



## THE INTERSECTION OF MODERNITY AND RESIDENTIAL SPACE

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### ABSTRACT

*The social and economic landscape of the globe has changed dramatically and daily life is still evolving quickly. People are in a better place than they have ever been and in the next 25 years the standard of living is predicted to quadruple. Apart from the economic shifts, there have also been a number of social shifts, including the rise in nuclear families, the DINC (double income, no children) phenomenon, and single parent households. A new urban atmosphere has been established by the altered social attitudes and rituals of urban living. Thus, the function of modern residential architecture is undergoing a similar transition, moving from one of only providing shelter to one of creating "Life Style-oriented Environments." Thus, in order to improve liveability and happiness at home the focus is now on "How the space is programmed with features." Changes in Employment trends with innovations in technology and communications have made the central workplace less necessary and a portion of home becoming an extension of the workplace. Also, modifications in the makeup of households, such as married people without children, single parents, and single individuals. Another reason is a shift in values where leisure and cultural pursuits are given greater weight and a willingness to spend more time in the safety and comfort of a well-designed home are prioritized. The way that modern residential architecture is planned, created and sold is being redefined by all of these developments. Therefore, choosing to buy a new house is mostly determined by lifestyle factors with purchasers seeking for specialized items with floor plans that suit and represent their unique lives. With a focus on lifestyle-oriented design, residences are arranged as a collection of component sections, with each component area planned differently for a variety of household types. The goal of this paper is to go into depth of various component areas, their space needs and their interactions with one another for various lifestyle-oriented houses in today's society.*

**Keywords:** Lifestyle-oriented environments, Household profiles, Residential architecture, Community component, Privacy component.

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Ar. Silia Grover is an Architect & Urban Planner, academician, author and a researcher. She has professional as well as academic experience of 6 years. Currently, working as Assistant Professor in the Department of Architecture, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. As a dedicated educator, she is committed to fostering critical thinking and research skills among her students. She teaches courses where she integrates her research expertise to provide students with hands-on learning experiences and equips them with the necessary tools to excel in different subjects. Her scholarly contributions extend beyond the classroom. She has written extensively for various publications in various magazines, journals, conference proceedings, professional websites etc. on Sustainable Architecture, Housing, Urban Planning and Governance, Energy Efficiency, Urban Design, Transport Systems, Sanitation and related fields. Committed to advancing knowledge and promoting diversity in academia, she actively engages in conference presentations in National level i.e. Planning and Architecture for Hill Regions in NIT Hamirpur and International level on Emerging Trends in Engineering, Science and Management, Global Group of Institutes, Amritsar. Driven by a passion for discovery and a commitment to excellence she continues to push the boundaries of knowledge in Theory of Design and Structure system. Through her teaching, research, and service, she strives to inspire the next generation and contribute meaningfully to academic discourse.

## INTRODUCTION

The concepts of "house" and "home" are synonymous. Some social scientists assert that the Marathi word ghar, which means "home," simultaneously evokes the three 'H's, in English: house, home and hearth. But none of the three "Hs" can truly be taken for granted in terms of the message they are intended to express at any one moment. The kitchen has completely changed from being a smoke-filled, gloomy space to an open workstation with a westernized aesthetic. The hearth or the chool (or chulah in Hindi), is no longer burning on the floor. The manner that families currently go about their daily business is far more liberalized, if not democratic in our metropolitan centres. The second "H," the house, has also changed as a result of the shift in gender perspectives, in addition to the modification of the kitchen and hearth. Changed social attitudes and rituals of urban life have founded a new urban milieu. These are reflected in lifestyle of the citizens. The way modern residential architecture is programmed, constructed and sold is being redefined by the shifting trends in living. Therefore, choosing to buy a new house is mostly determined by lifestyle factors, with purchasers seeking for specialized items with floor plans that suit and represent their unique lives. The emphasis on lifestyle-oriented design caters to a variety of home kinds, with houses acting as an assembly of component spaces that are designed uniquely for each type of household. Rooms that are utilized in concert are frequently included in the examination of homes as living components. Separate rooms are those that satisfy the requirement for seclusion. While some rooms are used as official stage sets, others are more fitting for their casual backstage role. A typical home is made up of five different components. These components are: Community component, Privacy component, Ceremonial component, Functional component and Outdoor component.

### Community component

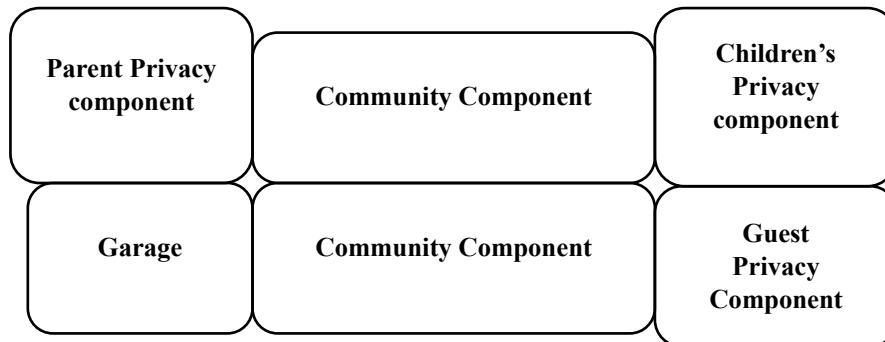
Though the living and/or family room are usually associated with this space, the kitchen and a casual dining area, usually referred to as the breakfast area, are also included in the communal component. Family members may gather together in this comfortable and laid-back environment and engage with one another.

### Privacy Component

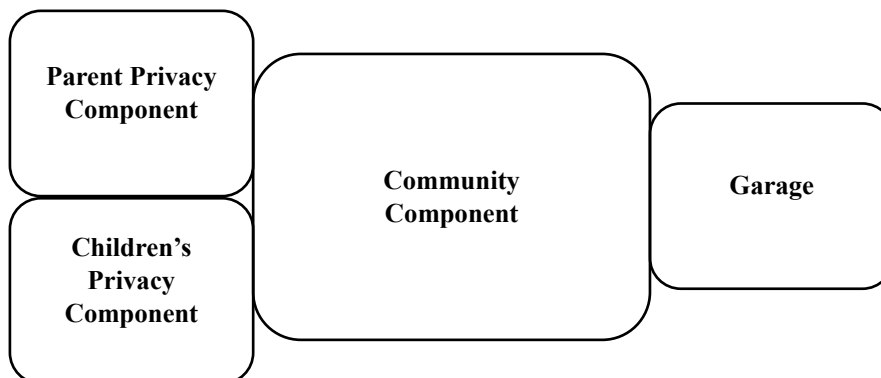
Individuals have a desire for solitude, privacy, and introspection that is equally fundamental as their need for community. In a normal home, the bedrooms and den/library serve this purpose. For a little peace and quiet, people can withdraw from the bigger group here. In addition, larger houses could feature a den, library, study, home office, or guest suite—all of which require the highest level of seclusion.

## Ceremonial component

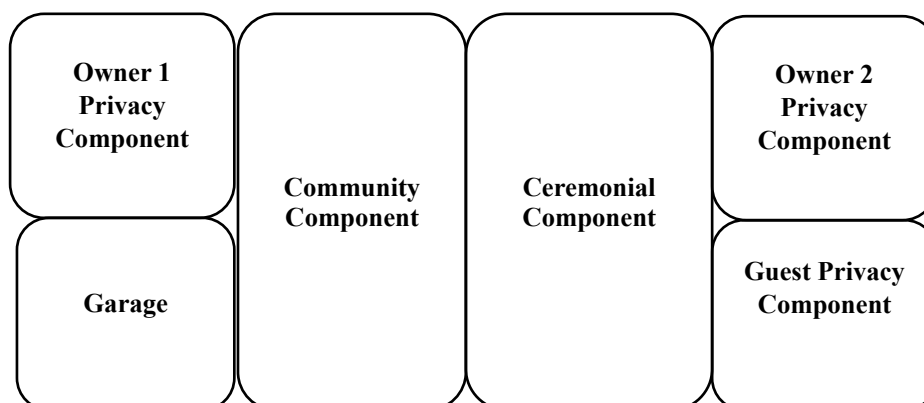
A minimum necessity for most residences is areas for hosting and amusing visitors. Formal and elegant rooms are necessary for social events such as parties and holiday get-togethers. The living and dining rooms are included in this category in bigger residences. These rooms are rarely used, yet they are significant since they are frequently styled as displays. The living room, dining room, and entry hall entryway all characterize the ceremonial element of the house.



**COMPONENT BLOCKS FOR MATURE FAMILY HOUSEHOLD**



**COMPONENT BLOCKS FOR YOUNG SINGLE PARENT HOUSEHOLD**



**COMPONENT BLOCKS FOR "MINGLES" HOUSEHOLD**

**Fig. 1 Organization of components for various types of households**



## Functional component

A house must also be large enough to accommodate every need needed by a functioning household. This implies that rooms for things like laundry, mechanical spaces, and storage for the gadgets most homes use-such as cars, leisure vehicles, and tools for basic maintenance and repair-must be provided. Here, practicality and utilitarian considerations take precedence above artistic merit. Typically, closets, attics, utility rooms, garages, workshops, and sometimes basements are included in this component.

## Outdoor Component

Building facades and external spaces like patios, decks, gardens, and yards are all part of the outdoor component. The back yard area is where homeowners may unwind away from prying eyes, while the front yard and public areas of a property should be designed with a neighbourly and community-minded mindset in mind. This duality evokes the harmony between seclusion and community within the house. Functionalism rules the back, while ceremony rules the front.

## The synthesis Process

It takes a real balancing act to put the disparate parts together into a functional design.

### 1. TYPES OF HOUSING ORIENTED BY LIFE STYLE

Due to population change there are more older individuals, single people, and young people than ever before. Simultaneously, there's growing pressure to cut back on travel, especially to work, which means a lot more people are probably working from home. New housing demands are brought about by shifting population behaviours and varying affordability levels. These needs may be divided into the following categories:

- **Economic Based**
  - HIG (High Income Group)
  - MIG (Middle Income Group)
  - LIG (Low Income Group)
  - EWS (Economically Weaker Section)
- **Social Based**
  - Couples with children
  - Couples without children
  - Singles/ Mingles
  - Single Parents
- **Age Based**
  - Elderly people
  - Young people
- **Occupation based**
  - Live/ work units for professionals (Artists, Lawyer, Architects, Planners, Doctors)
- **Physically Challenged Group**

### 2. SPATIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF HOUSING

#### 2.1 Economic Based

The dynamics of housing demand are intricately tied to Economic considerations, reflecting the diverse needs and financial capacities of different income groups. At the summit of the economic hierarchy, the High-Income Group (HIG) pursues lavish accommodations, characterized by spaciousness and premium amenities. Their demand gravitates towards luxurious apartments, penthouses, or sprawling estates nestled in prime locales, often within gated communities offering exclusivity and convenience. In contrast, the Middle-Income Group (MIG) seeks a balance between affordability and comfort, typically opting for modest yet comfortable dwellings such as middle-class apartments, townhouses, or compact single-family homes. Location plays a pivotal role, with preferences leaning towards neighbourhood's boasting good connectivity, schools, and essential amenities. For the economically vulnerable, namely the Low-Income Group (LIG) and the Economically Weaker Section (EWS), housing demand is shaped by stark affordability constraints. LIG households often rely on government-sponsored schemes or affordable rental housing, prioritizing access to basic amenities and proximity to livelihood opportunities. Meanwhile, the EWS segment, facing the brunt of economic hardship, necessitates extremely affordable housing solutions, ranging from subsidized shelters to micro-housing units, with fundamental necessities like sanitation facilities and clean water taking precedence.



## 2.2 Social Based

The socially stratified category consists of both young families looking for their first houses and older households upgrading because of growing families or increased incomes. With an emphasis on family rooms and big family rooms, young families place a high value on privacy and communal features. The entry, living, and eating spaces are combined into one enormous space, with the ceremonial component taking up a smaller percentage of the overall square footage that is accessible. The size of the house grows and the importance of the ceremonial element grows with mature families. Affluent couples without kids choose smaller, more manageable homes with smaller-unit amenities. This group places less value on distinct ceremonial and communal elements because guests frequently utilize the extra bedrooms. For couples without kids, opulent baths are included in the package.

## 2.3 Age Based

The proportion of houses, apartments, and institutional accommodation built for the elderly has increased due to advances in medical sciences and increased social security benefits. To ensure the right association with the environment, it is essential to avoid creating a strange new world and encourage independence and self-sufficiency. The concept of VSH (Very Sheltered Housing) has been developed to provide tenants with a home for life, offering different levels of care and support. Selecting the site for housing the elderly should be level, not bounded by major traffic arteries, and close to essential commercial facilities and community facilities. Public transportation should be immediately available at the site, as many services required by the aged may be located elsewhere. The site should also allow for adequate outdoor areas for both active and passive recreation. Design and planning principles for housing the elderly should be small, compact, fireproof, and provide privacy, pleasantness, and spaciousness. Illumination levels should be approximately double those used in residential practice, and light sources should be shielded to avoid glare. Circulation planning should be clear and rational, with contact with the outside at some points along the length. For young people, two new forms of housing have emerged: Foyers and CASPER (City Centre Apartments for Single People At Affordable Rents). Foyers provide basic accommodation for young single people, while CASPAR offers fully serviced, short-term accommodations within easy walking distance of urban centres.

## 2.4 Occupation Based

People may now work from home much more easily because to advancements in communication and technology. A growing number of people are expected to find working from home appealing due to the need to cut back on travel and the inadequacies of the transportation system. Since they increase the usage of urban housing so such adjustments should be applauded. This promotes a greater variety of local services and raises effective density. Concurrently, the number of purpose-designed live/work apartments being created has increased. In an effort to improve sustainability, they might be integrated into projects that are mostly residential or constructed as separate developments in locations that were originally intended for industrial. These usually consist of two domestic-scale stories connected to a large, well-lit, double-height area. Although it must be small, there appears to be a market for these units. In essence, these represent a return to the classic artist's studio. They must appeal to those who have to work on initiatives that are somewhat large-scale and could need an odd work schedule. Consequently, there won't be much of a need for live/work apartments with specific designs. It could be more crucial to build offices in addition to homes. This would lessen the need for commuting and enable more flexible living and working schedules.

## CONCLUSION

The explanation above barely scratches the surface of the most notable variations in household profiles and how they affect specific elements as well as how these elements are arranged in relation to one another in the overall floor plan. Before a final program is established, the components outlined here should be integrated with a comprehensive analysis of local market preferences, even if they are crucial beginning points. But, the most crucial design decisions in any residential design must be made with the understanding that all other factors are secondary to universal wants and aspirations. Special features will not make amends for lack of function and grace in other components; design that responds to lifestyle considerations for everyone must be the principal ingredient of the residential recipe.



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