



REMARKABLE
INTERIORS.ca

Interior Design: Process & Associated Costs

When the phone rings or an email inquiry comes in, “How much will it cost?” and “What is the process?” are among the first questions we are asked. Every single project has a budget. We understand that and always do our best to ensure our clients have a thorough understanding of the process *and* budget.

Below offers an idea of how the process unfolds.

Hourly Rate

We work on an hourly basis. Our company billable rate is \$150 an hour. Design assistants sometimes come in for large projects and we will bill their labour independently at the assistant rate, which varies but will be determined in the contract.

Hourly rates can seem daunting when a client doesn't have a concept of how much time will be involved for their particular project. We understand that. After our initial consultation where we discuss wish lists and scope, we are able to offer most clients an estimate of billable time it will take to complete their project. We have found we are fairly accurate with our hourly projections because of our design experience with all types of clients and projects. Our estimated hourly range accounts for not only the design work (including communications), but also client appointments, re-selections, and site visits.

Our projects start with a deposit on file that is later applied to the final invoices. All of our clients are billed monthly with a detailed explanation of the date, the task, and the time invested in 15minute increments. We use a tracking app that allows this information to be added to the invoicing for complete transparency.

Initial Consultation & Design Agreement

We charge a nominal initial consultation rate of \$300.00. (Plus tax) for up to 2 hours. During the meeting we discuss the scope of work, offer initial ideas for the project and really get a sense of style and client wishes. For smaller projects, just the initial consultation may be all we need for our work together, as in the case of picking exterior and interior paint colors or general design direction. During this initial meeting we will also discuss timelines, review ideas that appeal to you, and take measurements and photographs of the space(s). A brief electronic idea plan will be provided and included in this fee.

Design Costs

If we decide to move the project along together, we will draft a design agreement for you generally within 48 hours of our initial consultation. The design agreement discusses the project scope and our rates. Once you return the design agreement with your deposit we will get started on our design concept for your project.

Color Planning

Selecting paint colors for your home including exterior siding, trim and front doors, wall colors, ceiling and millwork is billed hourly, but generally speaking we can have this determined at our first appointment. We will send you the specifications you can share with your painter – or take to the paint store. Typically an Exterior Colour Plan will take 3 hours. Interiors: 1-2 hours.

Purchasing

Construction Materials: Our job is to specify materials, but we can also provide samples and in many cases sell direct to you at cost plus. This includes flooring, tile, lighting etc. Your contractor will also purchase materials required and generally will charge in a couple of ways including time and material, or cost plus – where he/she offers the invoices for each item and has a percentage mark up.

Furnishings: We provide pricing quotations for products specified through our studio for furniture, fabric, window coverings, area rugs along with the above mentioned building materials. We also shop retail where warranted and charge hourly. In some cases local retailers will give us a design discount that we may be able to pass some savings along. This will be outlined in advance so there are no surprises. We know the local inventory very well!

One-Time Consultations

We know not all projects need our full service interior design expertise, and we are happy to provide a consultation at your home or business. As mentioned above, our consultations are \$300.00 for up to two hours, and they are due at the visit.

Preparing for an Interior Design Consultation

Once we have booked a consultation we always suggest a few things that will help prepare for meeting.

Have a Goal

- Why are we here? What's working and what is not?

Set your Priorities

- Knowing what has to be done now and what can be done in the next phase is a very important element in the overall plan. Think about your budget

- Be honest about what you want and what you can invest in your project.

Find your Inspirations

- Looking online and in magazines will give you a good idea of what you love and what you don't! Save print or tear and make a wish file
- Look at HOUZZ.com Pinterest.com or Google images for real space inspiration photos

Be open to new ideas ... that's likely why you called! Sometimes that's the hardest first step.

Be willing to trust the plan and enjoy the process. Have some fun!

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