

**DEVELOPMENT OF MAIN STYLE DIRECTIONS AND TRENDS IN 20TH CENTURY  
INTERIORS**

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the development of the main stylistic directions and trends observed in the interior design of the 20th century. The stages are covered, from classical styles such as Art Nouveau and Art Deco to modern design views such as modernism, minimalism and postmodernism. The specific characteristics of each style, aesthetic principles and their formation under the influence of socio-historical factors are also highlighted. The article also studies the impact of 20th century interior design on human lifestyle and culture. This analytical material will serve as a useful resource for students, researchers and designers interested in interior design.

**Introduction:** The 20th century was a turning point in the fields of art and design, and interior design was also characterized by major changes, the formation of new trends and aesthetic views. During this period, traditional styles coexisted with modern approaches, and under the influence of functionality, freedom and technology, interior design rose to a completely new level. This article discusses the main interior trends of the 20th century and their development trends.

**1. Interiors of the early 20th century – Art Nouveau and Art Deco**

Art Nouveau was a style that was popular in the early years of the century and was characterized by organic shapes, harmonious curves, and decorative solutions inspired by nature. This style paid great attention to decoration in the interior, manifested through custom-made furniture, stained glass windows, and carved elements.

Art Deco developed in the 1920s and 1930s, introducing a new aesthetic direction in interiors with geometric shapes, luxurious materials (marble, chrome, glass), and a spirit of modernity. This style aimed to create interiors that were extremely comfortable and rich in appearance.



Figure 1. The facade of Antoni Gaudí's Casa Batlló building in Barcelona, with its distinctive Art Nouveau forms.

**2. Modernism and functionalism**

In the middle of the 20th century, modernism took a central place in interior design. Its main motto was “Let form follow function.” In this direction, excessive decoration was abandoned, and furniture and interior elements were supposed to have a simple, clear form. The Bauhaus school (Germany) put this trend into practice. Functionality, the use of technology, cheap materials, and mass production became the main ideas in the interior.



Figure 2. Villa Savoye , Poissy, France (built by Le Corbusier) <https://www.google.com/>

### 3. Minimalism – less is more

Minimalism became a prominent style in interior design in the 1960s and 1970s. It focused on space, light, and understated expression. Colors were neutral, furniture was simple, and walls were often bare. The style was influenced by traditional Japanese architecture and aimed to achieve inner peace through freedom from excess.

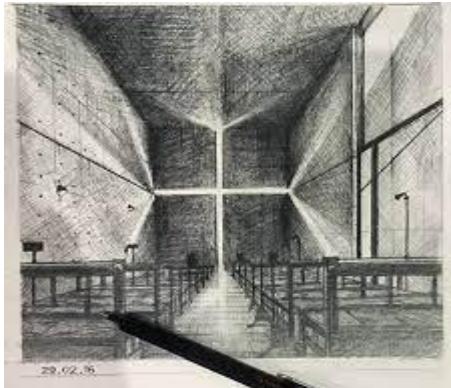


Figure 3. Tadao Ando – Church of the Light (Osaka, Japan) [https://www.google.com/search?sca\\_esv](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv)

### 4. Pop art and postmodernism.

In the 1960s–1980s, the pop art style brought new colors, elements of popular culture, and humor to interiors. Now, motifs from advertisements, movies, and comics, as well as bright and contrasting colors, have appeared in interiors.



At the same time, the postmodern style also developed. It challenged the rigid norms of modernism and prioritized interpretation, references to historical styles, and individuality. The combination of several styles became widespread in postmodernist interiors.



Figure 4. Portland Building , Portland, USA (built by Michael Graves)

### 5. Trends at the end of the 20th century

By the 1990s, eclecticism, ecological approach and technological interiors were widespread in interior design. From private homes to offices, great importance was given to adapting the interior to human needs, individuality and freedom. At the same time, industrial, loft and Scandinavian styles also began to become popular.

### Conclusion

The 20th century was a very rich and diverse period in interior design, both stylistically and aesthetically. During this century, as human lifestyles, technologies, and social relationships changed, so did approaches to interior design. The path from Art Nouveau to minimalism, from modernism to postmodernism is not only the history of design, but also the history of the development of human aesthetic taste and thinking.

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