





Occupational standard

Interior architect-expert (EstQF level 8)

The occupational standard is a document that describes the job and competence requirements, i.e. a set of skills, knowledge and attitudes required for successful job performance in a particular occupation.

Application areas of the occupational standard

- 1) Drafting of curricula and training programmes meeting the requirements of labour market.
- 2) Evaluation of competence of the people, incl self-evaluation and conformity evaluation upon awarding an occupational qualification.
- 3) Description and introduction of occupational qualifications.
- 4) Career planning and creation of a basis for lifelong learning.
- 5) Identification of personnel training needs and planning of training.
- 6) Drafting of job descriptions and recruitment of employees.
- 7) Comparison of occupational and educational qualifications.

Occupational qualification title	Estonian qualifications framework (EstQF) level
Interior architect - expert, level 8	8







PART A JOB DESCRPITION

A.1 Job description

The objective of the job of an interior architect is to create aesthetically complete interiors taking into account all constructional and functional aspects of the designed building.

As the design of interior architecture is closely connected with the work of an architect, structural engineer and engineers designing utility systems, an interior architect must understand the basic solutions of their designs, analyse and make appropriate proposals.

An interior architect prepares interior architectural designs. In case of need, coordinates and procures the designs of other parts of the bulding design documentation by engaging specialists from other relevant fields. An interior architect incorporates different parts of the building design into a whole taking into account financial, creative, constructive, technological, social, cultural, legal and environmental aspects.

In one's job an interior architect proceeds from source information, good designing and building practice, valid acts of law and normative documents.

An interior architect-expert, level 8 is a senior specialist or internationally famous creative person with a speciality-related doctoral degree or other comparable academic degree, who is, independently and on one's own responsibility, able to prepare and evaluate built spatial environments and manage complicated interior architectural projects. An interior architect-expert gives more complicated expert opinions in one's speciality and participates in the juries of international interior architectural, design and architectural contests. An interior architect-expert is able to work as a top expert in one's speciality or as a lecturer in higher intitutions of education.

In the professional field of an interior architect, in addition to <u>an interior architect-expert, level 8</u>, there are the following occupational qualifications:

<u>An interior architect, level 6, is a specialist</u> who prepares and evaluates, independently and on one's own responsibility, the interior architectural designs of simpler buildings or their parts that are closed to the public, designs furniture and other interior elements. In case of need, participates in the designing process of more complicated objects under the supervision of an interior architect of a higher qualification.

A diploma interior architect, level 7 is a senior specialist who prepares and evaluates, independently and on one's own responsibility, the interior architectural designs of simpler buildings or their parts that are open and intended for use to the public, designs furniture and other interior elements. An interior architect participates in the designing process of more complicated objects under the supervision of the principal interior architect.

<u>A chartered interior architect, level 7</u> is a senior specialist who prepares, evaluates and manages, independently and on one's own responsibility, the interior architectural designs of public buildings or their parts that are under a heightened attention of the public. He/she designs furniture and other







elements of interior design for serial production. A chartered interior architect gives standard expert opinions in one's professional field and participates in local juries of interior architectural, design and architectural contests. A chartered interior architect is able to work as an expert in one's speciality in state or local government authorities, instruct colleagues and manage work groups. A chartered interior architect participates in the designing process of more complicated objects under the supervision of a principal interior architect.

A.2 Units

- A.2.1 Preparing the interior architectural part of building design documentation in different stages
- A.2.2 Designing furniture and interior elements
- A.2.3 Preparing interior architectural designs and evaluating built spatial environment
- A.2.4 Preparing and managing interior architectural design projects and managing the activity of an interior architectural company
- A.2.5 Working for local governments, state authorities or as a speciality lecturer in the institutions of higher education
- A.2.6 Negotiating and representing

A.3 Working environment and specific aspects of work

An interior architect works predominantly in an office. The work may also take place in authorities, in field conditions on a site or elsewhere. On a construction site safety measure must be followed, in inner rooms general health protection requirements for office rooms apply. The work is creative but sometimes mentally stressful periods may occur. The work load may be spread unevenly.

A.4 Tools

In one's work an interior architect uses regular tools of building design, different communication techniques, specialty software and other tools.

A.5 Personal characteristics necessary for this job: abilities and personality traits

When working as an internal architect one should possess the following relevant abilities and personal traits: spatial peception and the ability of spatial imagination, creative thinking, rational thinking and generalization skills, independence and decision-making skills, a sense of responsibility and accuracy, the ability to cooperate and work in stressful situations, a need for accomplishment, ability to manage work groups.

A.6 Occupational training

An interior architect-expert, level 8 is a person who has graduated from a university or received a master's or doctor's degree in interior architecture at a comparable institution of education.

More detailed criteria about awarding the occupational qualification are given in the regulation of awarding the occupational qualification of an interior architect.

A.7 Possible job titles

Chartered interior architect

A.8 Regulations







PART B COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS

B.1. The structure of the occupational qualification

Verification of competencies B.2.1 - B.2.6 and ja B.2.7 (transfersal competence) is required upon applying for this profession.

B.2 Competences

B.2.1 Preparing the interior architectural part of building design documentation in different stages

Performance indicators:

- 1. Analyses independently the initial situation taking into account the long-term tendencies and needs of the development of spatial, economic, social, natural, historical, cultural and other environment. Prepares starting points for designing an integral spatial solution taking into account the needs and interests of as many members of the society as possible. Clarifies and analyses the source information from the point of view of the location, the needs of users and possibilities, in case of need, prepares the terms of reference and the activity plan for the interior architectural design of more complicated buildings with heightened public interest.
- 2. Based on the starting points creates different spatial visions and strategies by applying imagination and working out a sketch plan for functionally, aesthetically and economically balanced interior architectural designs of buildings of heightened public interests, which is the basis of quality interior.
- 3. Prepares a complete spatial solution, in case of need, manages the work of a work group, on the basis of prior analyses, visions and sketch plans and in compliance with the other parts of the building design documentation. Plans prerequisites and opportunities for developing integral and quality spatial environment. Based on the approved sketch plans prepares interior architectural solutions for the preliminary, principal and operational building design documentation of more complicated buildings with heightened public interest needing a high-level interior architectural design to the extent specified in the standard and in compliance with the other parts of the building design documentation. Ensures the integrity of spatial environment and its preservation during the design and construction.
- 4. Prepares the graphical, textual and illustrative parts of the interior architectural design clearly, legibly and understandably by using appropriate technical means, the correct Estonian language and occupational terminology. In case of need, instructs drawing up the design documentation.
- 5. In order to ensure and protect the authorship rights, carries out the author's supervision over the work on the construction site based on the interior architectural design documentation. In case of need, specifies and supplements the interior architectural design during the construction period.
- 6. Inspects the compliance of different parts of the building design with the documentation of the interior architectural design.

Assessment method(s):

Portfolio and/or interview.

B.2.2 Designing furniture and interior elements

EstQF level 8

Performance indicators:

1. Identifyies the client's needs according to the established regulations (ergonomics, location, functionality, used materials, technological and material possibilities, etc), in case of need, engages experts or orders an additional research.







- 2. Based on the terms of reference prepares the preliminary, principal and operational building design documentation for interior and furniture. Designs serial-production furniture and participates in product development taking into account aesthetical and ergonomical parametres, functional needs and technological possibilities, in case of need, manages the work of a work group.
- 3. In order to ensure and protect the authorship rights, carries out the author's supervision over the production, inspects the compliance of furniture with the design documentation. In case of need, specifies and supplements the design documentation.

Assessment method(s):

Portfolio and/or interview.

B.2.3 Preparing interior architectural designs and evaluating built spatial | EstQF level 8 environment

Performance indicators:

- 1. Having regard to the quality of the built environment, the heightened interest of the public and the interests of the parties and the requirements and restrictions established in the architectural design project, evaluates the compliance of the complicated interior architectural design of buildings with heightened public interest with the architectural design documentation. Having regard to the local cultural space, aesthetics, general quality, set objectives, the level of technological and technical solutions and good designing and building practice, evaluates complicated interior architectural design projects and interiors of buildings with heightened public interest. In case of need, presents a written arguemented opinion
- 2. Having regard to the local cultural space, aesthetics, general quality, set objectives, the level of technological and technical solutions and good designing and building practice, arranges the evaluation of complicated interior architectural design projects and interiors of buildings with heightened public interest, in case of need, presents a written arguemented opinion.
- 3. Having regard to the good practice of holding contests, proposes contest terms for international architectural, interior architectural and design contests. Participates in the work of the jury of an international contest as an independent professional.
- 4. Having regard to public interests and general values, consults the client in preparing spatial solutions for complicated interior architectural designs and, if required, also for building designs of building with heightened public interest.

Assessment method(s):

Portfolio and/or interview.

Preparing and managing the interior architectural design projects and managing the activity of an interior architectural company

EstQF level 8

Performance indicators:

- 1. Arranges and manages the preparation of interior architectural designs of buildings with heightened public interest. In order to achieve the best interior solution, cooperates with the other parties of the building design project (eg architects, construction engineers, engineers designing utility systems, etc), taking into account the client's needs and the technical and financial constraints. Having regard to relevant conditions (the needs of users and the client, public interest, acts of law and good practice), clarifies and balances the interests and needs of the parties via spatial solution.
- 2. Having regard to relevant conditions (the needs of users and the client, public interest, acts of law and good practice), clarifies and balances the interests and needs of the parties via spatial solution in complicated solutions demanding high-level responsibilty.
- 3. With the aim of achieving the quality of integral interior, manages the work of the team preparing the







interior architectural design.

- 4. Having regard to relevant conditions (the needs of users and the client, public interest, acts of law and good practice), clarifies and balances the interests and needs of the parties in complicated solutions demanding high-level responsibilty.
- 5. Plans and arranges the activity of an interior architectural company by creating a suitable environment for creative activity and ensuring availability of necessary work equipment. Formulates a team of workers willing to cooperate.
- 6. In order to ensure economic sustainability of the company, administers and develops contractual relations in accordance with the legal environment and the occupational ethics of an interior architect.

Assessment method(s):

Portfolio and/or interview.

B.2.5 Working for local governments, state authorities or as a speciality lecturer in the institutions of higher education.

EstQF level 8

Performance indicators:

- 1. With the aim of creating integral and quality interior, coordinates the preparation of interior architectural designs and decision-making which influences the tendencies of spatial development.
- 2. Represents the local government or state authority in procuring the interior architectural design and spatial solutions of building design projects, developing integral public space, conducting procurement procedures and arranging architectural, interior architectural and design contests.
- 3. Instructs speciality related practical subjects, participates in preparing the curriculum and conducts theoretical lectures.

Assessment method(s):

Portfolio and/or interview.

B.2.6 Negotiating and representing

EstQF level 8

Performance indicators:

- 1. Understands the needs of the parties and finds solutions to raised subject-related questions.
- 2. Explains and justifies the interior architectural solution and responds to the raised questions clearly. Understands the needs of the parties and finds reasonable and balanced solutions to the subject-related problems raised at approvals.

Assessment method(s):

Portfolio and/or interview.

B.2.7 Transfersal competencies

EstQF level 8

Performance indicators:

- 1. Creates complete and balanced spatial solutions relating their aesthetic and technical qualities with the built environment and the cultural and historical context.
- 2. Understands the human's relatsionsip with built environment, functional relations between form, interior and building.
- 3. Understands the human's relationship with spatial and material environment and the relationship of the object to be designed with the existing context, which meets the needs of an individual and the society.
- 4. Understands construction design, building and exploitation of a building as one process which is a prerequisite for creating quality built environment.
- 5. Senses the variety of decision-making options, analyses, tests and evaluates different spatial







solutions, makes appropriate conclusions and choices, which rely on creative, aesthetical and theoretical basis.

- 6. Understands functional relations in spatial planning and architectural design.
- 7. Knows and uses different engineering knowledge at the level which enables to set tasks to the designers of other parts of the building design.
- 8. In the designing process uses speciality-specific work and communication tools (eg ftp, project bank, etc) and building design software.
- 9. Considers the needs of the users of the built environment taking into account the legal environment and the sustainability and the efficient use of resources within the quality criteria.
- 10. Understands the nature and ethichs of the profession of an interior architect and the public role of an interior architect by taking into account social aspects, in one's activity follows the code of professional ethics.
- 11. Holds negotiations by using various communication techniques.
- 12. Manages the collective preparation process of interior architectural or building design documentation as a comprehensive activity which ensures creative and quality solutions.
- 13. Knows how to use the correct Estonian language at level C1 and occupational terminology.

Knowledge:

- 1. History of interior and furniture.
- 2. History of architecture.
- 3. Art and cultural history.
- 4. Art and spatial semiotics.
- 5. The basics of architectonics and spatial composition.
- 6. Typology of buildings.
- 7. The design of furniture and the basics of techology.
- 8. The basics of ergonomics.
- 9. The basics of engineering, engineering techiques and techologies (incl acoustics, lighting etc).
- 10. Legislation relevant for the professional field.
- 11. The principles of economics and entrepreneurship.
- 12. The basics of project and presentation graphics.
- 13. The basics of team work management.
- 14. Occupational terminology, argumenting and rhetorics.

Assessment method(s):

Transfersal competences are assessed integrated with other competences described in the occupational standard.







PART C GENERAL INFORMATION AND ANNEXES

C.1	C.1 Information on the preparation and approval of the occupational standard, on the body awarding			
occupational qualifications, and reference to the location of the occupational standard in classifications				
1.	Designation of the occupational standard in the	19-06062012-2.11/1k		
	register of occupational qualifications			
2.	The occupational standard is compiled by:	Aili Aasoja – Estonian Association of Architectural and Consulting Engineering Companies Priit Põldme – Estonian Association of Interior Architects Eerik Olle - Linear Projekt OÜ Toivo Raidmets - Estonian Academy of Arts Eero Jürgenson - Estonian Association of Interior Architects Taevo Gans - Stuudio GaDis AS Juta Lember - Estonian Association of Interior Architects		
3.	The occupational standard is approved by	Sectoral Council for Culture		
4.	No. of the decision of the Sectoral Council	12		
5.	Date of the decision of the Sectoral Council	06.06.2012		
6.	The occupational standard is valid until (date)	05.06.2017		
7.	Occupational standard version No.	1		
8.	Reference to the Classification of Occupations (ISCO 08)	code 2161 Building architects		
	Qualifications Framework (EQF)	EQF tase 8		
C.2 Title of occupational qualification in foreign languages				
In English: Interior Architect				
In F	In Russian: Архитектор по интэрьеру			
C.3	C.3 Annexes			
Anr	Annex 1 Units and tasks			
Anr	Annex 2 Computer skills			
Anr	Annex 3 The scale of language level assesment			