



design promise.

know. choose. promise.

May 2006

know.

the earth has a limited supply of natural resources

choose.

an environment that is healthy and aesthetically appealing

promise.

to be aware and make a difference

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- interior architecture
- home design / space planning
- product design
- 3d rendering & design
- universal design
- sustainable material selection
- architectural support services
- construction documents
- graphic design
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ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN NEWSLETTER

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know.

We have all heard these terms; green / sustainable design, and adding my profession, Interior Architect. To some they seem like the "buzz" words, words that mean you are in the "know" and current to today's topics. To others they have little or no meaning and you are afraid to ask.

The official definition:

Sustainable design is the art of designing physical objects to comply with the principles of economic, social, and ecological sustainability. It ranges from the microcosm of designing small objects for everyday use, through to the macrocosm of designing buildings, cities, and the earth's physical surface.¹

Still confused?

You are not alone. To put it simply, it is making educated and informed decisions in selecting materials, design solutions and construction that have the least impact on the environment and in the best case scenario will actually add to the health and well being of the occupants and environment, while being non-toxic, less energy dependent and help to return the earth to it's natural balance.

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_design

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design tips

spring cleaning

- get rid of clutter, organize your office, closet or that attic space
- organize loose items into storage containers and label by item
- replace standard incandescent light bulbs with mini fluorescent bulbs, they not only save energy but are better for the environment
- rooms can appear larger with lighter, more reflective colors
- need more storage space... go vertical
- replace carpet with more eco-friendly materials
- rooms are more functional if they are divided into zones
- plants clean the air and add to the mental well being of the room occupants

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My role as an **Interior Architect** is to inform, educate and collaboratively design a safe, functional, sustainable and aesthetically appealing environment for my client. This involves making well informed and professionally trained decisions that will aesthetically and holistically have a positive impact on your well being and the environment.

To those who know me, you know my passion for design and my persistent quest to research, inform and execute the best and most pragmatic design solutions.



Interior architecture is a multi-discipline principle that requires the ability to visually communicate as well as solve problems requiring critical thinking. The environment should be inclusive of functional areas, sustainable materials, furniture and equipment. Working collaboratively with architects, contractors, builders and suppliers it is our role to successfully make your vision a reality.



choose.

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future issues

- Companies that are making a difference
- Green projects that should be noted
- Organizations that need your involvement
- IDEAS and content contributors are welcome

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Graphic Artists, Interior Designers/Interior Architects, Architects, Media Artists, Web developers, Visual Artists and on and on..., the world of design has many favorable attributes; creativity, research, visual satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment. Those are some of the good, but along with the positive must come the negative (yin/yang). This universal concept has existed longer than the rise (and fall) of mankind and will continue long after.

We meet with clients and through our mastery of human psychology and design skills, we interpret their dreams into visual reality. In this process, we must make decisions. Decisions that may have effects far beyond our present reality. The choice of materials, applications and execution, all effect our environment. We recycle, but do we create more than we use?...the answer is yes.

We made a promise to add beauty to the world, to our environment, to our culture and to humanity. Are we keeping our promise? No... we need to learn more about the choices that we make and their potential effects on the environment.

Those last brochures that were designed required how many hours on your computer, that used how much energy to produce how many sheets of paper, to proof or review with the client before the printer had to produce more than they needed to get the quantity ordered. Think about it; the air pollution produced from the inks and equipment, the trucks and fuel needed to deliver and the results that end up in the landfills that are taking up an increasing percentage of mother earth.

The building was designed to please the client, but what about the people that must work, live in or visit the building, home or retail location. Is the air as clean as it should be, are the paints emitting toxins, does the carpet hold mold, mildew or other undesirables? As a consumer you have the right to a clean and healthy environment. But do we make ourselves and clients aware of the choices and how they can make a difference?

We are all guilty, myself included...but we can make a change. In the coming days, months, weeks, and hopefully years; let's discuss, let's learn and let's make a change.

Let me know what you think and how you and I can make a difference.

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Mona King