

Name: The Robie House by Frank Lloyd Wright  
 Date: (1908)  
 Block:

Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust - Restoration Project - Windows Internet Explorer


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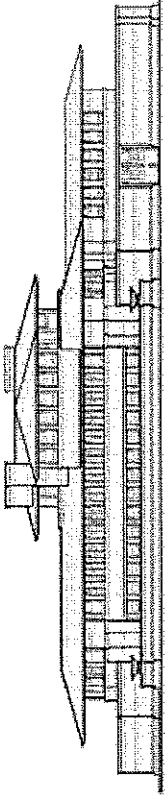
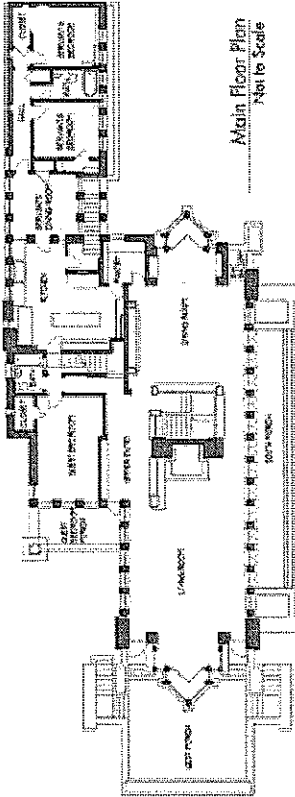
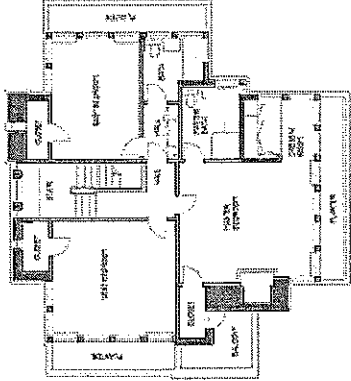
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- Art Glass
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Internet

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**99. HOW TO READ A FLOOR PLAN**

A floor plan is like a map of a room or a series of rooms. Like a map, it shows how a room would look from above, as if you were a bird flying overhead. An architect uses certain codes or symbols to explain the shapes and dimensions (sizes) of rooms, and also to explain where doors, windows, stairs, and furniture are.

WALLS:



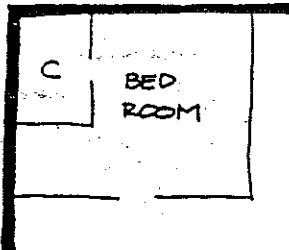
EXTERIOR

a thick line shows an exterior (outside) wall



INTERIOR

a thin line shows an interior (inside) wall

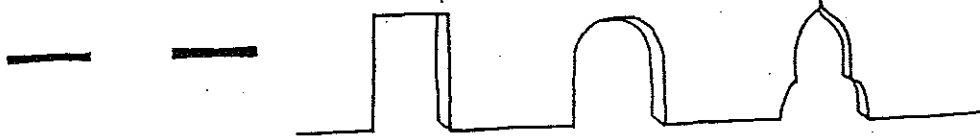


a room is always labelled;  
a closet is marked with a "C"

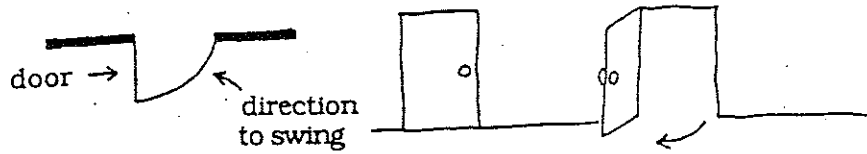
**DOORS**

Some doorways are open:

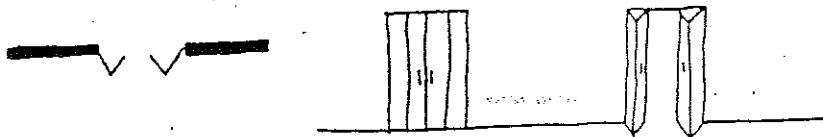
Spaces in a wall, with no door



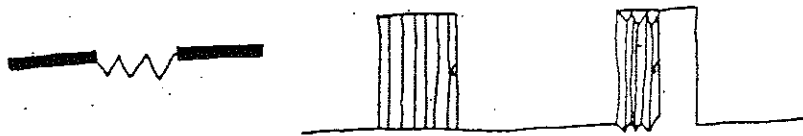
Some doors swing open and shut in one direction:



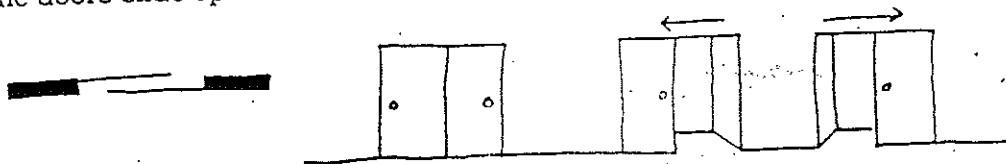
Some doors fold open to each side:



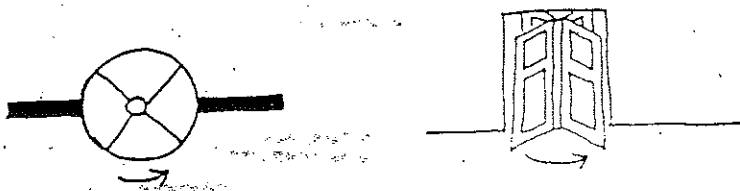
Some doors fold up to one side like an accordion:



Some doors slide open and shut:



A door that moves in a circle is called a revolving door:



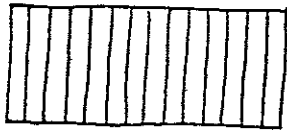
Windows are shown by a double line in an exterior wall.



two narrow windows

one wide window

A staircase looks like steps seen from overhead.



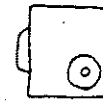
Try to image what different kinds of furniture would look like from overhead. Here are some suggestions you can use.



lamp



tables with different shapes



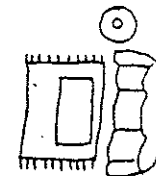
a desk, chair and table lamp



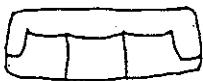
armchair



tables with chairs



a table on a rug with a couch and floor lamp



couch



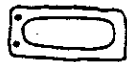
bed



rug



toilet



tub



sink

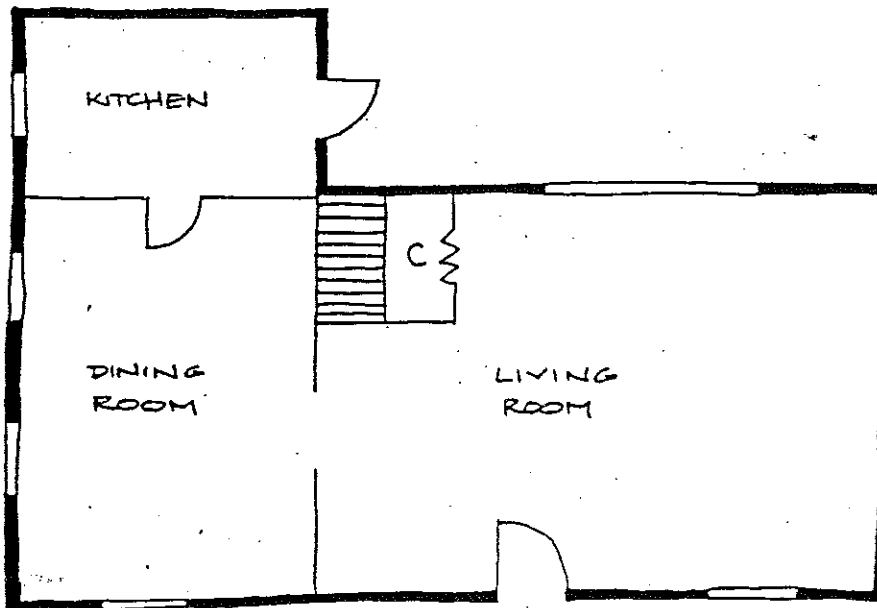


stove



refrigerator

100. CAN YOU READ A FLOOR PLAN?



1. How many rooms are there?
2. Name them in order from the largest to the smallest:  
 (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (3) \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many windows are there?
4. Which room has the most windows?
5. Which room has the biggest window?
6. Which room is the stairway in?
7. How many exterior doors are there?
8. How many interior doors?
9. Which room has two doors that swing out?
10. Which two rooms share an open doorway?

Use the FURNITURE symbols to show how you would decorate these rooms. Remember not to put furniture at the bottom of the stairway or in front of a door.



## Methods of Thinking Are Tools for Designing

To design is to plan using intuition, experience, and analysis. We take things apart to see how they work. Once we understand the parts, reassemble them into new combinations.

Designing a home: The rooms will be a kitchen, dining room, living room, library, bedroom 1, bedroom 2, bathroom 1, bathroom 2, and an interior garden.

The client prefers:

1. the living room and dining room connected
2. the kitchen and dining room adjacent or next to each other
3. the library close to bedroom 1
4. the bathroom 1 connected to bedroom 1
5. the bathroom 2 close to kitchen and bedroom 2
6. interior garden close to library

**Step 1** - What are the rooms needed? How do they come together?

**Step 2** - Arrange your rooms in at least 2 different ways.

**Step 3** - Decide which plan seems the best. Compare the plan to others. Find the good and bad in your plan. Draw your new design.





# Floor Plan Design Review

Use this checklist to evaluate your floor plan. Make changes to your floor plan and then re-submit it for a grade.

- Do you have your work?
- Did you use the design symbols?
- What design symbols do you need to add?

## **You have a guest arriving.**

- Do you have windows?
- Where is your front door?
- What room will your guest enter?
- Then where will your guest go?
- You cooked a meal in the kitchen. How do you bring the food to the dining room?
- After you eat, where will you hang out?
- Your guest has been visiting with you in the living room. But now your guest needs the bathroom. What route will your guest take to the bathroom.
- Later, your guest has gone home. You are sleeping. But you wake up because you need the bathroom. What route do you take to the bathroom?
- You have a baby with a fever sleeping in bedroom 2. Your baby starts crying in the middle of the night. You have to go to the bathroom, get the thermometer, go to the baby and take the baby's temperature. Then you need to go to the kitchen to get the bottle. What route do you take?
- It's 3 am and you can't sleep after the baby woke you. You are in the library/office and you want a snack. How long is your walk?

## **Frank Lloyd Wright**

- Did you think outside the box?
- What is the shape of the footprint of your house?
- Are all your rooms boxes?
- Do your rooms connect with hallways?
- Or did you use open space between your rooms?

