01 Function Analyzer

The layout and furniture choices of a room can have a significant impact on its functionality and aesthetic appeal. That's why it is crucial to analyze through Discovery how a room is used to determine the best layout and furniture choices. This approach ensures that the space is utilized to its full potential, and the furniture is arranged in a way that maximizes its functionality.

**Identifying the Pain Points**

Now that you have identified the activities, the furniture needs and the amount of storage, explore what about the room is frustrating or displeasing.

Physical Pain Points

Aesthetic Pain Points

* What frustrates you about the layout of this room currently? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is there enough storage currently? What do you need to store closer by? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What habits cause you frustration? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Are there privacy and lighting pain points that could be possibly solved with different window treatments? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* Do you have any issues with your flooring? What are they? \_\_\_\_

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* Is the room aesthetically pleasing? What do you like and what furniture do you dislike? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* How is the lighting? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Start to take note of times when you notice a change in your mood upon entering your house or room. Can you explain what was going through your head? What triggered this change in mood? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFY TRIGGERS:

[ ] Clutter [ ] Lack of dedicated work space [ ] Poor Lighting

Other Triggers: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Are there design changes that would help mitigate those feelings? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Purpose/Function One of the most critical factors to consider when analyzing a room is the purpose it serves. For instance, a living room should be designed to promote relaxation and socialization, while a bedroom should be conducive to restful sleep. The layout and furniture in each room should reflect these different purposes. A living room, for example, should have comfortable seating arrangements that encourage conversation, while a bedroom should have a bed that is the focal point of the room.

There are any number of questions to ask yourself but the following questions are helpful. Part 2 of this module is a worksheet that is an aid for you but I recommend that you go through the exercise of answering the following questions first so you are not limited to only the suggested solutions. Take some time and go through the following questions with regard to the space you are laying out.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCOVERY

**Needs**

* What are the functions or activities that take place in this room currently? List them: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Private Spaces - commonly bedroom, bathroom and study

Social Spaces - commonly family room, kitchen, living room, dining room

Work Spaces - commonly study, bedroom, garage

Storage Spaces - closet, pantry

* What activities do you WANT to do in this space? List them: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* What types of furniture are needed to accommodate these functions/activities? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* How many people do you need to accommodate in this space?
	+ Is this space used by one person or multiple people at the same time?
	+ Is this a space that will be used by large gatherings and family celebrations?
	+ In the seating area, how many people do you want to accommodate in the seating area? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Minimum# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Maximum#
* What storage needs are needed to support those functions? How much and what size storage is needed?
* What kind of lighting is needed to accomplish those activities?
* What words would you use to describe how you want the space to feel?

Multiple Uses: Today’s homes are often not big enough to have a room for only one function. Perhaps a private bedroom has to also function as a home office. Or a great room is used as a social space on one occasion but doubles as a private study. A private music studio that doubles as a storage area. These separate functions will influence the layout, furniture placement and design of the finished room.

**Dislikes**

When I design a room for a client, we go through a thorough discovery process to identify their personal preferences. To complete a beautifully designed room, for the style stage, there are many more questions to consider. Here are some questions to ask yourself --

* Do you like open or closed storage?
* How much table space do you like to have?
* What kind and amount of lighting is needed?
* Do you have a preference on the cleaning ease?
* Are there design styles you are uncomfortable with?
* Are there patterns or lines you prefer?
* Are there colors you prefer?
* Do you want to keep any of the furniture or decorations that are already in the room?

Whole House Activities Worksheet

Storage Worksheet

An important precaution, this exercise is to help you think outside the box and not limit yourself to how you are currently using the room but allow yourself to include activities you would like to do in that room but currently can’t due to lack of storage or space.



Do you remember this exercise?

Connect all the dots using no more than four straight lines and without retracing your steps.

Just like the solution of this exercise, design is often an exercise of thinking outside the box. Sometimes we only see what now exists and to find the solution, we have to tear down a wall or do something differently. That is what I want you to do in this module. I want you to imagine your room with nothing in it and to imagine all the things you want to do there.

When designing an entire home, I have to take into consideration the proximity of these spaces to one another for the functionality of the occupants. Today, we don’t have to think about the individual spaces in proximity to one another as much as the needs within the space you are trying to layout.

 Cost? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The amount you are able to spend affects the quality of the products. Cost vs Time. You may be willing to take your time and do your project over a longer period so you can save up the necessary money to get the finished product you desire.