


The below answer sheet is for your own self-assessment.
Please keep your completed questionnaires and answers on file for your record.
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Designing with Country - Pathways to Collaboration & Connection

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1. What is meant by the term 'Designing with Country'?

Designing with Country is an approach to design that acknowledges and respects the Indigenous cultures, histories, and connections to the land and waters of Australia. It aims to create design outcomes that are culturally appropriate, environmentally sustainable, and beneficial for the well-being of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

2. How important are the relationships between the Indigenous contributor(s) and the various other stakeholders?

These relationships are not only essential for the success of a project, but also for the respect and dignity of the people and the country involved. They are based on mutual respect, trust, reciprocity, and responsibility and they aim to ensure that the design with country projects are ethical, meaningful, and impactful.

3. Name two important considerations associated with incorporating Indigenous design into an architectural project?

Answers include any of the following:

- All stakeholders should be able to display an understanding of Indigenous design
- Engagement with Indigenous Communities / Artists
- Cultural Protocols
- Ways to balance traditional and modern design
- Sustainability
- Cultural sensitivity
- Approaching the design and planning
- Consideration of how designs fit into broader architectural plans, within interior space, and so on.

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4. How important are cultural protocols in these types of projects?

Cultural protocols are a critical aspect of designing with country projects. By following them, designers can show respect and recognition to the Indigenous communities and their cultures, histories, and rights, create culturally appropriate and relevant solutions, and foster ethical and responsible design practices.

5. What are the ways to guide non-Indigenous people through these collaborations? Are there specific processes to follow or do these vary from project to project?

Cultural protocols are a critical aspect of designing with country projects. By following them, designers While this should be approached project by project, there are some flexible and contextual guidelines involving:

- Establishing contact and rapport
- Seeking consent and approval
- Negotiating agreements and terms
- Implementing the collaboration
- Evaluating and reporting the collaboration
- Continuing and sustaining the collaboration

6. What about balancing traditional and modern design, and ways to relate Indigenous designs to the overall design brief and the interior space?

Interior designers can relate Indigenous designs to the overall design brief and the interior space by:

- Understanding the meaning and significance of the Indigenous designs.
- Using the Indigenous designs in a way that is appropriate and respectful.
- Using the Indigenous designs in a way that is relevant and functional.
- Using the Indigenous designs in a way that is creative and innovative.