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The Importance of Qualified and Professional Architects by [Mary Porter](#)

Article published on July 4th 2012 | [Business](#)

Architects are responsible for ensuring their house designs comply with building rules and regulations as well as satisfying the needs of their clients. Architects must go through a rigorous process to ensure their building design is fully approved by local authorities and the architects drawings are accurately scaled and drawn for planning approval applications.

Each local authority may have different regulations therefore architects must be aware of or seek building advice from local planning permission officials. Architects must be able to liaise and communicate and express their ideas, inspirations, knowledge and vision to their clients, employers, stakeholders, property developers, engineers, tradesmen and any other stakeholders involved in the architectural project.

Architects must also have a clear understanding of the objectives to produce innovate and imaginative solutions to individual needs, requirements and most importantly they must fit in with local landscapes and regulations. Depending on the size of the project, architects may be required to co-ordinate the different elements such as the interior designers, the plumbers, electricians, builders, carpenters, joiners, buyers so once they have developed the designs, architects may act as project managers to ensure everything goes according to plan and architects are on hand to resolve any unforeseen problems that may arise.

Architects must be able to successfully provide to scale blue print drawings which are 100% accurate and easy to read. Failure to provide accurate drawings will result in disasters and problems during the project construction and when trying to source the correct and required materials. Qualified architects will have many years of academic and professional training in the architectural field.

Professional requirements varies from country to country but most places require a university degree, work training or intern programme and a professional architects examination. Architects in Durban may also require registration with the South African Council for the Architectural Profession which is a professional organisation to maintain and promote a high standard of competency and responsibility throughout the architects industry.

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Article Keywords:

Architects, architects in Durban