

Slow Home Rules of Thumb – Room By Room

LIVABILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

Front/
Back Entry



- The front entry does not open directly into a principal living space.
- The front entry has a sufficiently sized closet within close proximity.
- The back entry does not enter directly into a principal living space.
- The back entry has sufficient floor/storage area unobstructed with other uses such as laundry.

- The front entry is appropriately scaled to the size of the house.
- The front entry does not limit access to natural light into the principal rooms.
- The back entry is appropriately scaled to the size of the house.
- In a cold climate, the front entry provides weather separation.

Indoor/
Outdoor
Living



- Interior living spaces are organized around a focal point and can be furnished with no wasted space.
- Interior living spaces have good natural daylight and a connection to an outdoor living space.
- Doors to the outside spaces are large and do not disrupt the functionality of the living spaces.

- There are no falsely labeled, redundant, or unnecessary living spaces.
- The living spaces are not out of scale or supersized.
- The living spaces are properly oriented to the sun and view.

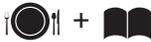
Kitchen



- Connected with and properly oriented to the other principal living areas.
- Located just outside of a major circulation route.
- Avoids unnecessary angles in cabinets, islands, and pantries.
- Continuous counters and an appropriate amount of storage.

- Does not have colliding geometries that reduce effective work areas and storage.
- Is not supersized.
- Avoids an excessive number of appliances.
- Has good natural light and ventilation.

Dining/
Study



- The dining room is proportioned to fit a table and chairs without wasted space.
- The dining room is a multi-functional space not cut off from other principal living areas.
- Study is properly proportioned as a workspace.
- Study is appropriately located in plan.

- No multiple or redundant dining spaces.
- The dining space has good natural light and ventilation.
- The study is not included unless it is needed.
- The study is not supersized or a falsely labeled left over space.

Bedrooms



- The bedrooms are located in a private area of the house in close proximity to the family bathroom.
- All bedrooms are sized and shaped to fit a bed without obstructing circulation or wasting space.
- There is an obvious and appropriate location for the bed.
- Efficient closets maximize storage space and minimize floor area.

- There are an appropriate number of bedrooms for your needs.
- All bedrooms have good natural sunlight and ventilation.
- Master bedroom and closet is not supersized.
- Avoid colliding geometries that create wasted space.

Bathrooms



- Family bathroom located in proximity to bedrooms.
- Ensure sufficient vanity space and storage areas.
- Avoid non standard layouts that result in excessive floor areas.
- Guest bathroom, if required, is located to be accessible but private.

- Avoid redundant or unwarranted bathrooms.
- Avoid supersized fixtures.
- Avoid supersized bathrooms.
- Avoid colliding geometries that create wasted space.

Garage/
Laundry



- Garage meets minimum interior dimensions for parking and access.
- Garage does not significantly reduce the usability of the rear yard.
- Laundry has sufficient floor area for machines and is not obstructed with other uses or circulation.
- Laundry is not a falsely labeled or residual space.

- Minimize the number of parking spaces (ideally less than 2).
- Garage does not limit light into principal rooms.
- Avoid supersized laundry rooms with wasted space.
- Avoid excessive number of laundry appliances or multiple laundry rooms.