

Center being embelished	Center being formed	What to do
----------------------------	------------------------	------------

Garden

Choose the general position of the garden for the house. The house will be oriented towards this garden; so correct choice of the garden is essential as a starting point for the house.

Also the choice of the location of the garden has to consider the open land and the view.

Garden

House

Choose the position of the house, which shelters and enhances the garden. The house will tend to be in such a position that the garden is south, or south east, or south west of the house: and so that the garden and the house, looking into the garden, make the most of any beautiful view that is available.

Cluster

House

Define more precisely the position of the house, which does the most to complement the cluster. Specifically, this means defining a line which will be a mass, a full height wall, which will function to create the common land. This wall may either be the perimeter of the house itself, or it may be the wall of the enclosed entrance garden that will be attached to the house, or partly the wall of the house and partly the wall of the enclosed garden.

Cluster

Enclosed Garden

Now, ~~from~~ choose the location of the enclosed entrance garden, as a part of what you have already defined previously as the house enclosure. The enclosed garden, at least one of its walls, should be adjacent to the common land of the cluster.

House

Foundation Pads

Now redefine the shape of the house, more exactly, in the form of one or two rectangles, which will be feasible foundation pads. The constraints on these rectangles are the following:

- (a). Each rectangle may be of any length, but not more than 7 to 8 meters wide.
- (b). The total area of the house must be the one chosen by the family (either 68, 74, or whatever has been chosen), including the fact that any balcony only counts as half area.
- (c). The rectangles do not have to be perfect, but each one may have angles slightly off 90 degrees, in order to fit together nicely on the land.

In cases where there are 2 foundation pads,
(d). It is probably better if there is one major, and one minor rectangle. The major one is the one which will contain the main room. *The minor foundation pad could be as small as the size of one room.*

Common land
Garden
Enclosed Garden

House

Now refine the shape of the rectangles, so that space created on each edge of the rectangle is always "positive". This positive space must include the common land, garden, enclosed garden, and any other passages, or side spaces next to the house on any side.

Common land,
Enclosed garden

Entrance to the enclosed garden

Now choose the place for the main entrance to the house. This will be on the wall of the enclosed garden which faces the common land. This is a crucial point, since it establishes the connection between common land and house: it is a place that must give maximum possible life to the cluster, and be a pleasant place to sit outdoors...and also enter the overall plan of the house in a nice place.

House,
Entrance gardenhouse

Entrance to the

Find the best place in the entrance garden to enter the house, not too far from the entrance door to the garden, having in mind that there should be created a natural and beautiful way of going toward the house entrance after entering the garden.

Entrance garden
garden

Connection
between garden
and entrance
garden

At this point try to see how the entrance garden and the big open garden are connected. There might have one common side with a low wall connecting them; if on different levels, there should be some steps connecting them. In cases where they are located far apart try to see if there is any possible way to give an outdoor access from one to the other, for example a trellished walkway, or a long stair if on different levels. In cases where the entrance garden and the big open garden are located on two opposite sides of the house, try to establish an obvious and easy connection between them through one of the rooms of the house, preferably the entrance room.

House

Main room

Define this as the main center in the house.
Find the best place in the foundation pads for the location of the main room. It has to be a place with view, either to the common land or towards the open land. The main room is the largest space in the house with light from at least two sides, preferably two opposite sides and it also has a higher ceiling than the other rooms.

The main room, even if not located in the geometrical center of the house, it is the actual center of the house, easily connected with the other parts of the house and with the gardens.

Simple, good shape

Main room

Entrance room

Decide about the exact location and size of the entrance room. If not adjacent on the one side of the main room, ^{it has to be} ~~it is~~ very close to it.

What is important at this point is to form a small entrance room in nice relationship to the entrance garden, and in such a relationship to the main room ^{so} that the entrance room really embellishes the main room. The thing to bear in mind at this point is, being in this entrance room, what the most natural way would be to turn and move on the way to the main room.

(Some minor adjustment of the location of the entrance to the house might occur at this point.)

It is part of the main room, but also it is not completely separated from it. It also opens widely in the main room.

Main room

Secondary room

The secondary room is always placed adjacent to the main room, and is rather open to it. It has an alcove-like ~~xxxxx~~ relationship to it.

House

Sleeping area