

MY HOME IDEAS

HOW TO ORGANIZE YOUR THOUGHTS

Use this guide to organize your thoughts and build a dream home wish list.

WHY THE DETAILS MATTER

We explain why it's important to think about the details that would accommodate you and your family now and for years to come - PLUS how you can use this wish list to do so!





HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

We have put together a list of questions for 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 clarify for yourself what your needs and goals are.

As you go through the questions, keep a few things in mind:

- ▶ As much as possible, give qualitative not quantitative information. We want you to present us with questions not answers; that way we can be sure to get to the heart of the matter and not run the risk of missing the real issues. We may know more than one way to resolve a problem or create an outcome. If this is hard, 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.
- ▶ Celebrate differences of opinion. If there are differences of opinions among members of your household, document all of them. That way you can address everyone's concerns and create something that works for everyone.
- ▶ Don't try to solve all of your problems, just express your desires, even if they seem at odds with each other or impossible to obtain. Problem solving comes later in the process.
- ▶ Don't be afraid to think about what your "perfect world" would be like. Getting a clear picture of your dream home will help you to attain it.
- ▶ Try to anticipate future needs or changes. Think about the details that would accommodate you and your family now and for years to come.
- ▶ Find examples of homes you like. Consider images of particular details that you like, or ones that create a good mood or feeling, and maybe pictures that you are simply drawn to. The easiest way to organize and share ideas books is with Houzz or Pinterest.
- ▶ Don't feel compelled to answer every question. If a question is not relevant to your situation, just skip it.



PROJECT DETAILS

Setting the Stage for Your Luxury Lifestyle

OWNERS' INFORMATION

First Name

Last Name

Phone

Email

First Name

Last Name

Phone

Email

PROJECT DETAILS

What type of project is this? New home? Remodel?

Project Location/Address

Budget Range

Ideal Schedule

PROJECT & OWNER DETAILS CONTINUED

Is this your first building experience?

Desired square footage:

Desired number of stories:

Number of regular occupants:

Do you anticipate regular guests? How many?

Children? Ages?

Do you anticipate any medical or special needs design considerations?

Please feel free to add and additional information about yourself or you communication preferences which you'd like us to know.

IDEA PROMPTS

Capture Your Thoughts, We Can Explore & Organize Them in Your Idea Session

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 want any rooms or areas to convey a particular feeling, like calm or energizing?

12. Do you prefer hard surface floors, area rugs, or wall-to-wall carpet?

13. Do you want window treatments? Are the window treatments decorative or for blocking light or view?

14. Do you prefer natural materials to synthetic?

15. Is there a message or feeling you want the house to convey?

16. Is this a primary or secondary home?

17. How long to you plan to own the house?

18. If it is a primary house, do you spend long periods of time away from home, or is it almost always occupied?

19. If it is secondary, how much time will you spend there and at what time of year? Would it ever be a rental?

20. Is the house for your use or for resale?

21. What issues are central to bringing you to this point, and which is the highest priority?

22. 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?

23. Who will live in or use this house?

24. 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?

25. Do you entertain a lot, occasionally, or almost never?

26. Do you presently have too much of one kind of space and/or not enough of another kind of space?

27. 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)

28. 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)

29. What views are important and what kind of connection do you want to establish to the outdoors?

30. 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)

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

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

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

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

35. Are ceiling heights important to you?

36. Do you have a clear picture of your present or future budget? Include details if possible.

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)

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. Anticipated primary traffic areas (great room, kitchen, porches, play areas, etc.):

51. How would you describe your vision for the overall appearance of the home?

52. Are there any architectural styles you prefer? (Adirondack, Colonial, Victorian, Cottage, Timber frame/Craftsman, Farmhouse, Coastal, Contemporary, Ranch, etc.)

53. Are there any architectural styles you dislike?

54. What questions do you have for us?

ROOM PROMPTS

Please check the rooms and spaces you want to incorporate into your home design. Add descriptions (big, open vs. small, cozy, view facing, timber framing, quiet, etc.) as well as floor location and specific features.

☐ Mudroom

☐ Foyer

☐ Kitchen

☐ Kitchen Island

☐ Kitchenette or Wet Bar

☐ Pantry (walk-in?)

☐ Dining (formal or open?)

☐ Sitting Areas

☐ Living/Great Room

☐ Family Room

☐ Theater / Media Room

☐ Fireplaces (wood or gas?)

☐ Study /Library

☐ Home Office

☐ Bedrooms (how many?)

☐ Bathrooms (how many?)

☐ Separate bathtub area (soaking or Jacuzzi?)

☐ Closets (walk-in?)

☐ Powder Room

☐ Laundry

☐ Balcony/Loft

☐ Gym/Exercise Room

☐ Wine Cellar

☐ Elevator

☐ Garage (Attached? Number of bays?)

☐ Workshop (within home or separate?)

☐ Porches (covered, screened)

☐ Outdoor Kitchen/Entertaining

☐ Pool/Hot Tub

☐ Sauna

☐ Other Indoor Space

☐ Other Outdoor Space

IDEA PROMPTS

Please circle the images below that you like the most and note what you like about those images.



Comments:



TRUST US WITH YOUR DREAM HOME

We believe that building or renovating your home should be a pleasant experience, one to look forward to with excitement, and we're here to ensure that you have a five-star experience every step of the way. Visit 41West.com to schedule your Idea Session.

41WEST.COM

BJB@41WEST.COM

