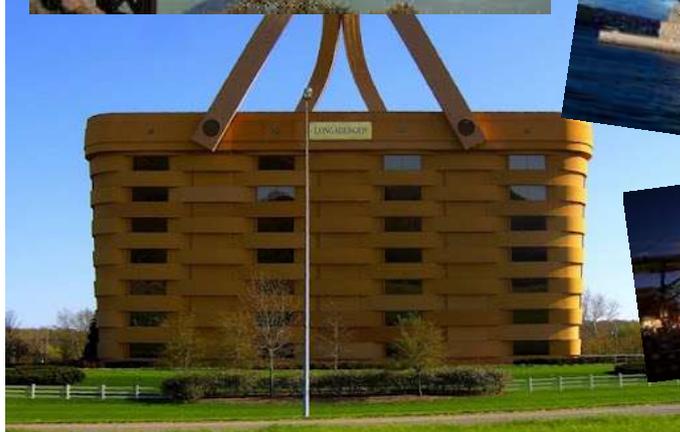
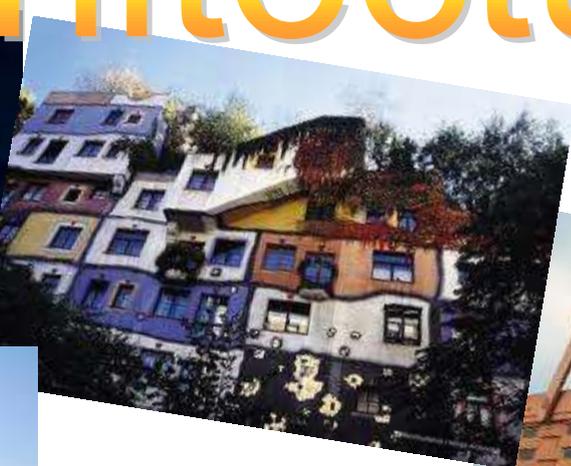
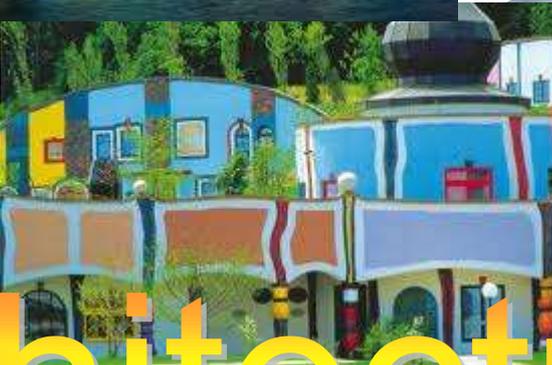


# Architecture



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# 3 steps to become a famous architect

Sophie Esterbauer

## 1) Decide if you want to become an architect

Okay, this sounds easy. "I want to become an architect", and that's it. But actually this is the hardest part of all, you really have to be sure, otherwise this will only stay a dream. You also have to understand that architecture is not only designing, but also geometry, physics, algebra... If these subjects are your favorite ones in school *and* you are very creative, you have some weird / funny / beautiful / extraordinary / pretty / critical ideas then becoming an architect will be perfect for you.

## 2) Studying architecture

One of the hardest parts; you'll need a lot of stamina and enthusiasm for studying architecture. There is also a much easier way to design houses; you could become a building designer. For this job all you need is good ideas and the ability to draw a sketch. Someone else will then plan the technical. There is only one tiny problem: you will probably have to pay the real architect who'll make your design. So you will not only get no money, you will have to pay everything privately. Small tipp, really study architecture!

## 3) Find a company that needs an architect

As soon as you are finished with all the studying, now you only need a company that needs you and is enthused about your newest designs and then voilà! Of course it has to be so brilliant that tourists from all continents come and visit it, that your face will be shown in all newspapers and you have tons of companies that look forward to your next designs. You will have paparazzi and no private life any more. But that's what it's like to be a famous architect.

# The Basket Building

This piece of modern architecture is located in Ohio, U.S.A. It is designed from a huge company that sells home products like pottery, specialty food and handcrafted wooden baskets. A fun fact about the basket building is that it is exactly 160 times bigger than the medium baskets that Longaberger sells, all the proportions are the same. On the basket building are two handles fixed, like on a real basket and they almost weigh 150 tons! Just imagine how someone had to fix them; of course they needed a gigantic crane. In addition to that it also had been very risky, if the handles where not fixed properly and they would have fallen down, people that were working at the building lot would have been hurt. The handles are constantly heated in winter because ice could damage them and the Longaberger

Company has just enough money, to make sure that no snow could ever touch the building. My personal opinion is that this is a huge waste of electricity. If they would have used some other material that wouldn't react on snow, they wouldn't need that.

I think that this is a very creative way of making commercial for a product of company. Consequently there are many tourists coming to have a look at it, so more people will buy baskets. For me, this is a good example of how architecture influences people, in good *and* bad ways. Good for the company, but bad for the consumer. He buys products that he doesn't really need. However, it has cost the company for more money that if it had to pay only posters and commercials on the T.V.



# Upside Down House

In  
the

beginning of July 2010 this amazing house was built in Germany. Well for now this might sound very ordinary, but this special house is actually one of the craziest things I have ever heard of. It is so unusual because it is really built upside down. That means that all the furniture and all little items are mounted to the top. Can you imagine that? Tables, chairs, closets, even beds and a couch are screwed to the ceiling. Pillows and blankets are sewed on and all the pictures are hanging upside down. It seems as a normal house has just been turned over. But it is not that easy... The workers had to improvise all the time and had to change a lot of the furniture to make them functional. The upsidedown house has electricity and the workers have even installed an air conditioner, only the water is missing.

The building can be visited almost every day from april to october. The architect of this fancy building is called Marco Griesinger, although he was not the first who designed a house like this. Another house of this kind is placed in Trassenheide in Germany. The ones who had the idea for this house were the polish colleges Klausdiusz Golos and Sebastian Mikiciuk. But this house is not only turned around by 180 procent, but also has a decline of 6 degrees which means it is not that easy to keep your balance anymore.

The two houses are both standing on the top of their roofs. For the workers, it was a great challenge to construct these houses so that they remain balanced. In case of storms, there is a hidden steel frame inside the walls.

I think this kind of house-architecture is very exciting, although I couldn't imagine living in one of those. I believe that many people get dizzy after a while when standing in there! But it would still be a great experience to visit one of those.

Here you can see an example of an upside down house.

Information + picture:  
<http://www.spiegel.de/reise/europa/0,1518,576207,00.html>



# Golden Gate Bridge



2737 meters. This is the length of the golden gate bridge. It is almost 27 meters wide and 227 meters high. It was a big challenge to build, because there is such a strong current in the bay. The longest distance between two upright carriers is 1280 meters; this is a lot! The Golden Gate Bridge has 6 tracks on which 120.000 vehicles drive per day. You can also walk along the bridge by foot, but it is really long. Ships can drive through because the bridge is over 70 meters above sea level. The architect of this bridge is Othmar Ammann. He also designed the George- Washington Bridge in New York City. On January 5<sup>th</sup> 1933, the workers began to build the Golden Gate Bridge and it took them over four years until the bridge was finished. This enormous project cost about 35 billion (millarden) dollars, and unfortunately eleven deaths, even though they had stretched a safety net below the bridge while building. It saved 19 workers lives, but one day a heavy piece of the framework fell down with ten workers and the net couldn't stand the pressure. At first people doubted they could even finance it, but Mr. Ammann didn't want to change his mind, which was very good.

The Golden Gate Bridge has, as you probably know, an orange color- its not golden as some might think, and it never was golden. It was actually planned that the bridge should be painted gray, but the orange is a rust- proofing paint and the citizens liked the color because it fits to the landscape. At night the bridge is illuminated and it almost looks a bit golden.

The bridge got its name from the natural entrance to the San Francisco Bay, which is a strait named- during the gold rush in the mid 1800's- the Golden Gate.

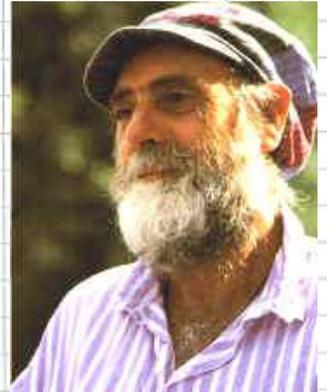
I think this is one of the most beautiful bridges of the world and it fits perfectly to its surroundings. I still wonder how they managed to build it across such a stream, they must have had really good workers.

On the internet you can find thousands of gorgeous, beautiful pictures of the golden gate bridge.



Information: [http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden\\_Gate\\_Bridge](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_Gate_Bridge)

# Hundertwasser



Friedrich Hundertwasser was a painter and architect (picture →). His birth name was Stowasser but he changed his name at the age of 21 to Hundertwasser because "sto" in Slovenia means hundred. Hundertwasser was born in the year 1920. In the age of 6 he already painted on chairs and everything and made them more colourful. He painted and painted despite the fact that his father punished him for that! At the age of 22 he studied at the



University for arts and crafts. He drew only "normal" paintings (picture ←) at first nevertheless, 1980 he started to design and build houses and monuments. In the year 2000 he died on the ship "Queen Elizabeth the II". Furthermore, a street in Vienna, where three of his houses were in, was named after him (Hundertwasser-promenade).

He built the city hall of Vienna, the Bad Blumau and many other artistic monuments (picture →). With his buildings he wanted to bright up the world and make it colourful and cheerful. All his work has many different colours divided by black wavy lines. With this he made his work unique and the buildings look like they are moving. On all of his works you can find a dome that looks like a rain drop = this is his brand.



I think those houses and buildings make the street really colourful!

[www.kinderhundertwasser.de](http://www.kinderhundertwasser.de)

# Sydney Opera

The Opera house of Sydney (Australia) is a masterpiece of late modern art. The architect was Jorn Utzon from Denmark. It is a rather unknown architect but still, Queen Elizabeth herself came to the opening ceremony to open the second biggest landmark in Australia!

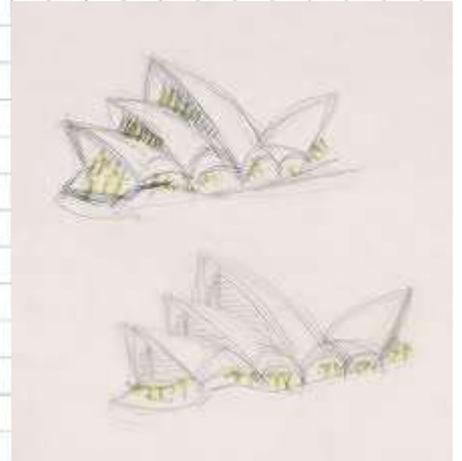
It looks like a fan, built out of many gigantic shells. Utzon got this idea from Orange peels. The roofs are built by ceramic tiles because they reflect the sunlight so that it looks as if the opera was shining. At night the opera is lighted with different colours by electric lights, to draw attention to the symbol of a great city! Inside the opera there are five big halls: an auditorium for operas, a small cinema and three bigger theatres. In the middle there is a big ceremonial stairway that is nearly 100 meter broad. If there is a big event the guests can stand on the terrace with a magnificent view over the sea and to the great Dawns Bridge

(←picture). This terrace is just opened for really important or rich guests. The opera is 67 Meters high and the area of all the halls is ~1,5 km<sup>2</sup> big. It needed 15 years to build this masterpiece of architecture.

**One** ticket for "The marriage of Figaro" at 10:00 costs about 230€! The Opera is very well known all over the world. I think this piece of arts is one of the most beautiful buildings in

the world!

[www.7weltwunder.de](http://www.7weltwunder.de)



# Brooklyn Bridge



The Brooklyn Bridge was the longest suspension bridge when it was built. With its 1.8 km long road it was almost one and a half times as big as any other in New York. The Brooklyn Bridge is not the newest although many people are still impressed. The New Yorkers were not always so impressed by the extremely heavy track which is only held in the air by two pillars and steel cables. The two huge pillars are made out of Granit and Sandstone. Those two pillars and many steel cables have to hold more than these 14.000 tons. That's amazing. Initially, the New Yorkers were very skeptical but they calmed down very quickly because today the Brooklyn Bridge is one of many landmarks of New York.

It was built by John August Roebling and his son Washington Roebling. Mr. Roebling started the project 1869 and his son finished it fourteen years later. But Washington was paralyzed in an accident and so his wife Emily Warren Roebling took over the construction management, and completed a masterpiece. On the 24th of May 1883 the opening ceremony took place and Mrs. Emily Warren was the first one that was allowed to cross the 1.8 km long bridge over the East River connecting Brooklyn and Manhattan.

[http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brooklyn\\_Bridge](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brooklyn_Bridge)

# How does architecture affect your life?

The wonderful thing about architecture is that everybody can decide for their own if he likes it or not. You don't have to like it because your friend likes it. You need to think about more than how it looks like to make up your mind about architecture, but if living in it makes sense.

There are so many different houses, bridges, sculptures ... which are unique. You just have to look at them in further detail. Most buildings like these are built in China. No matter where you look, every house is different. One is round, one is squared, one is displaced and one colored. They are built in different types and styles. Everyone in a different shade of color. It is the same with the humans. We all look different and we all are different. So pieces of architecture are so different like the tastes of people are.

So the main reason how architecture affects your life is that it makes you feel good. It makes you happy. But sometimes also sad and tired. All emotions become solid in architecture. It depends on your point of view.

