

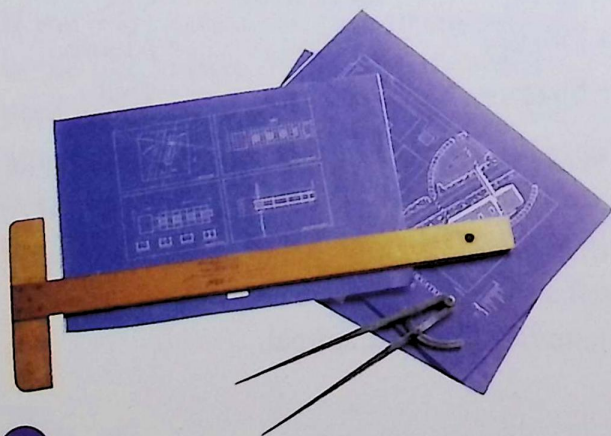
Building Art



Architects, engineers, and decorators design buildings and other spaces. You can have fun learning about how museums, airports, railroad terminals, and other structures are designed and built and decorated by doing this Try-It!

1. Building for the Future

Choose a public building like a hospital, police station, library, or school. Make a model, poster, or sketch of what you think it might look like 100 years from now. Imagine what there will be instead of cars. How will people move about in the building?



2. Create a Neighborhood

Your neighborhood has special features—a park, garden, or playground, for example. Maybe the buildings have terraces or unusual windows. What's special about your neighborhood? What would you change to make it better?

Get a large piece of heavy paper or cardboard. Using pictures, small toys, clay models, and other materials, come up with a neighborhood that you would like to live in. Don't forget to include places like police and fire stations, a school, a hospital, and a library.

Compare your neighborhood with the ones created by other girls. How are they the same? How are they different? Did you forget to include anything important to the health and safety of the people who would live in your neighborhood?

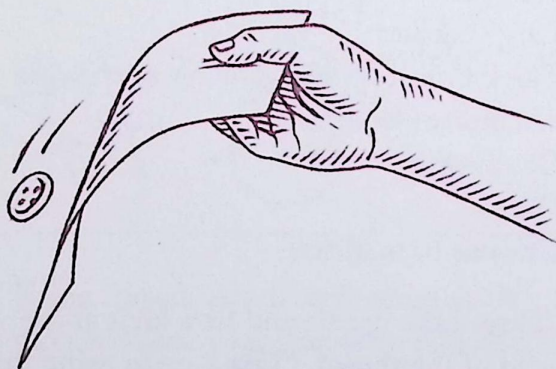
3. Discovering the Strengths of Shapes

Making sure that a building will not crumble is an important part of what engineers and architects do. They experiment with materials and shapes to see how much weight they can hold. Use these steps to try it yourself.

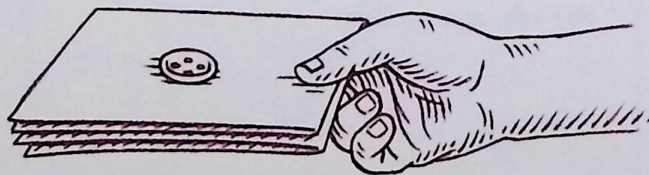
You will need:

- Paper.
- A small stone or a coin or a button.

1. Hold a single sheet of paper by an edge so that it is straight over the floor. Place a small stone or coin or button on the paper. (See the picture.) What happens? The flat piece of paper does not have enough strength to hold the object.
2. Fold the paper in quarters like a book. Place the object on the paper. What happens? The paper has more strength because you have changed its shape.
3. Make a fan out of your paper. Balance the objects on the fan. What happens? The fan should support the objects.



4. Experiment with other shapes. Can they hold up the stone, coin, or button?



4. Put on Your Hard Hat

Using only tape, paper, and scissors, make a model of a house, a store, or some other kind of building. Make a bridge, too. You might want to do this with your troop. Each girl can work on one building, or you can make the whole model together.

5. Designing an Ideal Girl Scout Meeting Place

Imagine the perfect meeting place that would allow you to do all of the things you'd like. Draw a picture or sketch or make a model that you can show to others.

6. Designing Space for Someone with Special Needs

What would you change about where you live or go to school to make them safer and easier to get around in for someone with a disability? You might make the doorways and halls wider for people who use wheelchairs. You could make a light flash when the telephone rings for people who do not hear too well. What else could you do?

Try It!