
PRODUCTIVE ENVIRONMENTS - BUILDINGS THAT WORK

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In order for a building to be productive, it must support the activities and tasks which are carried out within its walls. Productivity has traditionally been applied as a term for measuring work meaning that, in the main, attention has been paid to those used for business, providing goods and services. If the idea of productivity is expanded to satisfy the full range of accomplishments being made in our nation's buildings then we can start to examine how those buildings influence the productivity of New Zealand as a whole.

A review of current research has been made to provide evidence for the relative benefits of good design in lighting, indoor air quality, outdoor amenity, thermal comfort, and noise. In turn the environments within buildings in the education, health, business, residential and retail sectors have been considered.

Guidance expressing the relative merits of each environmental consideration in each sector, and where possible the power of an integrated approach, is collated.

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