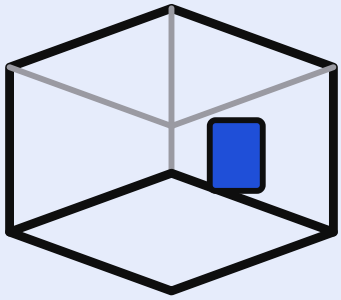
Discipline

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.

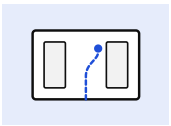
✗ Avoid

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.

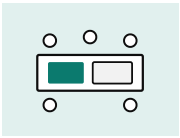


Specialty

Scenography

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

Methods and tools



Method

Charrette

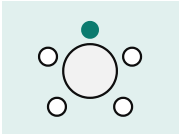
An intensive multi-day workshop where design teams and affected people propose and review together.



Approach

Evidence-based design

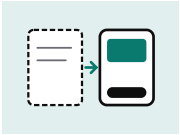
Making design decisions based on the best available research, and measuring their effects afterward.



Approach

Participatory design

Designing with the people affected as full partners, not just as informants.



Method

Prototyping

Building quick, incomplete versions of an idea to test it before developing it.

Connections

Builds on

- Universal design

Related to

- Algorithmic design
- Service environment design
- Exhibition design
- Lighting design
- Interior design
- Environmental graphic design
- Multisensory design
- Parametric 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

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

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