

FAQ's

1. Explain how can we define architecture?

Architecture doesn't have a strict fixed definition. Architecture can be defined variously according to the context. However to start understanding the meaning of architecture we can start from a rudimentary definition: saying, "Architecture is the art and science of designing buildings". Because architecture is not only involves application of scientific knowledge, but also involves artistic expression and designing.

It is not actually only about designing buildings but more about the creation of the void or space inside and outside the building. There are building examples like sanchi stupa and pyramids of Egypt where the architecture more about the outside from not about the inside space.

The moment we say about the space outside something important comes in to play – which is the nature, the natural environment of the place where the building is built. We should realize that architecture deals with a man made environment which is in constant interaction with the natural environment around. There are examples where architecture is in a beautiful harmony with the nature around. Like in case of the building called falling waters, which merges a small water fall and the natural rocks with the building.

So, architecture can be defined holistically as the art and science of designing built environment.

2. Explain the difference between architecture engineering?

Though engineering of buildings seems similar to that of architecture they have a primary difference. An engineering design has a very clear identified problem and has a clear singular solution for the problem. However in architecture there is no single solution for a problem there are various ways of designing a building or a space, for a same given problem and context, because in architecture there is freedom to interpret the problem itself.

Architecture and engineering has similarities too. Both the processes involve form making, considers factors like structure, durability, cost, aesthetics, performance, etc. In spite of these similarities there are crucial differences.

An engineering process like design of a car is very different from that of designing a house for a family. Because a car is commodity which is mass produced and can't consider factors of the context

where it is used and by whom it will be used. Architecture of a residence on other hand has to respond to various contextual factors like person who is going to live in it, the culture he is from, the place he lives in, the surrounding of the residence, and also outcome depends of the architect who designs the building. Eventually any architectural outcome becomes a totally unique creation.

Architecture uses the philosophic wholesomeness of Humanities, the logical rationalism of Science, the passionate imagination of Art and the inexhaustible resources of Technology. It calls for originality, creativity, conceptualization, perception, aesthetic values, and a holistic judgment of people, places, objects and events.

3. Explain about the role of an architect in creation of a building?

An architect plays a pivotal role in creation of building. There are many members in the team which perform for the creation of building, like the contractor who executes the building, the structural engineer who takes care of the stability of the building, the client who pays for and who is going to use the building and the architect who designs the building.

An architect has to coordinate between all the team members to process the various requirements and to give a final form the building. So an architect has to be good in many things in order to play this pivotal role. He has to be good in communication. He has to be good in drawing, sketching, in structures, in costs and estimate of construction and in aesthetics. Vitruvius in his book ten books on architecture, explains about the various role played by an architect of the ancient roman time.

4 - Explain the origin and evolution of the profession of architecture?

The profession of architecture has its origin from the time of classical antiquity, when the great architectural wonders like pantheon, Parthenon were created. Before the classical time architecture might not have been a separate profession. Rather it might have been an inherent activity of every person in a family. Even in tribal settlements of present day the act of building is by the users themselves.

Only when the society becomes more complex the need for complex building typologies arrives. And eventually the need for a specialized professional arrives. In the Indian tradition of temple and palace

building we had a traditional system of architecture and we have a community of people whose profession is architecture, they are called stapathis. Like this every region of the world has their own traditional systems of architecture that has evolved in history.

The modern notion of the profession of architecture was developed somewhere during renaissance time and was crystallized during 20th century, When the modern institutions for architecture were started. In present day situation, architecture has generated many specializations such as Urban Design, City Planning, Landscape Architecture, Interior Architecture, Retrofitting of Buildings, Architectural Conservation etc