

## 2.3 GROUPING OF SPACES

Grouping of spaces is a fundamental concept in architectural design that involves organizing rooms or areas within a building based on their function, relationship, usage patterns, and privacy requirements. Grouping helps create a logical, efficient, and comfortable layout that supports the activities happening inside the building.

### Objectives of Space Grouping:

1. **Functional Efficiency** – Ensure spaces that work together are near each other.
2. **Ease of Circulation** – Minimize unnecessary movement or travel distance.
3. **Privacy Control** – Separate public and private zones appropriately.
4. **Comfort & Usability** – Support the intended mood or use (e.g. quiet vs. active).
5. **Aesthetic Harmony** – Make the spatial experience intuitive and visually pleasing.

### Typical Groupings of Spaces

#### 1. By Function

Group	Spaces Included	Purpose
<b>Public Spaces</b>	Entry, lobby, reception, living room, waiting	Welcoming, social interaction, shared use
<b>Private Spaces</b>	Bedrooms, offices, studies	Personal use, rest, quiet work
<b>Service Spaces</b>	Kitchen, laundry, mechanical rooms, storage	Functional tasks, support of main activities
<b>Circulation</b>	Hallways, staircases, elevators, corridors	Movement between grouped spaces

#### 2. By Usage or Time

Group	Description
<b>Daytime Areas</b>	Living room, kitchen, home office, dining room
<b>Nighttime Areas</b>	Bedrooms, bathrooms
<b>Occasional Use</b>	Guest room, storage, utility areas
<b>Constant Use</b>	Bathrooms, hallways, kitchen

#### 3. By Accessibility or Privacy

Zone	Characteristics
<b>Public Zone</b>	Easily accessible to visitors (e.g. entry, living room)
<b>Semi-private Zone</b>	Limited access (e.g. dining room, family room)
<b>Private Zone</b>	Restricted access (e.g. bedrooms, bathrooms)

## Zone Characteristics

**Service Zone** Low-traffic areas for operations (e.g. storage, HVAC)

## Examples in Building Types

### Residential Building

Group	Spaces	Notes
<b>Living</b>	Living room, dining room, balcony	Often grouped near the entrance and kitchen
<b>Sleeping</b>	Bedrooms, bathrooms	Placed in a quiet, private part of the home
<b>Service</b>	Kitchen, laundry, storage	Grouped near one another for efficiency
<b>Circulation</b>	Hallways, stairs, foyers	Connect all groups

### Office Building

Group	Spaces	Notes
<b>Work Zones</b>	Individual offices, open-plan desks	Centered around collaboration or focus
<b>Meeting</b>	Conference rooms, breakout rooms	Usually located near main circulation
<b>Support</b>	Storage, server rooms, restrooms	Kept out of main flow
<b>Public</b>	Reception, lounge, waiting area	Near entry for accessibility

### Design Tips for Grouping Spaces

1. **Minimize Cross-Traffic:** Keep service or private access routes separate from public ones.
2. **Use Zoning:** Think in “layers” — group spaces in concentric or linear zones based on privacy.
3. **Consider Adjacency:** Group spaces that function together (e.g., kitchen + dining room).
4. **Plan for Noise Control:** Separate noisy areas (TV rooms, kitchens) from quiet ones (bedrooms).
5. **Integrate Vertical Grouping:** In multi-floor buildings, align bathrooms and mechanical areas for plumbing efficiency.

### Tools to Help with Space Grouping

- **Bubble Diagrams:** Sketch circles to represent rooms and draw lines between them to show relationships.
- **Zoning Diagrams:** Assign color-coded zones to represent different space groups.
- **Adjacency Matrix:** Create a table that ranks how important it is for each space to be near another.