

Interior Design
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Lecture - 35
Interior Design: Summary and Discourse of week 7

Namaste. Hello everyone. Welcome again to my NPTEL course on interior design. We are at lecture number 35 today, which is the summary and discourse focusing on week number 7. And these are the broad contents.

So we are going to see the summary of professional practice, interior services, functional importance, then professional practice, also focusing on bylaws and supervision. Then building material costing, BOQ, market exposure, and product catalogs. We also discussed during the week important organizations, institutes, firms, designers, avenues of pedagogy and practice focusing on interior design, along with the list of references. So we started understanding the professional practice of interior design. What are interior services, and what is their functional importance?

And we tried to understand that professional practice in interior design entails a combination of specialized skills, education, as well as a client-focused attitude. And we also tried to see what FIDER outlines as its scope. FIDER is the Foundation for Interior Design Education and Research. So as designed under the scope by FIDER, it focuses on materials, finishes, space planning as a whole, furnishings, fixtures, and equipment in compliance with universal accessibility guidelines. We also talked about how it focuses on preparing working drawings, reviewing, and evaluating design solutions.

Then it also explains how each design firm has its own unique way of approaching the design of a project. And it could depend on the size of a project, project type, design firm's philosophy, and resources. So we can have different approaches adopted by each individual, each designer, and each design firm. Then this very interesting discussion we had on the scope of service chart, which is a snapshot in time describing today's key interior services. These services or actions include, of course, coordinating the project as a whole, developing and monitoring the contract, fee monitoring, and scheduling. It also talks about defining objectives, gathering information, establishing the big idea,

patterning, formatting the presentation, budgeting, designing, graphic design, as well as documenting.

And we saw in great detail what this chart looks like, what the key actions are, and what the associated parameters are. And at each stage, what is the role of each stakeholder, and how this entire chart—our inventory—helps in achieving great results in the coordination of the project all the way till its execution, closeout, and handover. So it's a very, very detailed chart, and we discussed it at great length during the lecture. We also talked about professional practice, focusing slightly on important legal aspects like supervision, bylaws, codes, and conduct. And, you know, the increase in product testing, codes, ergonomic issues, environmental issues, civil rights legislation, and other government mandates testify to the increased level of knowledge required.

And implementation skills required from interior design professionals. So this is becoming increasingly important in light of all the above. Driven by cultural and societal changes, economic developments, and technological advances, the practice of interior design has become more cognizant of and responsible for public health, safety, and welfare. Hence, several codes, bylaws—all of these are in practice and gaining momentum. So we understood some of the fire safety norms during our discussion, and we tried to understand life safety goals, the focus being protection of life, protection of property, and restoration and use of the building after a fire. We also tried to understand what compartmentalization is, which is a crucial concept within life safety, allowing occupants to escape the building and protecting the unaffected parts of the building.

And then, how it could be achieved through door ratings, floor-ceiling assemblies, fire-rated walls, and fire separations. Life safety equipment is also at our disposal, and it could include some of the following. It's not an exhaustive list. So, exit signs—ceiling-mounted, door-mounted—emergency lighting, audible and visible fire alarms, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and sprinkler systems. We also discussed fire separation and tried to understand what a fire partition is.

It is a wall with a fire-resistance rating of one hour, and some common fire partitions. They are used in corridor walls, elevator lobby walls, walls separating guest rooms, and walls separating tenants in covered shopping malls. Then, we also saw what a fire barrier is—a vertical or horizontal structure that is fire-resistance-rated. It allows for

safe passage. During our discussions this entire week, we also talked about egress, which has three parts: the exit access, the exit, and, of course, the exit discharge.

Then, we tried to understand types of contracts in interior design, which is very important for professional practice. And we talked about these three major types: the basic, the advanced, and the final. And within these, we tried to understand what they comprise or what they include. So, this is for the basic contract. The layout design, elevation drawings, furniture layout, structural details, and working drawings.

And when I talk about the advanced contract, it includes the visits as well, which means supervision. So, furniture layout, structural details, plus working drawings. Selection of materials, top-level supervision, layout design, elevations—all those things. And the final contract includes everything from the above two that we just discussed, with free consultations also for the future. So, layout design, elevation drawings, furniture layout, structural plus working drawings, selection of materials, complete supervision.

So, this was a sort of comparative chart, and it helped us understand different kinds of contracts and the description for each of these. And then we also talked about fundamental interior design business contracts. So, what is a preliminary agreement? What is the contract that focuses on the fee schedule? Maximum hour allocation, litigation agreement, additional fees.

It also talks about the detailed scope of the project, deliverables provided, product purchase protections, and termination agreement as well. Then, what is the alternative agreement, subcontractor agreement, and non-disclosure agreement? These are all very important for professional practice, and we discussed all of these during one of our lectures in Week 7. Moving on, we also talked about building material costing, its importance, what is a bill of quantities, then market exposure and new kinds of materials, and different kinds of catalogs which are available. All of that we saw.

So, we talked about You know the scope of interior space, what all it constitutes, and you know we have to focus on custom-made furniture, specific lighting fixtures, shelves and cupboards, curtains, fabrics, wall decors. For all of these, we must be aware of different kinds of materials, have market exposure, and address the issues of energy efficiency, climate change, sustainability, and be very equipped with the latest technology and trends. Along with this, of course, we must have an idea of pricing. So,

we talked about floor covering. We talked about the different classifications within floor coverings.

What are these different types? And then we talked about wall treatment. Within wall treatment, what are the different types, what is the classification, and what are these orders? And then we talked about window and door decoration. We talked about types of window dressing.

We saw some examples and different types. We saw interesting uses of even stained glass. And then we saw ceiling design during our discussions. Again, because we are also talking specifically about materials, we saw some false ceiling materials which are very popular. And, you know, more in terms of material choices: PVC, cement fiber, and so many others.

We saw fixtures and furniture. We also had a rigorous discussion on pricing, starting with stone, focusing on Indian marble and the huge range of marble available in the Indian market, including different colors, finishes, etc. We also considered quality, from super fine with fewer grains to more grains, and the cost, ranging from INR 50 all the way to INR 850 and beyond. We saw these different varieties of Indian marble. There is a wide range available, and we could pick and choose depending on the purpose, project type, interior or exterior space, budget, and other factors. We also saw granite, which is also very popularly used.

Here, we also saw the different types of granite stones available in the Indian market and the pricing per square foot. Of course, we also had reference images to understand how each piece of stone looks. More on granite. All these charts and inventories helped us understand things in a very holistic and simplistic manner, along with some idea of cost comparisons. More examples: the range here is 65 to 180.

Then we saw vitrified tiles and again the price range available in the market, and how it varies across different cities, such as the difference in per-square-foot costs between Surat and Mumbai. Then, we discussed the important aspects or factors that could cause the cost of vitrified tiles to vary. So we also had those kinds of discussions again. We saw a city-wise comparison and tried to understand the rate of flooring, which included the cost of tiles, labor costs, materials like cement, and cleaning and grouting while laying the floor. This was a very interesting discussion that we had.

Clay tiles: what are the available colors, different dimensions, specifications, variations? All of that we saw. We also had a very interesting discussion on terracotta tiles, which are becoming increasingly popular. What are the different colors available, sizes, full-bodied tiles? And the discussion on water absorption and so on. Then we saw some catalogs, like this one for flooring tiles. A detailed discussion on how a product catalog like this helps us understand details about flooring tiles, market operations, production processes, etc. Whether there is regular production for these tiles or they are made to order, different sizes, applications—all of that.

Then, more materials and their pricing. We saw laminate flooring, with pricing options per square foot as well as per box. More examples of that. We also saw plywood, high-density fiberboard, blockboard—their purposes, applications, advantages, and disadvantages. Then we discussed what factors are considered for interior cost calculation.

It was very interesting, important, and useful information. We started by understanding the three major factors for interior cost calculation. The scope of work is very important—whether it's a budget, premium, or luxury project. The quality of materials and the type of vendor. We discussed that.

We also saw some tools and websites which could come in handy, but I always recommend hiring a worker, who is a trained professional and a qualified interior designer. But we did see an interior design cost calculator and how it works, its features, and its limitations. Then we saw some examples to understand how the cost calculation happens when we talk about an interior design project. And we saw six examples. I have not put all of them here in the summary.

So we were talking about the interior design cost and trying to understand the difference, whether it's low budget or moderate. So INR 1000 per square foot for a low budget and for a moderate, 1100 to 1500 per square foot. For a high-end budget, it could be 1600 to 2500 per square foot. And we also established that these are just approximations. Of course, the final cost may vary depending on the final designs, material selection, level of customization, and so on.

And we tried to understand another important note: these rates do not include flooring, bathroom tiles and fixtures, electronic items, or electrical items. We moved on to

understand this very important concept of carpet area and how it differs from the built-up area. Then we talked about consultancy fees, and this is for a 2 BHK. For creating and designing 3D renderings, what could be the price? And then for detailed execution, site supervision, and procurement assistance per square foot cost. Then, this consultancy fee for 2 BHK flats we are talking about could range from 650 to 900 square feet of carpet area. And for that, this was the sort of calculation that we came up with.

So we discussed this in detail. We also try to understand then, you know, the execution fee, which has to be added to that consultancy fee if the execution is also done by you. And again, for a moderate level budget, we try to understand this fee. And this was this entire detail, which has, you know, fall ceiling costs, electrical fittings, electrical works, common things which are applied to all rooms or spaces. Also the furniture cost estimation that adds up and for that 2 BHK flat this is the kind of a cost which is around 10 lakhs.

Then we also saw this example of the book promotion center, which is designed by myself and my team. And we tried to understand in detail what is a BOQ, how it is made and how it helps in understanding the overall method of calculating the cost of the project. Important thing here was that we tried to also understand categories A and B. So A was about the demolition items and B was about the new interior items. And the detailed specification, description, unit, quantity, all of that we tried to understand. This detailed BOQ, several sheets we saw.

along with some utility objects which were procured and placed in the center. So it was a very, very detailed BOQ. Then we saw some innovative approaches for achieving low-cost interiors. And, you know, starting with being resourceful and trying to have multi-use, you know, like this chair being used as a side table. All the way to multi-use design and, you know, some options which provide the multi-functionality aspect.

Utilizing spaces under the stairs and other areas that are underutilized. Also, reusing waste and creating seating furniture, similar to what we see on the screen. Some options for the table include recycling, reusing, making the best out of waste, and similar concepts. Wash basins, other furniture pieces, door frames, and window frames converted into furniture, and so on. Then, we moved on to understanding important organizations, institutes, firms, designers, and avenues of pedagogy and practice.

So, we talked about Triple ID. We also discussed ADI and then IIDA. We talked about some reputed institutes like NID Ahmedabad, CEPT University Ahmedabad, and IIAD. We discussed many more. This is a summary, and I have just provided an overview.

We talked about some architectural firms and interior design studios. We discussed Studio Lotus, the practice of W. Mueller Architects, Iram Sultan Design Studio. All of these focus on interior architecture. We chose these very carefully.

Some individuals and pioneers who have contributed greatly to the field of interior design include Sunita Kohli, Veenu Daniel, Shabnam Gupta, and many more. We talked about the avenues of pedagogy and practice. We talked about the importance of teaching interior design, getting full training, and being able to contribute professionally. And we did talk about the association with degree programs like MA, MS, Master of Interior Architecture and Design, BDES, MDES, Master of Fine Arts, and PhD. Also, we discussed some career paths for interior design and what the different paths are.

So, residential interior design, commercial interior design, corporate, healthcare, kitchen and bath, lighting design itself is a very specific and in-demand field. Sustainable interior design, universal interior design, exhibition design, furniture design. We discussed much more, and this is a concise summary. So these are the references for this week-long discussion, and in individual lectures, you will find more of these. Some websites.

Thank you so much. I'll see you next time.