

FAQ's

1. Explain the famous form continuum

Professor David Billington has proposed that sculptural form, architectural form and structural form are linked in a continuum. All three of these forms are designed, three dimensional structures. Certainly the dividing lines between them can be blurred.

Architectural form is dictated by architectural purposes, such as the practicalities of spatial organization and control of the flow of occupants. Architectural form is also concerned with the sense of space a structure creates, its symbolism and its relationship to its setting"

Certainly architectural form can lean toward sculptural form as in the case where architectural "elements are exaggerated or when forms reflect a non-efficient use of material just for the sake of emotional impact".

Structural form is dictated by structural needs, primarily to support gravity and lateral loads, and usually also the need to provide a building envelope for shelter against the elements.

There may or may not be a client involved in sculptural form, there is typically no function associated with sculptural form, except for certain kinetic sculptures. The designer is free to make any and all decisions about the form, with virtually the only constraint being that the sculpture must stand on its own.

2. Why is structure so very important in architecture? How can it help the architecture of a building?

In the past, due to lack of coordination between structures and architecture and due to the structural limitation many buildings did not finish and in fact architecture had lost its identity and become a horizontal and vertical cover to the building structure.

Also in cases of lack of coordination between structure and architecture during the implementation of the building, the structure would lack adequate strength and stability.

As the time passed, modern architectural thinking and the subsequent formation of new architectural ideas such as "high-tech", "deconstruction", "Folding" and... new horizons appeared in the area and architectural space and structure were considered from a new point of view.

Structure and architecture are two key components in shaping building formation. Interaction and conflict between the two components and their balanced growth in the manufacturing process and the development of construction technologies has led to the creation of a new generation of buildings with advanced technological structure.

3. Brief about structure and Architecture.

Structure is the design of forms with different materials that provides various load bearing on horizontal parts or the roof. Thus understanding of the structure as well as the architect demands elegance, taste, art and creativity. Structures are architected before being calculated.

The geometry of the structure has to provide the aesthetic. Nowadays the structure of the building is presented in architectural designs and sometimes the architecture is born out of structure. Like the Crystal Palace and The Eiffel Tower in both of which the architectural space is created.

The architectural space identity depends on its structure and the function of the structure and geometry are the factors of space design thus the interaction of space and structure is necessary in creating human space.

Sometimes structure becomes the center of attention and sometimes it is neglected during the process of building design. But it must be confirmed that the best structure is the one that is accepted and synchronized by architecture.