

# Christopher Alexander Quotes

*Space, Men, People, Patterns, Way, Mean, Beautiful, Thinking, Unique,  
Different, Self, Block, Order, Design, Children, Light, Dream, World, Believe,  
Environment*

Most of the wonderful places in the world were not made by architects but by the people.

~Christopher Alexander

Drawings help people to work out intricate relationships between parts.

~Christopher Alexander

We are searching for some kind of harmony between two intangibles: a form which we have not yet designed and a context which we cannot properly describe.

~Christopher Alexander

Speaking as a builder, if you start something, you must have a vision of the thing which arises from your instinct about preserving and enhancing what is there.

~Christopher Alexander

All space and matter, organic or inorganic, has some degree of life in it, and matter/space is more alive or less alive according to its structure and arrangement.

~Christopher Alexander

People are deeply nourished by the process of creating wholeness.

~Christopher Alexander

When they have a choice, people will always gravitate to those rooms which have light on two sides, and leave the rooms which are lit only from one side unused and empty.

~Christopher Alexander

In my life as an architect, I found that the single thing which inhibits young professionals, new students most severely, is their acceptance of standards that are too low.

~Christopher Alexander

From a sequence of these individual patterns, whole buildings with the character of nature will form themselves within your thoughts, as easily as sentences.

~Christopher Alexander

Complexity is one of the great problems in environmental design.

~Christopher Alexander

Everyone is aware that most of the built environment today lacks a natural order, an order which presents itself very strongly in places that were built centuries ago

~Christopher Alexander

To work our way towards a shared language once again, we must first learn how to discover patterns which are deep, and capable of generating life.

~Christopher Alexander

I mean, making simulations of what you're going to build is tremendously useful if you can get feedback from them that will tell you where you've gone wrong and what you can do about it.

~Christopher Alexander

When you make something, cleaning it out of structural debris is one of the most vital things you do.

~Christopher Alexander

There are geologists who can pick up a rock and say, 'Yes, there's oil under there.' A geologist who has been studying those kinds of rocks for 10 or 20 years is able to make that pronouncement.

~Christopher Alexander

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