



## The Pre-Design Questionnaire

**Below is a list of questions that have been gathered to help prepare our office to better serve anyone thinking of building or renovating a home.** You can print these questions out and answer them as a starting point to the planning process, or just use the list to help you narrow your focus and project needs.

***As you go through the questions, please consider the recommendations below:***

- These questions are meant to create thoughts and ideas for you to express to us. We are not looking for the answer from you but rather the information that will help us generate the answer. We may know more than one way to resolve a problem or create an outcome to fit budget and design.
- Tell us what and why you like or don't like something in your house or in a place you used to live, or something you have seen at someone else's house. Give examples. Use as many descriptive words as you can.
- If there are differences of opinions amongst members of your household, let us know all the opinions; we want to address everyone's concerns and may be able to create something that works for everyone.
- Don't try to solve the problem, just express your desires and concerns, even if they seem at odds with each other or impossible to obtain.
- If it is relevant, try to anticipate future needs or changes such as mobility issues, longevity of use, family member care, etc.
- We encourage you to collect images that you like; the pictures can be a color only, style of window, style of ceiling or just a feeling and doesn't need to express your complete view in the entire picture. You are bringing these images to our design professionals so we can make your 'perfect world' a reality. If you have a Pinterest page with ideas that you would like to share with us please provide the details.
- If a question is not relevant to your situation, just skip it.

X

### **The Questions:**

1. What leisure time activities are important, do they take place in the house, on the property and/or what is required to support the activity?
2. What work activities are important, do they take place at home or on the property, and what is required to support the activities?
3. What other activities or needs are a priority, where do they take place, and what is required to support them? (For example, parenting, religion, entertaining, pets, or whatever activities are at the core of your daily, weekly or monthly life are important to uncover)
4. Is TV a focus, occasional, or not important at all?
5. Is music a focus, in the background, or not important at all?
6. Do you own any equipment that needs to be incorporated or planned for in any way?
7. Do you own any furniture or art items that need to be incorporated or planned for in any way?
8. Are there styles that you like, are drawn to, or want to know more about.
9. Are your sensibilities formal, modern, casual, chic, country, minimalist, or a combination of styles.
10. Are there any special features that are important to you? (for example fireplace, cathedral ceiling, or sunroom)
11. Do you prefer hard surface floors, area rugs, or wall-to-wall carpet?
12. Do you want window treatments? Are the window treatments decorative or for blocking light or view?
13. Do you prefer natural materials to synthetic?
14. Is there a message or feeling you want the house to convey?
15. Is this a primary or secondary home?

16. How long do you plan to own the house?
17. If it is a primary house, do you spend long periods of time away from home, or is it almost always occupied?
18. If it is secondary, how much time will you spend there and at what time of year? Would it ever be a rental?
19. Is the house for your use or for resale?
20. What issues are central to bringing you to this point, and which is the highest priority?
21. Are there any health or wellness issues that concern you, such as air quality, mold, toxicity, the natural environment, special needs, or future special needs?
22. Who will live in or use this house?
23. Do you enjoy cooking and spending a lot of time in the kitchen? Do you have a staff member who prepares meals? Do you eat out most of the time?
24. Do you entertain a lot, occasionally, or almost never?
25. Do you presently have too much of one kind of space and/or not enough of another kind of space?
26. What is the quality of light you want to achieve? (for example, morning sun in the kitchen, dark at night in my bedroom, the ability to create different moods in the dining room)
27. What is the quality of sound you want to achieve? (for example, I want it quiet in my office/ meditation space; I want to be able to hear my kids when they are in the back yard)
28. What views are important and what kind of connection do you want to establish to the outdoors?
29. What relationships between rooms and spaces are important? (for example, I want my office/meditation space tucked away and private; I want the kitchen open and adjacent to the family room; I want the guest space to seem private; I want the kids working on the computer where they can be monitored)

30. Do you have colors that you love? Do you like things bright, colorful, muted, neutral, or earthy?

31. Do you have friends, family, or grandchildren who stay for long periods of time?

32. Do you have, or anticipate in the future, an elderly family member living with you?

33. Where in your house do people tend to gather and spend most of their time?

34. Are ceiling heights important to you?

35. What is your perceived storage needs within the house? (ie: bookshelves, under stair storage, wine storage, closet space for seasonal items, etc.)

36. Do you have a clear picture of your present or future budget? This can be a sensitive item but is used to ensure the design will fit within the estimated budget as close as we can based on previous experience and market trends. It will not be used in any other form or discussion past this page.

37. What timeline constraints or concerns do you have?

38. Are there any natural features on your property that are important to view, enhance, protect, or experience in any way?

39. Are there any features on your property or abutting property that you want screened from view?

40. Are you aware of any problems with zoning, codes, neighbors, or anything else that may create an obstacle?

41. Are there any views that you want to achieve or avoid from a particular location or room?

42. Are any outbuildings part of the scope of work? (for example, guest house, barn, pool house, garden shed)

### **700 sqft cabin – Barn Size TBD – 1800sqft House**

43. What transitional spaces are part of the scope of work or important to you? (for example, porch, deck, patio, covered walkway)

44. What outdoor spaces are part of the scope of work or important to you? (for example, swimming pool, tennis court, play area, or garden)
45. Do you have any interest in or want to know more about energy efficiency, resource consciousness, healthy human environment, alternative energy (such as solar or wind power), composting toilets, or grey-water systems?
46. Are you interested in or concerned about curb appeal and/or resale value?
47. Have you built a house, renovated, or added on to a house before? What was the experience like?
48. Is there a particular way that you would like to work with us, or is there something you want us to be aware of or sensitive to?
49. Do you prefer particular modes of communication? (for example, email, phone, face to face, everything in writing, or a combination)
50. What questions do you have for us?

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