

CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS IN SHAPING AND DECORATING A THREE-ROOM APARTMENT – ADAPTATION OF A TWO- ROOM INTO A THREE-ROOM APARTMENT

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ABSTRACT:

The subject of this graduate work is a two-room apartment in a building located in Skopje. The apartment is located on the north side, first floor and has an approximate size of 55m². The preliminary project offers a solution of its adaptation in a three-room apartment for which it is needed to build one room. Apart of the adaptation solution, further solutions for the organization and selection of all furniture will be offered.

1. ANALYSIS OF THE SUBJECT

1.1 . Analysis of the original layout

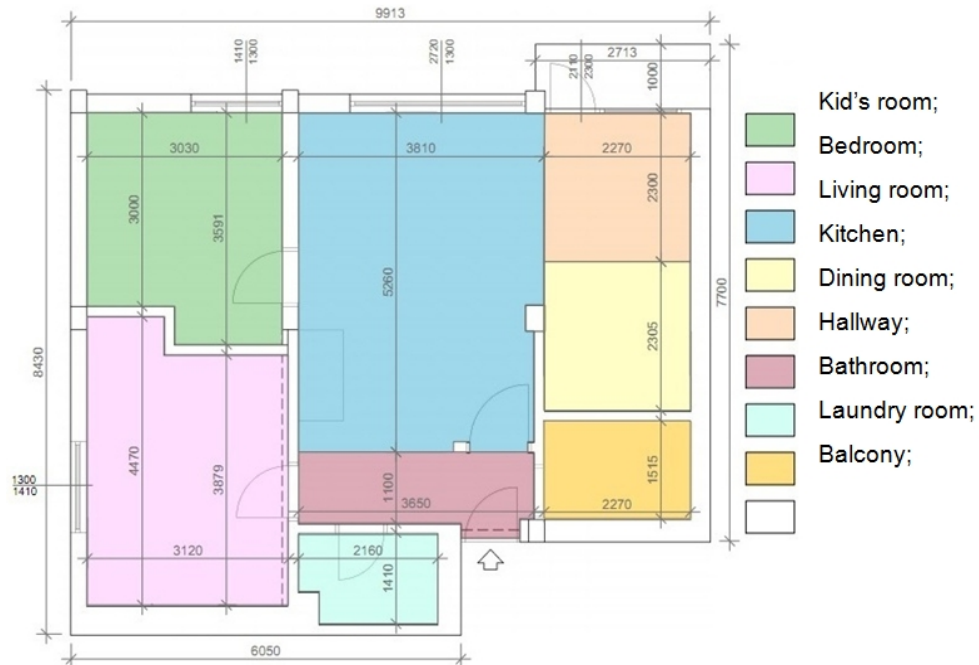
This 54 m² apartment features a living room area which is made up of a living and dining area, a kitchen and a partially divided sleeping area, balcony, and a hallway that connects the bath room and a kid's bedroom with the living area.

The biggest disadvantage of the default layout of the apartment is the position of the main bedroom which is partially divided with a composition of elements. The current positioning of the bedroom offers next to none privacy nor is it a calm peaceful place due to the noise of the living room. This together with the shortage of general storage and a laundry room leads to the functionality of the space being brought down to minimal lead to an inevitable need of improvement on both the overall functionality and the comfort of this apartment.



1.2. Analysis of the modified layout

The design solution was based on the need to focus on the primary disadvantages of the apartment. Major construction work needed to be done to the apartment which consisted of rearranging most of the base plans, and building an entirely new bed room. Additionally the walls of the kitchen were torn down, making the entire area an open living/dining/kitchen space. Also the dividing wall between the hallway and the living area was torn down and a new closet was set to increase the storage space. The kitchen itself was rearranged and moved to make place for a brand new laundry room.



2. INTERIOR DESIGN

When dealing with the task of decorating small apartments the accent needs to be put on functionality and mobility of the furniture, the choice of neutral bright colors and the use of mirrors to reflect both natural light and visually expand the room. Also a great deal of attention needs to be put on organization and planning out the entire available space.

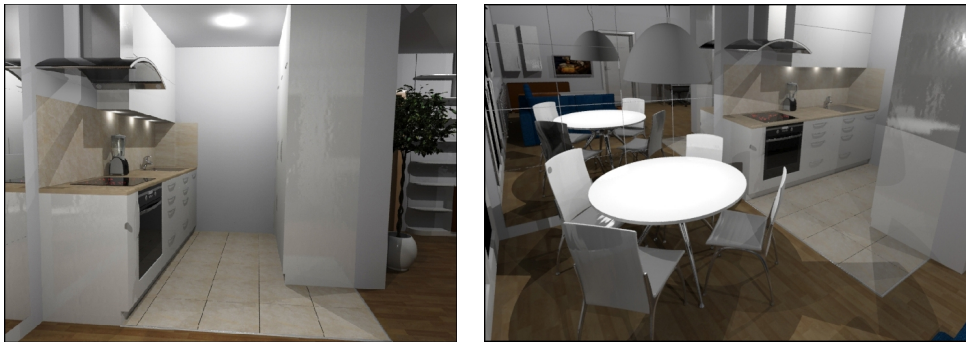
Minimalist style has been chosen to be a primary guide through the designing of this interior due to its basic philosophy of simplicity. This means the use and reduction of only the most necessary, simple and essential elements. The main mottos or guide lines of this style are “*Less is more*” and “*Quality over quantity*”.

Bellow the new designs of each individual room will be presented and a short explanation will be given on each of the solutions.

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The living room features a blue L-shaped sofa accompanied by a modern glass table. The accent in this room has been set on the beautiful textured cherry wood which has been used around the room as a design connection through all the elements.



The kitchen and dining room are the areas in which the minimalist design language can be seen the most, as almost all of the surfaces have strict forms, no unnecessary elements. The wall of mirrors also adds to the dining area, as it lightens it up, but also enlarges it visually giving the residents a good feeling.



The hallway and the newly built laundry room are the two rooms which reflect the attention to practicality of the space and the need for storage as to make living in the space more comfortable. The

wall in the hallway that connects to the living room has been torn down and has been replaced with a closet.



The entire bedroom feature a great built in closet done in white and the colors in the entire room have been dialed down to minimum with the use of only some minor red details.



The kid's room is designed in bright cyan and yellow as to appeal to both boy and girl and to bring a joyful feeling to the occupants. The working area has been raised above the retractable bed giving it a private feel and also with the retractable bed opening up a great open play area.



The bathroom occupies a small area so the use of bright colors is necessary to visually expand it. A combination of very bright green and white has been used and the elements have been reduced to minimal as to free as much space possible.

3. CONCLUSION

The apartment that is the theme of this thesis is the apartment where I used to live when I was 10 years old and with this project I wanted to create a solution which deals with all the disadvantages of the original layout. Like the room count and the shortage of storage space. Beside the solution for the design aspect of the rebuilt, I also did a detailed cost estimation of the entire project. The construction activities added up to 18 600 euro, plus the furnishing and design aspect costs 16 000 euro, both calculated in the current values in Macedonia.

4. REFERENCES

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