



Inspiration: Alfie Fallon

When we discuss interior design, the first thought that comes to mind is of specialists and clients as mature individuals capable of making decisions. However, what role do children play? Are they frequently questioned about their preferences for their bedroom or living area, which is supposed to be shared by all family members? Or is it solely a parental decision?

While there is a wealth of research and reports on client preferences for interior design, both professionals and amateurs, there is scant research on children involved in this process. Some studies indicate the importance of interior design in assisting the education system as a new experience. In this case, the primary goal of interior design is to generate an appropriate environment to perform a particular activity which necessitates an examination of the behaviour of consumers of the interior with respect to a set of fundamental characteristics.

Based on these characteristics, the notion of game, creative thinking and the room's engaging aspects should be considered in order to enhance our child's cognitive potentiality. Additionally, some aspects should be considered when designing children's rooms, such as the space's horizontal and vertical predictors, furniture layout, air circulation, illumination, materials, and colour schemes.

Generally speaking, the primary consideration for babies and toddlers is safety. However, security may not be sufficient to design a space for them as it should promote their emotionally driven health, enhance their sensory perception, and provide opportunities in order to exercise their motor function. As a result, floors should be hygienic and warm for children as they are at risk of ingesting and inhaling old paint or other impurities such as dust during their playing activities on floors or other surfaces. Furthermore, the designer or parents should arrange an open area that allows for maximum adaptability and encourages children's curiosity to discover their freedom.

As they mature, a well-designed room can assist children in making better decisions and educating them on how to look after themselves and their world. Since their sensors are still maturing, an open area for their room still needs to be a priority. Cliffs, ramps and miniature stairs may be suggested to stimulate children to walk and investigate. Thus, elements to consider when building a space include not only security and wellbeing, but also the selection colours, which have a significant impact on children's creative thinking. Pre-schoolers enjoy a warm, bright colour palette for their room since it complements their natural outgoing character and helps them develop their inventiveness. Despite parents' protective tendency and sense of expertise, where is the child's voice when it comes to decorating their own room?

Adults and young children should cooperate more during the design process, according to a 2018 study, because young children may effectively create spaces with a clearer vision of their prospective environments while also learning about sciences, numeracy, problem-solving, innovation and creativity through the design process. According to studies, children should have the liberty to be children since it is their natural drive to be actively creative, a fact that promotes brain growth and thus learning. Additionally, the study highlighted three primary benefits for children and adults engaged in the design project: a greater awareness of people's needs and demands, the establishment of reasonable perceptions among target groups and empowerment of marginalised groups. As a result, parents should pay close attention to their children's needs and investigate ways to adapt internal spaces to accommodate children and encourage them in integrating into adult society.

Consequently, how many times have you considered your children's viewpoint on how to arrange their personal room? Did you allow them to choose items that may not be as aesthetically pleasing as you would prefer? By responding to yourself, you can determine how autonomous your children are in making choices.

Written by Cristina Gore, Market Research Associate

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