

FAQ'S

1. Discuss the plan of Albert Mayer for Chandigarh.

Mayer was brought on to the Chandigarh project in 1949 because of his personal relationship with Nehru, who believed Indian engineers and architects would be unsuited to the task of town planning. During his work on the development and planning of the new capital city of Chandigarh, Mayer developed a superblock based-city threaded with green spaces which emphasized the cellular neighborhood and traffic segregation. His site plan used natural characteristics, using its gentle grade to promote drainage and rivers to orient the plan.

2. How did Le Corbusier conceive the plan of Chandigarh?

Le Corbusier conceived the master plan of Chandigarh as analogous to **human body**, with a clearly defined

- **Head** (the Capitol Complex, Sector 1),
- **Heart** (the City Centre Sector-17),
- **Lungs** (the leisure valley, innumerable open spaces and sector greens),
- **Intellect** (the cultural and educational institutions),
- **Circulatory system** (the network of roads, the 7Vs) and
- **Viscera** (the Industrial Area).

The primary module of city's design is a **Sector**, a neighbourhood unit of size 800 meters x 1200 meters. Each SECTOR is a self-sufficient unit having shops, school, health centers and places of recreations and worship. The population of a sector varies between 3000 and 20000 depending upon the sizes of plots and the topography of the area.

3. Describe the hierarchy of green areas in the planning

of Chandigarh.

A Hierarchy of Green Spaces can be observed in both the layout ranging from Public Greens at City Level to Semi-Private to Private Green Areas.

City Level Public Green Space with Artificial Water Body
Free- Flowing Green Space, connecting the entire site
Semi-Private Green Areas for neighbourhood pockets
Private Green Areas for Residential Units

4. What is Leisure Valley?

The **Leisure Valley** is a green sprawling space extending North-East to South-West along a seasonal riverlet gradient and was conceived by Le Corbusier as the lungs of the city.

Apart from large Public Parks and special Botanical Gardens, it houses series of Fitness Trails, amphitheatres and spaces for open-air exhibitions.

5. Discuss in brief the building typologies found in the city of Chandigarh.

The Basic Building Typology is observed as extremely Rectilinear with similar proportions.

In both the developments the smaller individual Residential Units are arranged around central common Green Spaces, although the shapes are different.

6. Describe the roads in Chandigarh.

The roads are designed and oriented in such a way that most of the time during the day, they are under shadow. There are huge parking areas for the commercial zones so that the Parking problems don't create a havoc on the main roads. The Parking lanes are as broad as the main roads. There are pedestrian walkway roads that are segregated from the main road with the help of a wide lawn strip. There are huge gardens along the main roads. The system of 7 Vs

V1- Fast Roads connecting Chandigarh to other towns

V2- Arterial Roads

V3- Fast Vehicular Roads

V4-Free Flowing shopping streets

V5-Sector circulation roads

V6- Access roads to houses

V7-Footpaths and cycle tracks

7. Describe the residence design of typical houses in Chandigarh.

Le Corbusier believed in creating harmony by using the Design principle of Symmetry. He designed clusters of bungalows together sharing a common playground for kids and they also had a garden of their own, apartments for middle class families where a couple of apartments could share a common garden or playground.

The design of the residences is symmetrical. Residences in a cluster look similar from the exterior but they have different planning as per the user's requirement. The advantage of emphasizing on symmetry makes the environment look balanced and organized.