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The Influence of Colour & Sound on Biophilic Design

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1. Define the term 'Biophilia'.

Biophilia is defined as the love of living things and nature.

2. What is meant by the term 'Biophilic Design'?

Biophilic design refers to design that is carried out with the intention of encouraging interactions between people and the natural environment.

3. What role does colour play in biophilic design?

In biophilic design, colour can be used to reference living things or the broader natural environment, and in so doing, to create an ambience or foster a connection between people and nature.

4. What role do acoustics play in biophilic design?

Much like colour, acoustics can play a role in mimicking or referencing natural environments and creating interior spaces that are imbued with positive emotional energy.

5. In what ways do biophilic ambitions affect other acoustic considerations. Is there sometimes a trade-off between the two or do they generally complement each other?

Integrating biophilic and acoustic design involves careful consideration of element placement. Biophilic features like plant walls or water features can disrupt acoustic balance, either by adding excessive noise or by altering sound paths unpredictably.

Natural materials used in biophilic design may not match the acoustic performance of engineered acoustic materials. This requires a balance between their aesthetic appeal and the acoustic requirements of the space, potentially leading to trade-offs in material selection.