



Thinking Design

Blueprint for an Architecture of Typology

Andreas Lechner

ISBN	9783038602460
Publisher	Park Books
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan
Size	310 mm x 230 mm
Pages	492 Pages
Illustrations	302 b&w
Price	£55.00

- A unique building manual drawing on humanity's accumulated architectural knowledge to inform and assist today's design processes and design work
- A clearly distilled architectural atlas based on 144 major designs from ancient times to the 21st century, showcasing the cultural dimension of building
- Newly drawn axonometric projections, sections and floor plans allow for optimal comparison

However disparate the style or ethos, beneath architecture's pluralism lies a number of categorical typologies. In *Thinking Design*, Austrian architect Andreas Lechner has condensed his profound typological understanding into a single book.

Divided into three chapters—Tectonics, Type, and Topos—Lechner's book reflects upon twelve fundamental typologies: theater, museum, library, state, office, recreation, religion, retail, factory, education, surveillance, and hospital. Encompassing a total of 144 carefully selected examples of classic designs and buildings, ranging across an epic sweep from antiquity to the present, the book not only explains the fundamentals of collective architectural knowledge but traces the interconnected reiterations that lie at the heart of architecture's transformative power.

As such, *Thinking Design* outlines a new building theory rooted in the act of composition as an aesthetic determinant of architectural form. This emphasis on composition in the design process over the more commonplace aspects of function, purpose, or atmosphere makes it more than a mere planning manual. It reveals also the cultural dimension of architecture that gives it the ability to transcend not only use cycles but entire epochs. Each example is lavishly illustrated with a newly drawn elevation or axonometric projection, floor plan, and section, not only invigorating the underlying ideas but also making the book an ideal comparative compendium.

Andreas Lechner runs his own architecture and research practice in Graz, Austria, and teaches as an associate professor at Graz University of Technology's Faculty of Architecture.