# View

Provision of daylight alone is not enough to satisfy user desires for views. Window positioning should also take into account the relation between the view to the outside and the eye level of the occupants. Windows provide contact with the outside, supply information of orientation, give experience of weather changes and allow us to follow the passage of time over the day.



### A basic human need

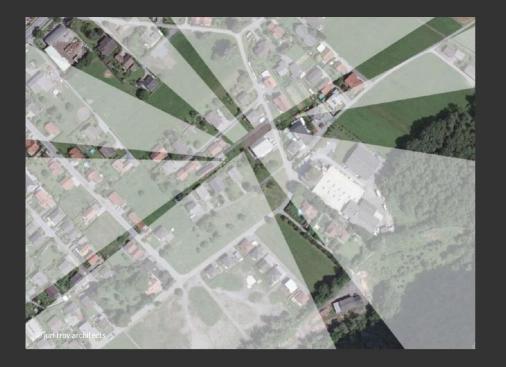
Building interiors should be designed in a way that permits the human need to be linked to the natural environment to be satisfied by minimising overshadowing and allowing distant views (Wirz-Justice, 2010).

A natural view is preferred to a view towards manmade environment, and a wide and distant view is appreciated more than a narrow and near view.

A diverse and dynamic view is more interesting than a monotonous view.

The content of the view can influence rental or cost price of hotels, dwellings and office buildings (Kim and Wineman, 2005).

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### Planning

A careful evaluation of the building site relation to its surrounding makes it possible to identify where lies the best opportunities for views and contact to nature.

Where are there distant views available? Where is the view content the most interesting? Where is the obstruction and unwanted view elements?

Even a narrow site with obstruction from surrounding buildings can offer pleasant views.

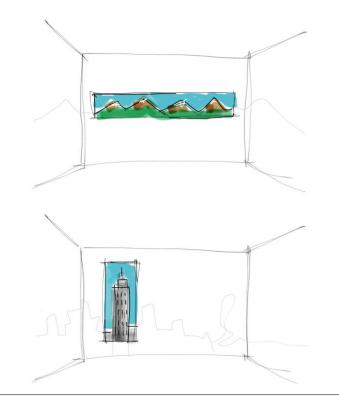
As a designer you can play with glazing distribution and view angles from the interior of the rooms to refine the experience of the occupants and meet their biological needs for contact to the outside world.



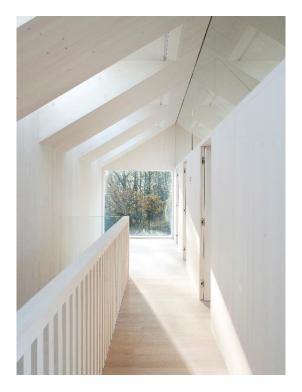
## Shape and size of the openings

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As a designer you can play with glazing distribution and view angles from the interior of the rooms to refine the experience of the occupants and meet their biological needs for contact to the outside world. Consider the best shape of the window to highlight the view and allow functional use of the space.









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#### From studies

A view to nature may have a positive influence on people's sense of well-being (Kaplan, 2001), better subjective health (Kaplan, 1993), higher environmental satisfaction (Newsham et al., 2009), better mood (Grinde and Grindal Patil, 2009), reduced health problems (Heschong Mahone Group, 2003), job satisfaction, recovery of surgical patients (Ulrich, 1984), stressful experiences (Ulrich et al., 1991), and seating preference (Wang and Boubekri, 2010, 2011).

A study by Ariës et al. (2010) shows that views in offices independently judged to be more attractive were associated with reduced discomfort and, through the discomfort effect, with better sleep quality.



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Initiated by the VELUX Group

