

Discipline

Spatial design

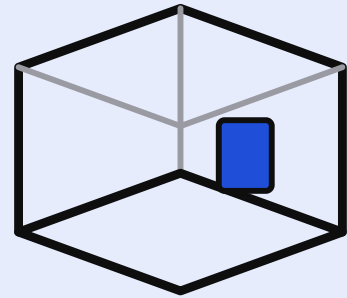
Designs how people experience, move through and understand a space, indoors or outdoors, combining architecture, interiors, communication and service.

In Spanish

Diseño espacial

Origin

A recent term that groups several spatial disciplines; Higgins (2015)



What it deals with

A space isn't just walls: it is what people do in it, where they go and what they feel.

Principles

The path

Where people enter, where they pass and where they stop.

The place

What makes a place recognizable and its own.

Several disciplines

Architecture, interiors, graphics and service work together.

Applications in design

✓ Use it like this

Draw people's paths before the floor plan.

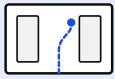
✗ Avoid

Designing the empty space, without the people who will use it.

👁 Don't fall for it

A space changes with the time of day and the number of people: test it at different moments.

Especialidades



Specialty

Retail design

Designs stores and sales spaces to guide people, show the product and create an atmosphere.



Specialty

Scenography

Designs the space of a performance, with its set, light, costumes and objects, with the audience in mind.

Methods and tools



Approach

Evidence-based design

Making design decisions based on the best available research, and measuring their effects afterward.

Connections

Builds on

■ Universal design

Related to

■ Algorithmic design

■ Service environment design

■ Exhibition design

■ Lighting design

■ Interior design

■ Environmental graphic design

■ Multisensory design

■ XR design (extended reality)

■ Wayfinding design

Authors and works

2015

Ian Higgins

Wrote a handbook of spatial strategies for students of spatial and interior design.

1960

Kevin Lynch

Showed how people build a mental image of the city from paths, edges, districts, nodes and landmarks.

Sources

Original sources

- Lynch, K. (1960). The image of the city. MIT Press.

Secondary sources

- Higgins, I. (2015). Spatial strategies for interior design. Laurence King.

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