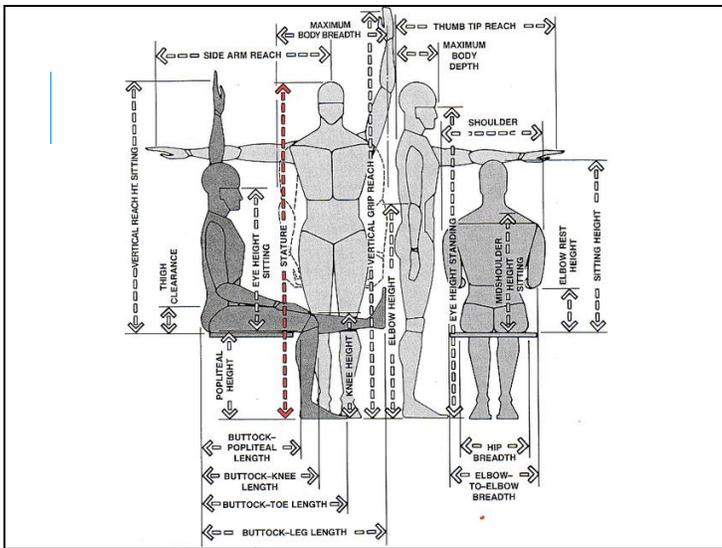


Certified Interior Design Professional

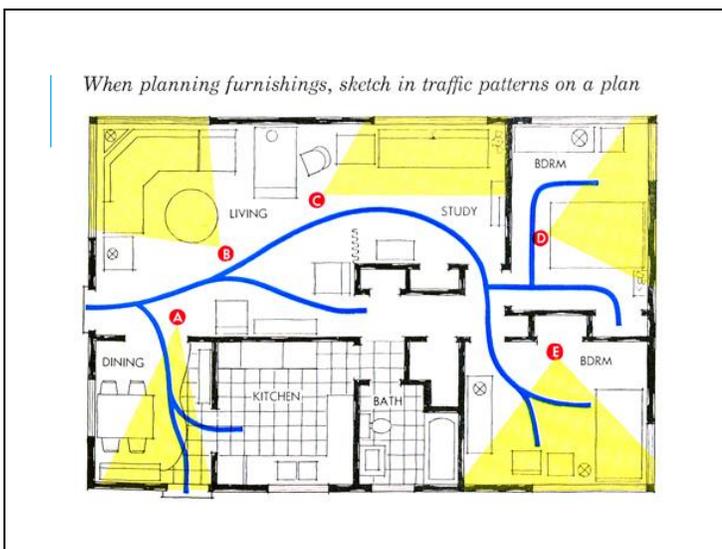


Session #7

Space Planning



Ergonomics: The study of the human body in its working environment.



You MUST design for the way people LIVE, not just what you think is pretty.

This is a floorplan that depicts the traffic patterns of a house. Keep your clients typical daily activities in mind when you're designing for them.

DESIGN FOR REAL LIFE...



At this stage you may notice some fundamental problems with the space.

- A space could be too small to carry out the activities intended for it.
- A room could be too far from or too inaccessible from another for some reason.
- There may not be enough room for storage or to fit the furniture that's intended for it.
- There may be insufficient light.
- A space could be too large and difficult to make warm and inviting.

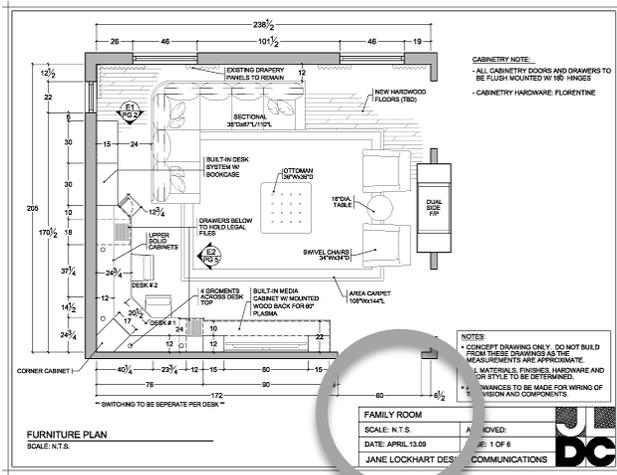


Plan the arrangement of furniture

Your choice of furniture will largely be based on the activities that will take place in each room. Think about each activity and what pieces/storage/items it will need.

How much space can you allow the furniture to take up and still allow enough room for movement and circulation?

Plan for plenty storage. It's one of the most common complaints people have about their living spaces.



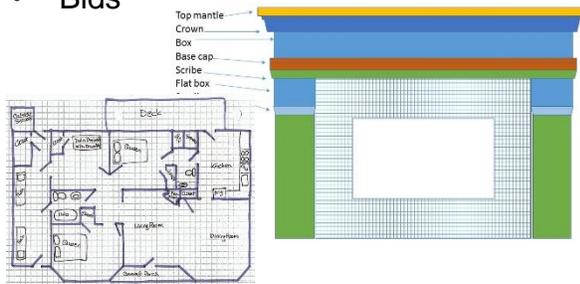
Architects, stylists and designers use scale drawings or working drawings to present their ideas. These are usually done in a scale of 1:100, 1:50 or 1:20. This means, for every 12in of real space, your paper will show 1in, 1/2in, and 1/8in.

Most interior design plan drawings are done using **AutoCAD®** design and documentation software, or **Sketch-up**.

These tricky to learn tools are time consuming and expensive. They allow you to present professional drawings that can include all technical details, measurements and symbols, but unless you're working on a major commercial project, you won't need to learn it.

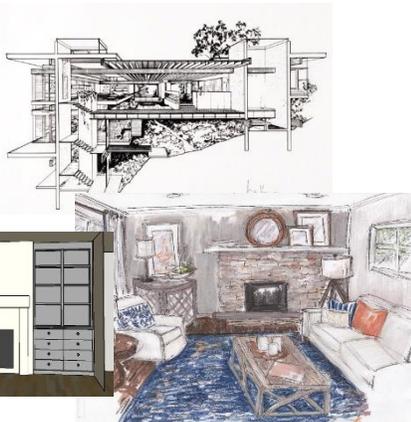
Floor plans and layouts are used for:

- Communication
- Hiring a Specialist
- Bids



- Your plan can be used to show your client the end result of your suggestions and also communicate to your team.
- Planning out the best use of space.
- Indicating where other work is required from professional contractors, like plumbing or electrical work. A copy of the plans can be given to each relevant professional.
- Costing the work. When all changes are outlined on the plans, your designs can be estimated more efficiently.

- Elevations
- Floor Plans
- Sections



- While scaled drawings of floor plans show a bird's eye view, it's also helpful to produce elevation drawings which show ideas viewed from a standing position.
- A section shows the room as if it has been sliced through from ceiling to floor.
- Rendering is used to explain details on drawings more clearly, for example to illustrate different floor coverings.



You don't always have to resort to construction to fix a problem space.

Before committing to structural changes, consider if it's possible to highlight or disguise features using light, color and architectural detail to change the visual structure enough. This would be a much less disruptive option and could save the client significant costs.



Here are some tips: Room is too small.

- In a room that's too small, use light, cool, receding colors to give the illusion of space.
- Use mirrors.
- Choose furniture that blends in with the background colors.
- Remove some furniture.



If a ceiling is too high, emphasize the horizontal elements by using a picture rail, slatted blinds, or a wide mirror/artwork.

- Draw attention to the lower part of the room by placing features there and using lighting.
- Use a darker color on the ceiling and bring it down to the height of the picture rail. Use lighter colors on the walls.



- In a room that's too big, use large scale furniture.
- Arrange furniture and lighting in groups.
- Use dark, warm, advancing colors on walls and possibly the ceiling.





In a large room, a rug can help bring down the scale of the arrangement as a whole, and make the room feel more cozy.



- If a ceiling is too low, emphasize vertical lines with striped wallpaper, full length curtains etc. and disguise any horizontal lines.
- Use light colors on the floor and ceiling and shades that are a little darker on the walls.



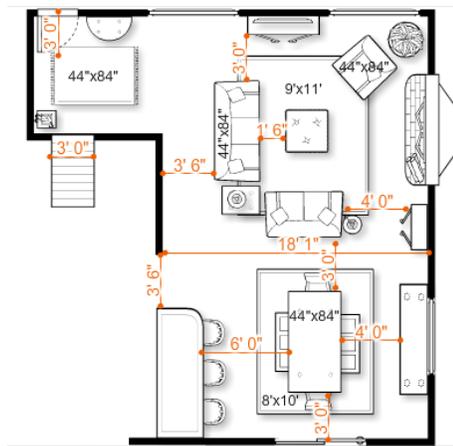
- Break up the length of a long hallway by putting in an arch or horizontal flooring pattern.
- Create pools of light with down lighters to create interest.
- Apply receding colors on side walls and advancing colors on the walls at either end.
- Let mirrors push out the walls and add light.
- Break up the expanse of length with artwork.



The function of the room layout and the furniture pieces that you select, should be the first priority when creating a design for your clients.

Steps to a Successful Space Plan

- Draw out the floor plan
- Start with the walls, doorways, and windows
- Add architectural details such as fireplaces and major light fixtures
- Decide on your focal points
- Place existing furniture in your new placement
- Add key furniture pieces to purchase
- Add area rugs to create groupings
- Drop in secondary furniture to balance the space
- Finish off with suggested details



There are no rules,
There **ARE** Guidelines

- This is the order that you should create your floor plans.
- By starting with the permanent elements, you can jump start your creative ideas.
- Next layout the furniture and here are a few tips to keep in mind:
- When placing a dining table, allow enough space for people to walk around when the chairs are in use. You'll need a minimum of 3' between a table and a wall for comfort.
- In a small kitchen, use the full ceiling height for cupboards. It can be used for long term storage items and it eliminates the need to dust up there!
- If there's a nice view from any part of the house, make sure you allow this to be enjoyed to its maximum by anyone in the house and don't obscure it with furniture. Also, bear in mind to direct focus there with the furniture placement.

Let's Create Your Floorplan, the EASY Way!



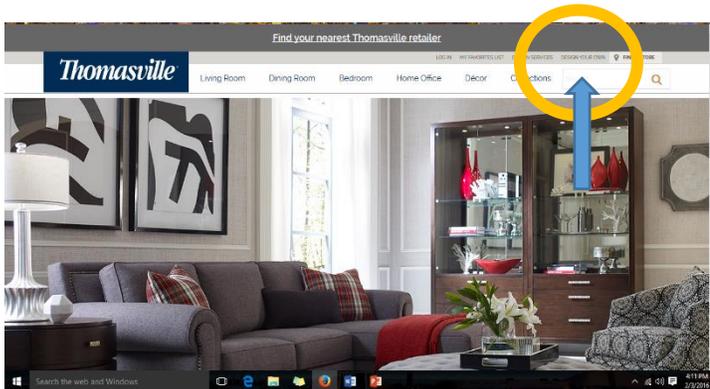
If structural changes are needed, you will need to work with an architect/engineer/surveyor/contractor.

Compose a new floor plan showing the proposed new structural layout which shows all the changes the client has in mind and that you're suggesting.

This is the time to explore the potential of the space and to recognize its possibilities and limitations.

Think about the qualities of the room or rooms and what it felt like to be in it/them.

What do you want to highlight? What do you want to disguise? **What is possible within the clients' budget?**



Thomasville.com

Free, simple, and professional looking.

Once you've done this process a few times, you'll get much quicker at it and better at realizing what works and what doesn't.

Contemporary and Shaker. Choose and customize your own dining tables, chairs, stools, buffets, servers, benches and accessories.

[Get started»](#)

Bedscapes

An upholstered headboard is one of the easiest ways to add a little pizzazz to a bedroom. Thomasville offers stylish frames with a variety of finishes and custom fabrics. Sleeping was never so dreamy!

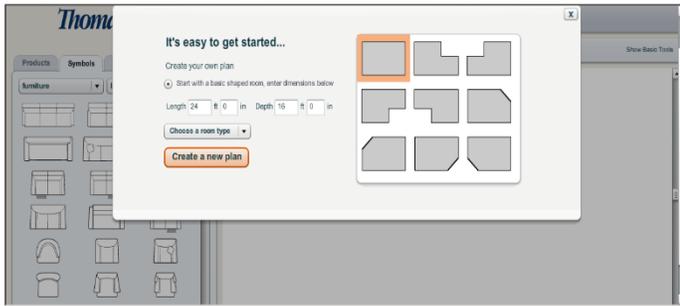
[Find out more»](#)

Room Planner

Whether it's small scale or grand scale, our room planner will ensure you've got the right scale.

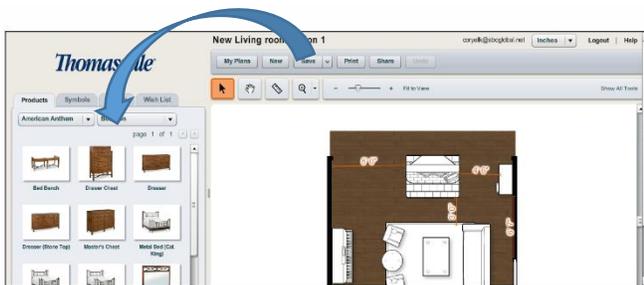
[Get started»](#)

Click on the Room Planner



- At this point, try to put aside your ideas for the styling theme you have in mind. Even though you may be bursting with wonderful visions for how fresh, modern, bright, luxurious or appealing you can make the spaces look, hold those thoughts for now.

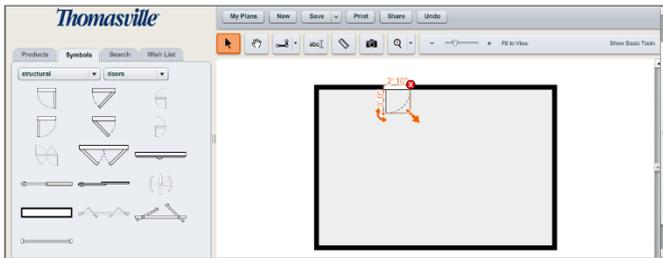
Step #1:
 Choose your shape
 Choose your dimensions
 Choose a room type



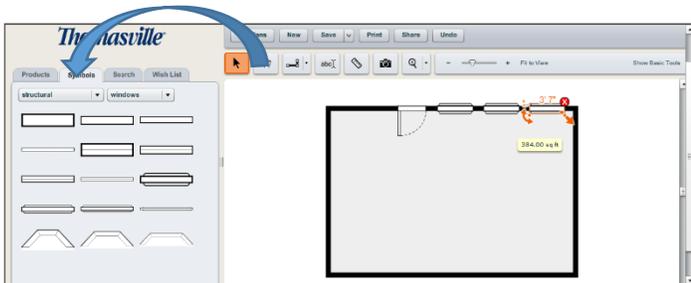
Step #2:
 Switch to Symbols



Step #3:
 You can open a saved plan or just start designing



- The first task in the design sequence is to draw out a floor plan of the space as it is before you begin your work.
- In your head, strip the room of all the furniture, fixtures and fittings and concentrate on the structure.
- Use the pictures you've taken on site, and the measurements. Keep these handy as they will help you remember the details.

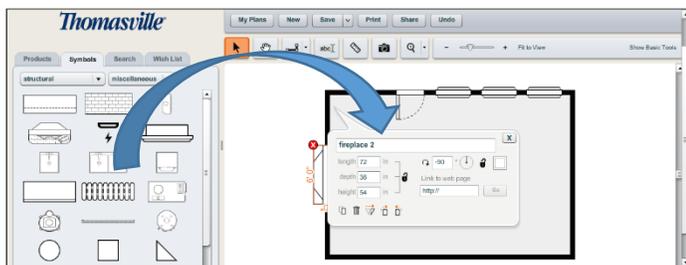


Step #4:
Insert structural and architectural details, windows, doors, wall openings

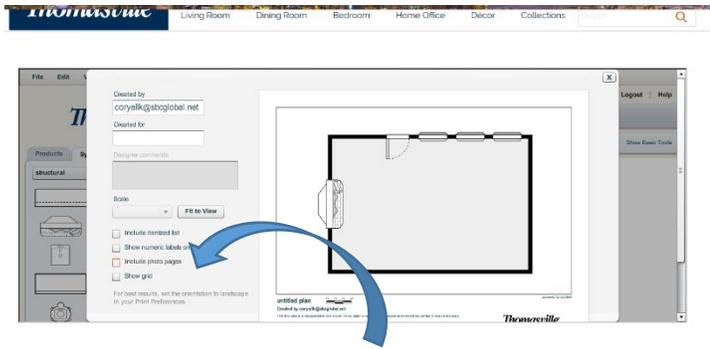
- Draw in the walls, recesses and projections, doors, indicating swing, windows and indicate what they are.
- To double check your measurements, add together the individual lengths of features and check that they add up to the total wall length.
- When you're just looking at the outline of a room, it's much easier to judge the proportions and features and see where you can make improvements.

Don't forget to take into consideration:

- Height, width and swing of doors
- Services – light switches, radiators, electrical points, etc.
- Architectural features – fireplace, arch, floor level change, sloping ceiling etc.
- You can specify exact measurements by double clicking on an element.
- In this window you can also rotate something, lock a piece that you know won't be changing, duplicate an item, and color in some things.

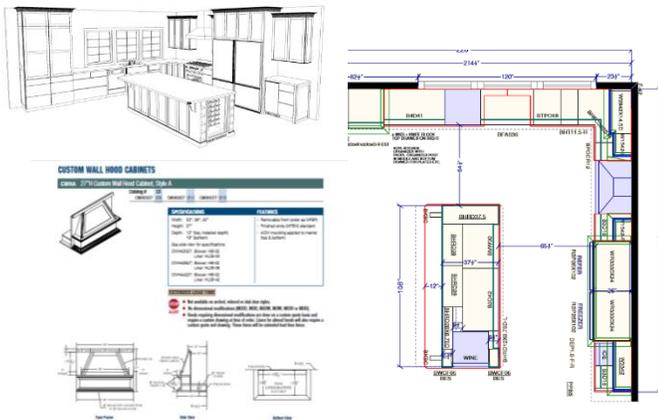


Double click an element to see the details



When you're ready to print, you can save your drawing or email to a client.

When you're printing, uncheck the list and photo pages



To Review, your project might include:

- Elevations
- Floor plans
- And Sections