



DESIGN BRIEF

The clients are the Taylor's, a soon to be retired couple who downsized from their large family home into this 1500 square foot condominium. The unit was constructed in the 1960's and was in original condition when the Taylor's recently purchased it. The design of the main floor changes were completed in previous Design Project Segments – 02.24, 02.25, 02.26.

The Taylor's would now like to complete the project with an upgrade to the second floor. As they are alone, the second bedroom and bathroom are a lower priority because they will only be used occasionally by guests. However, they do want them brought up to the standard of the rest of the house. The master ensuite, however, is more of a concern. They do not like the fact that it is open to the bed and they would also prefer a large shower to a bathtub. If possible they would prefer to have more closet space in the master suite.

To learn more about the client, review her Residential Profile and Slow Home Test Results.

This is the Project Documentation Package for Part One of this week's *Design Project*. The goal of the *Design Project* exercises is to learn about the design process for making an existing home more Simple, Light, and Open. Review the Design Brief in this documentation package to understand what the client needs and wants for their home. Use the existing floor plan to analyze how Simple, Light and Open the home is in terms of these needs. For background information on what to look for, review the Simple Light Open description on the website.

Draw overtop of the plan as you analyze the house and then write down your observations about the design and your recommendations for change. When you are ready, watch John Brown complete the first part of the Design Project and compare your results. To discuss the exercise further with John, and other participants, add your comments to the blog. In the next segment we will be applying these recommendations to create a concept design.

RESIDENTIAL PROFILE - TAYLOR RESIDENCE

1. Describe your goals for your house

We are downsizing from the large family home we raised our children in. We want to simplify our lives and have a home that is easy to live in through our retirement. We need a dedicated place to do some office work and like to entertain. We would like a separate room for the TV.

2. Describe Each Member of Your Household

Age	Gender	Interests	Daily Commute Time	Travel Mode (walk, train, car)
59	M	Golf	15min	Car
57	F	Cooking, Arts, Entertainment	15min	Car

3. Describe any changes to the composition of your household that you anticipate over the next five years:

We will be retiring in the next 5 years.

4. List three words that best describe the way you currently live:

Outdated, Inefficient, Cramped

5. List three words that best describe the way you would like to live:

Open, Easy, Comfortable

6. Do you rent or own your house?

Rent

Own

We have no mortgage

7. How long do you plan to live in your current house?

Less than 3 years

More than 3 years

Much longer

8. How much of your household budget would you like to devote to your house?

Less

About the same as I do now

Much more

We have equity from the sale of our house to spend on upgrading this one

1. Describe your current neighborhood:

City:

Calgary,

State/Province:

Alberta

A pleasant 1960's neighborhood with lots of trees and a retail plaza within walking distance.

2. Why did you select this location:

Close to friends, familiar with neighborhood

3. Describe your current home:

Size: 1500sq.ft.

Year Built: 1960's

Type: Townhouse

(single family detached, townhouse/rowhouse, low-rise condo, high-rise condo, other)

4. Why did you select this home?

Ease of condo living, size, same neighborhood as previous house.

5. What do you like most about it?

Size, underground parking, terrace

6. What do you like least about it?

Closed in kitchen, cramped space, outdated bathrooms
Dining is too small, TV in Living Room

7. Rank the following uses in order of importance from 1 - 8 (1 being most important):

3 _ Living

2 _ Dining

4 _ Study / Office

1 _ Kitchen

7 _ Bedrooms

6 _ Bathrooms

5 _ Outdoor Living

8 _ Craft/ Hobby

8. What is the light score for your house?

Critical

Poor

Fair

Good

9. What is the open score for your house?

Poor

Fair

Good

10. What is the simple score for your house?

Poor

Fair

Good

THE SLOW HOME TEST - TAYLOR RESIDENCE

SIMPLE (Score: Fair)

SIZE

1. My home is too big for my needs.

True False

USE

2. The bathrooms in my home are inefficient or too small

True False

3. _____ rooms in my house are difficult to furnish

Most Some Few/None

4. My home has a well defined interior entry space

True False

5. The bedrooms in my house are quiet and peaceful

True False

6. My house has a table at which everyone can eat

True False

7. My living room can accommodate most of my needs

True False

8. My television is unobtrusive and well integrated into my living space

True/ Don't have a TV False

9. My home has a convenient and quiet place to read or work

True False

10. My home has _____ closet and storage space

Too Much
The right amount
Not Enough

LIGHT (Score: Fair)

AFFORDABILITY

1. I live in a home that I cannot really afford

True False

PROXIMITY

2. I spend more than 45 min. each day commuting in my car

True False

3. I can walk, cycle or take a bus or train to go to work

True False

4. I can walk or cycle to buy groceries

True False

EMBODIED ENERGY

5. I live in a _____

Low/Hi Rise Condo
Attached Townhouse/Rowhouse
Detached single family home

6. My neighborhood is

< 5 years old 6-25 years old > 25 years old

7. My home is

< 1800 sqft 1800-2800 sqft > 2800sqft

OPERATING FOOTPRINT

8. My house can be kept warm or cool without mechanical means

Most of the time Some of the time Never

9. My home has _____ of the following:

energy smart appliances, low flow plumbing fixtures, a programmable thermostat, e and compact fluorescent bulbs
All Four Three Two One None

10. Most of the energy used by home comes from

Oil/Coal/I Don't Know
Natural Gas / Electricity
Renewable Sources (solar, wind, etc.)

OPEN (Score: Fair)

PRIVATE SPACE

1. My home has enough bedrooms for my needs

True False

ORGANIZATION

2. My living, dining and kitchen spaces are located in separate rooms

True False

3. The kitchen in my home is inefficient and hard to work in

True False

4. The layout of my home is poorly organized

True False

5. My home has _____ wasted space.

A Lot Some Very little

6. _____ rooms feel cramped and cluttered

Most Some Few/None

CONNECTION TO NATURE

7. My home has a good amount of natural light and ventilation

In all rooms In some rooms In few/no rooms

8. I feel connected to the outdoors from inside my home

True False

9. I have large windows/ doors in my main living spaces

True False

10. I have an outdoor space that connects to my main living space.

True & it is often used
True & it is seldom used
False