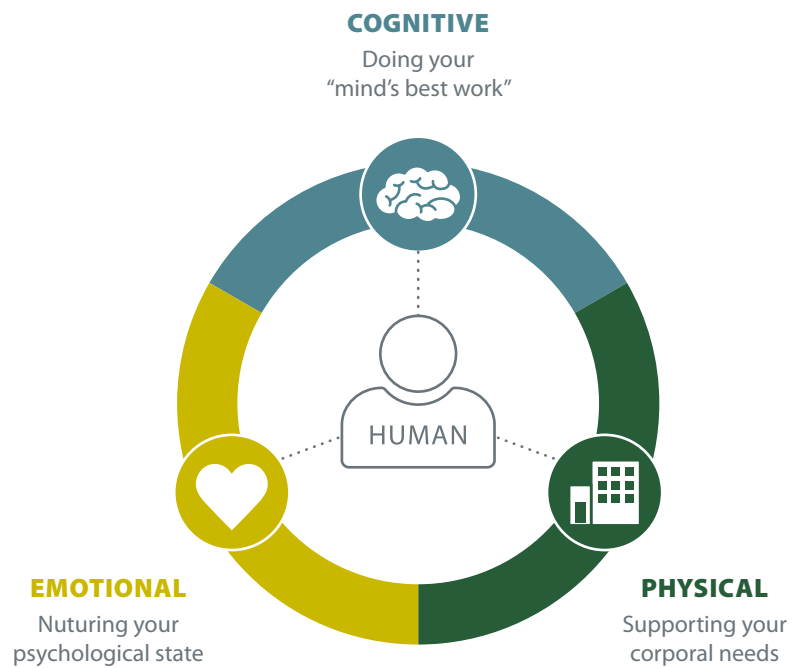
WHY AFFORDANCES MATTER

A workspace is much more than a container for people. And it’s much more than a tool used to perform a task.

A well-designed workspace participates in performing the task, enabling optimal human performance -

cognitively, emotionally, and physically.

The Haworth Global Design & Innovation team’s studies have identified 10 core Affordances vital to human performance in any workspace, and critical to the design of an Organic Workspace®. When applied effectively, they help create the conditions that support well-being, allow people to do their best work, and enhance the workplace experience.



AFFORDANCES APPLIED TO SPACE

One of the central purposes of science is prediction - “when these conditions exist, this is what happens”. The purpose of applying Affordances to interior spaces is the same. If we create a space with these characteristics, it is reasonable to expect these behaviors from the inhabitants of that space. That is why every principle we apply has a scientific/evidence-based backing.



COGNITIVE				EMOTIONAL			PHYSICAL		
EMBEDDING	EXTERNALIZATION	ACCESS	INSULATION	AUTHENTICITY	WELL-BEING	AFFINITY	ANTHROPOMETRICS	AMBIENTS(S)	MOVEMENT
1. Off-Loading 2. Persistence 3. Recall 4. Reminding	5. Communication 6. Interpretation 7. Mode Switching 8. Uncovery	9. Exchange 10. Sourcing	11. Comfort 12. Focus 13. Meaning 14. Stimulus Control	1. Balance 2. Grounding 3. Interest 4. Legibility	5. Autonomy 6. Inspiration 7. Recovery 8. Security	9. Belonging 10. Engagement 11. Interaction 12. Organizational Culture 13. Trust	1. Functional 2. Static	3. Acoustics 4. Air Quality 5. Lighting 6. Thermal Comfort	7. Activity-based 8. Interaction 9. Physiology