

What do architects do?

We all need places in which to live, work and play.

Architects are responsible for designing these places, whether they are private or public; inside or outside; individual buildings or complexes of buildings.

As professionals trained in the art and science of building design, architects develop ideas for buildings and places communicate those ideas through drawings and models.

There are three key areas of expertise for a good architect – design and creative skills, in-depth technical knowledge and competence and good team building and communication skills.



Design skills & creative thinking

Architects have the capacity to think in three dimensions which is vital in designing spaces and places. They are both creative and practical. They will take in all the information you give them as part of your brief and understand the full complexity of the issues your project raises.

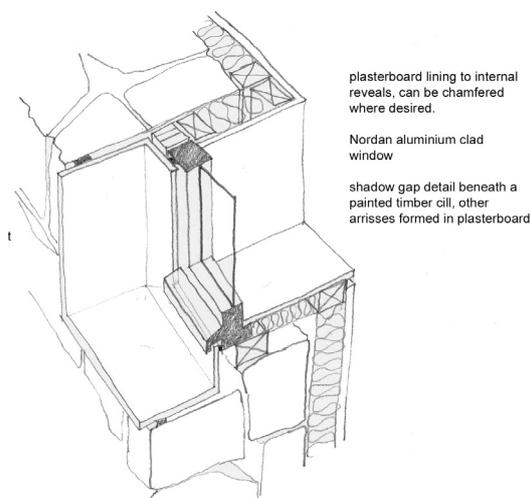
Good architects can also identify fresh questions which you may not have considered, but which are nevertheless vital to the success of your project. They then generate ideas and ultimately solutions to address the conflicting and contradictory issues that many briefs often contain.

Technical knowledge & experience

Your architect is not just an ideas person, but a designer who knows all about construction and technology. Buildings need to be safe, practical and economical and serve the life of those who use them. Architects consider all these things when they design buildings and structures.

Ideally, architects are involved in all phases of a construction project, from the initial chat with a client through to the final delivery of the completed project and beyond into the occupation phase.

Their responsibilities require specific skills—designing, engineering, managing, inspecting and communicating with clients, other consultants and building contractors. As construction proceeds, they usually visit building sites to make sure that contractors follow the design, adhere to the schedule, use the specified materials, and meet work quality standards.



Building the team

Building projects are generally developed and delivered by a team of different professionals, all with particular expertise, such as design, engineering, construction, cost management, landscaping, heating and ventilation and product suppliers

As architects, we have an important role in bringing together this “design team” and leading that team to ensure that your project is carefully steered through to completion. We know it is important for every client that their team works together to deliver their project and it’s our role to manage the team and resolve any problems that arise.

At studioKAP we often help our clients by making recommendations on all the key contributors necessary in a building project. Over time we have developed close working relationships with respected firms and suppliers whom we trust and who will deliver work to our own high standards.

We know that by working collaboratively from the outset, we can achieve a far better outcome for our client than we can individually.



What defines a good architect

- A good architect has an agile, creative mind and an in-depth knowledge of technology and construction.
- A good architect is a leader and a collaborator; a listener and communicator.
- A good architect has the skills and leadership qualities to navigate a project through all the various hurdles which every building project encounters.

At studio KAP we have all these qualities. Let us show you how we can help you.

Helen Campbell & Chris Platt,

Directors of studioKAP