

What is Interior Space Planning?

Worksheet

Interior space planning is the strategic arrangement of walls, furniture and pathways within a building to support function, comfort and efficient movement, based on zoning, circulation and human scale.

Questions

1. What does 'zoning' mean in interior space planning?
 - A) Painting walls different colors
 - B) Dividing a space into functional areas
 - C) Adding more windows
 - D) Removing furniture
2. What is a typical minimum clearance for a main walking path?
 - A) 0.2 m
 - B) 0.9-1.2 m
 - C) 3 m
 - D) 5 m
3. Which layout type generally offers more acoustic privacy?
 - A) Open-plan
 - B) Zoned/compartmentalized
 - C) Neither
 - D) Only outdoor spaces
4. A dining chair needs how much pull-out clearance in typical planning guidelines?
 - A) About 90 cm
 - B) About 10 cm
 - C) About 3 m
 - D) About 30 cm
5. A living room is 5 m 6 m (30 m). Design guidelines recommend at least 0.9 m clearance for main walking paths. How much floor area should be kept clear for circulation if the path is 1.2 m wide and runs the full 6 m length?
6. An open-plan studio of 40 m needs a sleeping zone, living zone and kitchen zone in roughly a 30:45:25 ratio. How many square meters go to each zone?
7. A dining table needs 90 cm of clearance on each side for chairs to pull out. If the table is 1.6 m long and 0.9 m wide, what is the minimum footprint of the dining zone?
8. Define: What is interior space planning?
9. Define: What is 'zoning' in interior design?
10. Define: Why does circulation width matter?

Answer Key

1. B) Dividing a space into functional areas - Zoning groups activities like sleeping, cooking and living into defined areas.
2. B) 0.9-1.2 m - Standard circulation clearance is roughly 0.9 to 1.2 meters for comfortable movement.
3. B) Zoned/compartimentalized - Separate rooms with walls block sound better than open-plan layouts.
4. A) About 90 cm - About 90 cm (0.9 m) is standard clearance for a chair to be pulled out and used comfortably.
5. Circulation area = path width path length $1.2 \text{ m} \times 6 \text{ m} = 7.2 \text{ m}$ About 7.2 m (24% of the 30 m room) should stay clear for comfortable walking.
6. Sleeping = $40 \times 0.30 = 12 \text{ m}$ Living = $40 \times 0.45 = 18 \text{ m}$ Kitchen = $40 \times 0.25 = 10 \text{ m}$ The zones total 40 m, matching the available floor area.
7. Length needed = table length + 2 clearance = $1.6 + 2(0.9) = 3.4 \text{ m}$ Width needed = table width + 2 clearance = $0.9 + 2(0.9) = 2.7 \text{ m}$ Minimum dining zone $3.4 \text{ m} \times 2.7 \text{ m} = 9.18 \text{ m}$
8. The arrangement of rooms, furniture and circulation paths to make a space functional, comfortable and efficient.
9. Dividing a space into functional areas - such as sleeping, living and cooking zones - based on activity.
10. Paths that are too narrow feel cramped and block movement; standard clearance is about 0.9-1.2 m.

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