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# Becoming An Architect (Guide To Careers In Design)



## Synopsis

• Becoming an Architect will inspire future architects, career consultants, and human resources professionals alike, providing all the information you'll need to make intelligent decisions about careers in architecture.

• From the Foreword by Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA, 2014 AIA National President Starting a career as an architect is an exciting prospect, but it's important to do your research before you take the plunge. The third edition of *Becoming an Architect* is an update to the best-selling guide and highlights the risks and rewards on the path to a career as an architect. You'll find new insight and tons of helpful resources, as well as a complete outline of the trajectory of an architect's early career, from higher education through internship and licensure. More than thirty-two new interviews and profiles from architecture students, emerging, and established professionals give the resource a truly personal feel, and help get you acquainted with real-life scenarios from architects from varying backgrounds and specialties. With a highly accessible approach, this guide provides a complete overview of the profession, including educational requirements, design specialties, registration requirements, and the paths of a career in architecture. Whether you're a high school student, a college undergraduate, a career counselor, or a human resource professional, *Becoming an Architect* offers much-needed advice and information to anyone interested in career development for architects. Covers recent changes to the Intern Development Program (IDP) Provides advice on obtaining professional experience while studying to be an architect Considers career paths in a myriad of work environments, such as government agencies, education, and research Includes helpful appendixes with resources for further information, such as career-related associations, websites, and recommended reading Obtain a solid introduction to a career as an architect, and plan your own path with the guidance and advice of dozens of others who have already started this process.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you are considering a career in architecture, start with this highly visual guide to preparing for and succeeding in the profession. *Becoming an Architect, a Guide to Careers in Design, Third Edition* gives you an inside view of what it takes to be an architect, including an overview of the profession, educational requirements, design specialties from which to choose, insiders' tips on finding a job, registration requirements, and the many directions in which a career in architecture can go. This guide is the latest from nationally recognized expert on architecture career development Lee W. Waldrep, Ph.D. This edition updates his bestselling guide to careers in architecture with over 32 new profiles and interviews from architecture students, emerging, and established professionals. With so many different possibilities available, this will be your go-to guide as you navigate through the process of becoming an architect and make decisions about your future career. Learn about the complete path to becoming an architect, from your first days of college all the way through to licensure, with updated coverage of the profession's opportunities and challenges. You'll learn how to gain real-life experience while you're still in school, and be informed about changes to IDP and the ARE as well as the latest licensing issues. Visually engaging and filled with illustrations, interviews, and real-life profiles of architects currently active in all aspects of the field, this book is sure to appeal to the creative eye of those with an interest in design.

Answering the key questions about becoming an architect Get started with this best-selling guide to becoming an architect, now with new profiles from emerging professionals Here is the completely updated guide to today's careers in architecture; a clear and concise survey of the architecture field and advice for navigating a successful career. Filled with interviews and advice from leading architects, it covers everything you'll need to know in order to pursue your career goals and succeed with your career aspirations. Whether you're a high school student, an undergraduate, or a seasoned professional seeking a career change, this guide will help to propel you on your path to success. What do architects do? How much education is necessary? What are the various paths to an accredited degree? What does an architectural internship involve? What are the career options available upon graduation, and what are the licensure requirements and potential salaries?

What is the future of the architectural profession? Becoming an Architect answers all these questions in depth, and goes beyond simple answers with the latest information on current topics like: Sustainability Public Interest Design Social media, diversity, and collaboration New technologies and practices With this updated guide, aspiring architects can explore what lies ahead. Lee Waldrep has revised his bestselling work to cover recent developments: Recent developments to the Intern Development Program (IDP) Obtaining experience while studying architecture Current challenges including BIM, integrated practice, and globalization Career paths in architecture and beyond Becoming an Architect will inspire future architects, career consultants, and human resources professionals alike, providing all the information you'll need to make intelligent decisions about careers in architecture.

I got the book for a class. It's extremely repetitive. It's got great advice but it all starts to sound the same.

Was thinking about going for degree; this gave me some direction to work with.

The book itself is fine. My problem is with the author who teaches at U of ILL and makes all his students buy his book. I think there is a conflict of interest there. He should provide his book free of charge to all his students.

This book is an overview of how to prepare for a career in architecture, written for high school students or undergraduates early in their studies. Waldrep is an author who has served in three university architectural programs and was the associate executive director of the National Architectural Accrediting Board. In this book, he explains some of the paths that a student might take to begin a career in architecture. The book consists of 5 chapters: definition of an architect, education, experience, careers, and the future of architecture. Each chapter consists of a short bit of text discussing the topic at hand, supplemented with numerous interviews with various architects. Many of the chapters also have pages of quips on the topic by a large number of architects. The book is illustrated throughout with black and white photographs of notable buildings, mainly exteriors. End matter consists of an annotated list of contact information for various architectural organizations, an annotated list of architecture and related associations with their web addresses and phone numbers, an annotated list of recommended readings (books and websites), a list of architectural programs offering US degrees, and a list of contributors to the book with their

affiliations. I found this book somewhat informative, but rather unengaging and dry. While the interviews and quips could have added interest and exemplified or expanded on points made in the text, their sheer volume bogged down the message. All of the interviews begin with exactly the same 2 questions: "Why did you become an architect?" and "Why did you choose the schools you did?". The remaining questions are often similar from interview to interview, and soon become dreadfully similar as the list of interviews drags on. Often, the information in the interviews does not directly pertain to the topic of each chapter, so the interviews can distract from, rather than exemplify the points made in the main text. The short quips are similarly overly numerous and often contradictory to each other or to the points in the main text—for example, "are math skills important for an architect?" The quips suggest that it depends on who you ask, even though the main text instructs you to "pursue the highest-level math course your high school offers." Advice about planning a career seems simplistic and trite, with its emphasis on the imperative of proceeding with careful plans. As becomes clear all too quickly to college graduates, "life is what happens when you're busy making other plans," so the best way to plan for the unexpected may not be to plan too carefully but to get the best broad general education possible so that any and every opportunity can be recognized and made the most of. Indeed, the importance of being flexible about one's career ambitions is mentioned by a number of the interviewees. Overall, this book offers a bit of information explaining educational and licensing requirements for architectural aspirants. I don't think I would appreciate it much if it were assigned reading, however.

This book is aimed at the young person who is thinking of maybe pursuing architecture, or perhaps for the student who is completing liberal arts courses and is wondering about what it would take to major in architecture. This book will take you from the very basic questions, like "What does an architect do?" and "Is architecture for me?", to questions of different educational paths and classes that are part of an architecture education, to how to pursue licensing and a career in architecture. Peppered throughout the book are interview Q&As with architecture students and with licensed architects pertinent to each step of the process. I think these are very helpful, because you get a personal experience and opinion from someone who is going through the process now or has graduated and become successful in the field. My son is interested in architecture and is currently attending community college for required courses. This book will help him determine the path he needs to take to complete his training, with advice and guidance from those who have already been there.

This is a really neat book if you're interested in becoming an architect or learning more about what architects do. It's most interesting feature is that around half the book consists of Q&A interviews with architects asking about why they got into it, how they decided where to go to school, what they do in their current job, etc. It does a relatively complete job of giving an overview of the stages of an architect's career from education through later professional development. It's written from the pro-architecture viewpoint, and as such is generally positive about the profession. You can see though the interviews that not everyone who enters architecture ends up doing original building design on a day to day basis (in fact very few do) and some end up as "facilities managers" and the like, positions that they might have been able to reach more simply than by taking the route through architecture school. If you're considering architecture, then I think this will be a very useful book. I found it interesting and informative and well written (which one can't say about too many architecture related works from my experience). G.

I have to disagree with another vine reviewer who low-scored this book because it was not visual enough in its presentation of architecture. That view completely misses the point of this book. This book is about giving someone an idea of what courses and kind of jobs there are available pursuing a career in architecture. It has case studies/profiles of architects along with photos of what they have worked on. It outlines important skills that are listed from working architects themselves. It goes from concepts, interviews of architects, course strategies, getting an internship, and so on. Although perhaps not as helpful as a video on the subject, this book does a fine job of conveying what being an architect is really like and has many tips and guidelines for getting there. What I do agree with the other review is that this book is overpriced by about 40-50%. Should be under \$24. Recommended.

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