



NEXT STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

Official Overview & Program 2026

Steelcase®

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The Story Behind NEXT

NEXT Overview

NEXT is a lifestyle and apparel brand built around creativity, collaboration, community, authenticity, and social responsibility. The brand is more than a clothing company – it's a collective of people shaping style through real-life needs and personal expression rather than fleeting trends.

The founding of NEXT begins with a love story. The two founders met each other in the fashion world on photo shoots and runway shows around the world. The husband (COO) is a fashion designer who grew up in Brooklyn and has parents migrated from Nigeria and Japan. He is inspired by the street style that he grew up with in New York and has a love and appreciation from architecture around the world. The wife (CEO and President) is a textile designer turned fashion stylist who grew up in Miami and has Cuban American parents. Her fashion ethos is deeply rooted in maximalism, sustainability, and authenticity. Together, they wanted to create a new fashion brand targeted at a younger demographic and provide opportunities for up-and-coming designers to showcase their designs in yearly collaboration capsules.

The NEXT Brand Essence can be distilled into three very important themes:

- Fashion inspired by real people
- Fast response to demand and affordable style
- Social responsibility to employees, customers, and communities

NEXT's brand positioning creates versatile, high-quality wardrobe essentials designed for everyday life. We focus on comfort, artistry, longevity, and pieces meant to be worn repeatedly rather than discarded seasonally. NEXT clothing appeals to people seeking clothing that feels creative, adventurous, handcrafted, expressive, and authentic. At NEXT, we emphasize making getting dressed enjoyable and building a lifestyle around the brand, not just a wardrobe.

NEXT Brand Values:

- Creativity – Encourages innovation, artistic expression, and boundary-pushing ideas
- Excellence – Focused on high-quality products, craftsmanship, and exceeding expectations
- Transparency – Open about practices, processes, and sustainability efforts
- Collaboration – Views customers and community as co-creators who influence the brand's evolution

NEXT is committed to ethical and social responsibility. We are committed to ethical labor practices, fair treatment, safety, and respect for workers. NEXT frequently conducts direct factory visits and works with facilities that have achieved recognized third-party social and ethical compliance standards. At NEXT, we have a responsibility to our employees, customers, and the communities we serve.

Our Workplace Vision for NEXT:

The proposed Miami headquarters is envisioned as the heart of creativity and connection—a place where ideas grow, relationships deepen, and the NEXT culture comes to life through intentional collaboration and innovation.

PLEASE NOTE: The company brand and culture is up to the interpretation of the student and is completely up to the student's discretion. It is important that the NEXT team has a place that supports the work that they do, enhances collaboration with teammates and external partners, and a place where they are proud to invite business partners, prospective ones, as well as family and the surrounding community.

NEXT has decided they will be partnering with Steelcase to provide the furnishings for this new location, because of Steelcase's commitment to innovation, diversity, equity, inclusion, and sustainability. The leaders of NEXT value the research Steelcase has provided for hybrid collaboration and inclusive design principles and want you to learn more and incorporate these ideas in the design of the new space. We feel strongly that we want to partner with companies that match our brand values.

NEXT Overview

Please note, NEXT is a fictitious organization. The site is real, though some dimensions and details may have been modified for this student design competition.

Location

2900 Oak Avenue, Miami, Florida, USA, 33133

Lease Space

Entire office – approximately (13,899 USF)

Scope

Plan and design NEXT’s new headquarter location in Miami, measuring approximately 13,800 USF. Do not plan, design, or alter building core elements, such as restrooms, elevators, building stairs, and utility rooms labeled NIC (Not in Contract) which are shown on the floorplan.

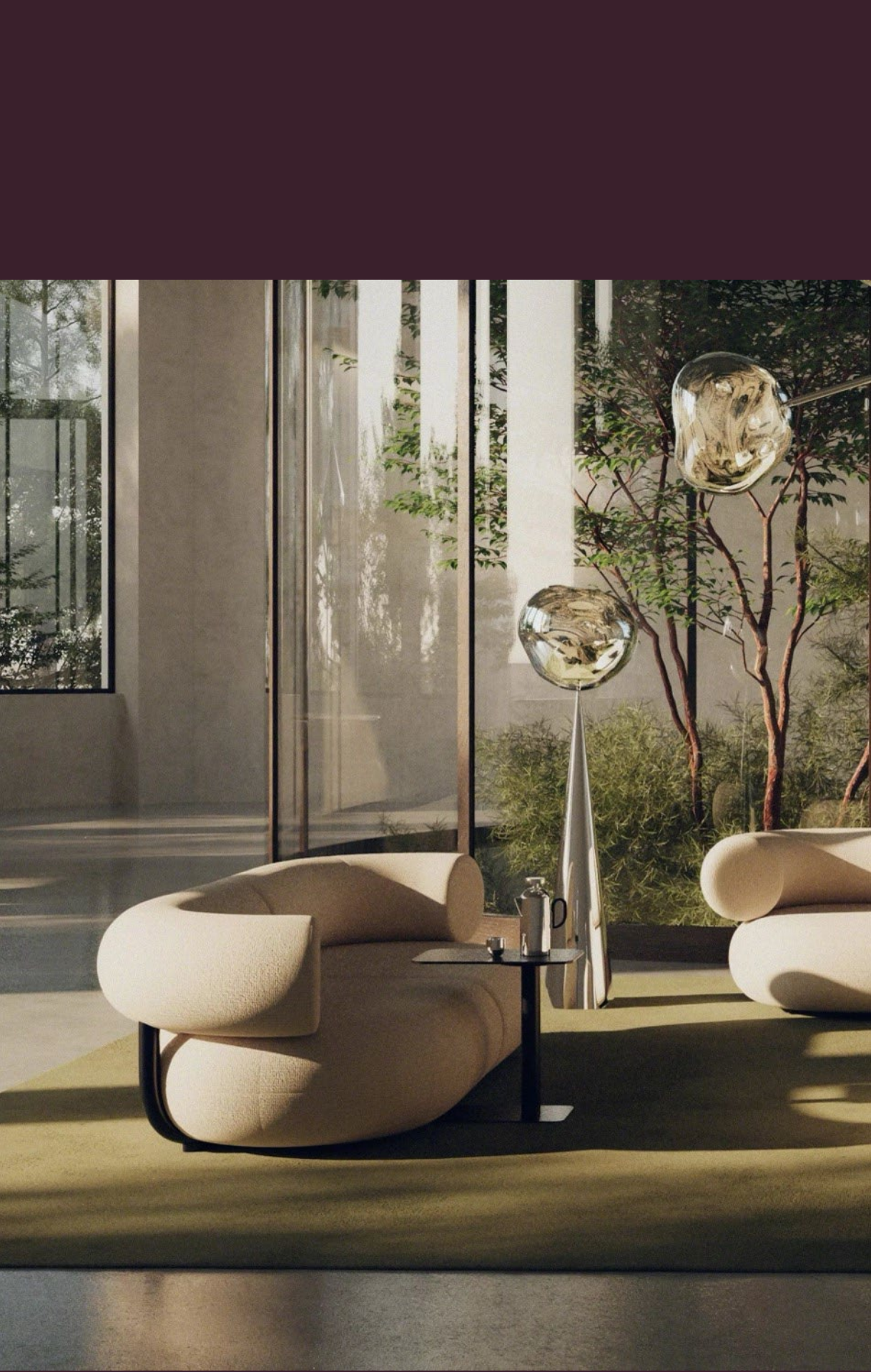
SITE: THOUGH “NEXT” IS A FICTITIOUS COMPANY, THIS IS A REAL TENANT LOCATION AND NO ONE SHOULD VISIT THE INTERIOR OF THIS BUILDING AS IT WOULD BE DISRUPTIVE TO THE BUSINESS OPERATIONS OF THE CURRENT COMPANY. DOING SO COULD BE CAUSE FOR DISQUALIFICATION.

Building Information

- 1. The building is in Miami, Florida in the Coconut Grove community: Coconut Grove Community
- 2. Interior core walls are drywall and extend to the ceiling deck. Students many assume that mechanical shades have been provided on all exterior glazing by the building for sun control within the space. The shading can be changed on the interior if another solution meets the student’s design intent.

The space has a concrete slab ceiling and assume the building floor is also concrete and can be penetrated as required for electrical and plumbing. No power poles allowed in the space. Concrete can be treated and used as the final flooring or other flooring materials can be added to the concrete.

- 3. All existing corridor doors, exterior glass, restrooms, stairwells, elevators, building shafts and columns to remain in existing location. Columns can be re-clad in a new material if desired.
- 4. All design solutions must meet ADA requirements at minimum and should exhibit Universal Design Principal Solutions.



The Art & Strategy of Space Making

Design Drivers

Key Factors

Goals for NEXT's space include:

- The office serves as the cultural and operational anchor—a central hub for collaboration, mentorship, and connection to company identity. The “NEXT’ers” are encouraged to be in the office four days per week to foster deeper engagement, while maintaining flexibility for remote work as needed.
- Seamless technology integration is essential to support hybrid collaboration across distributed teams, remote participants, and clients. Tools like virtual whiteboarding and high-quality video conferencing ensure equitable participation and productivity regardless of location.
- Attract, retain, and develop top talent by offering a workplace experience that reflects emerging values—flexibility, inclusion, and wellbeing—while supporting diverse work modes.
- Enhance employee wellbeing, engagement, and performance through regenerative spaces that support mental health, work-life balance, and a sense of belonging.



People are
coming into
the office to
collaborate
and connect.

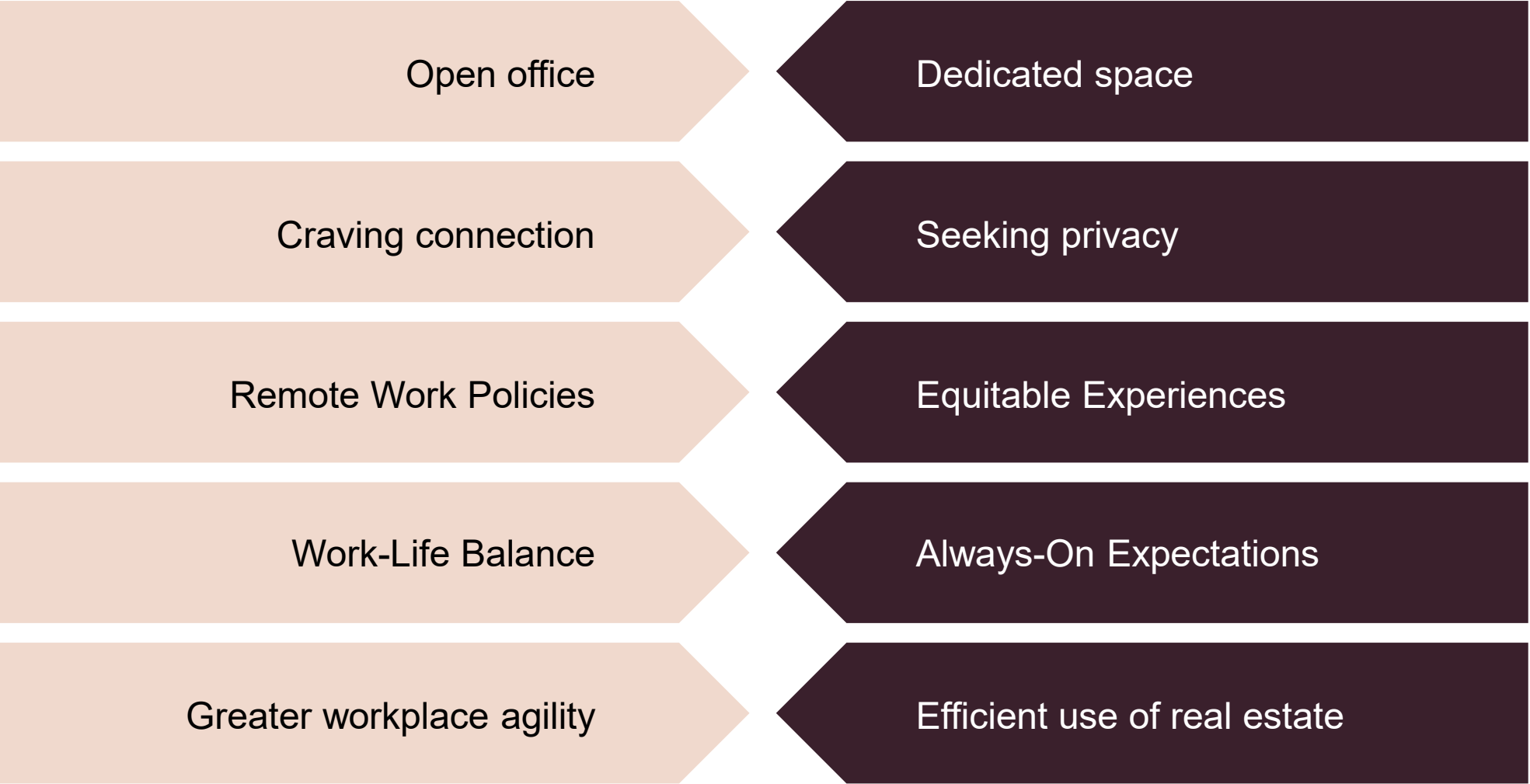


Top reasons people come
to the office:

- Collaboration and teamwork
- Building relationships and social connection
- Team cohesion, sense of belonging, and culture
- Innovation and creativity
- Spaces available to support all work modes
- Client and stakeholder engagement

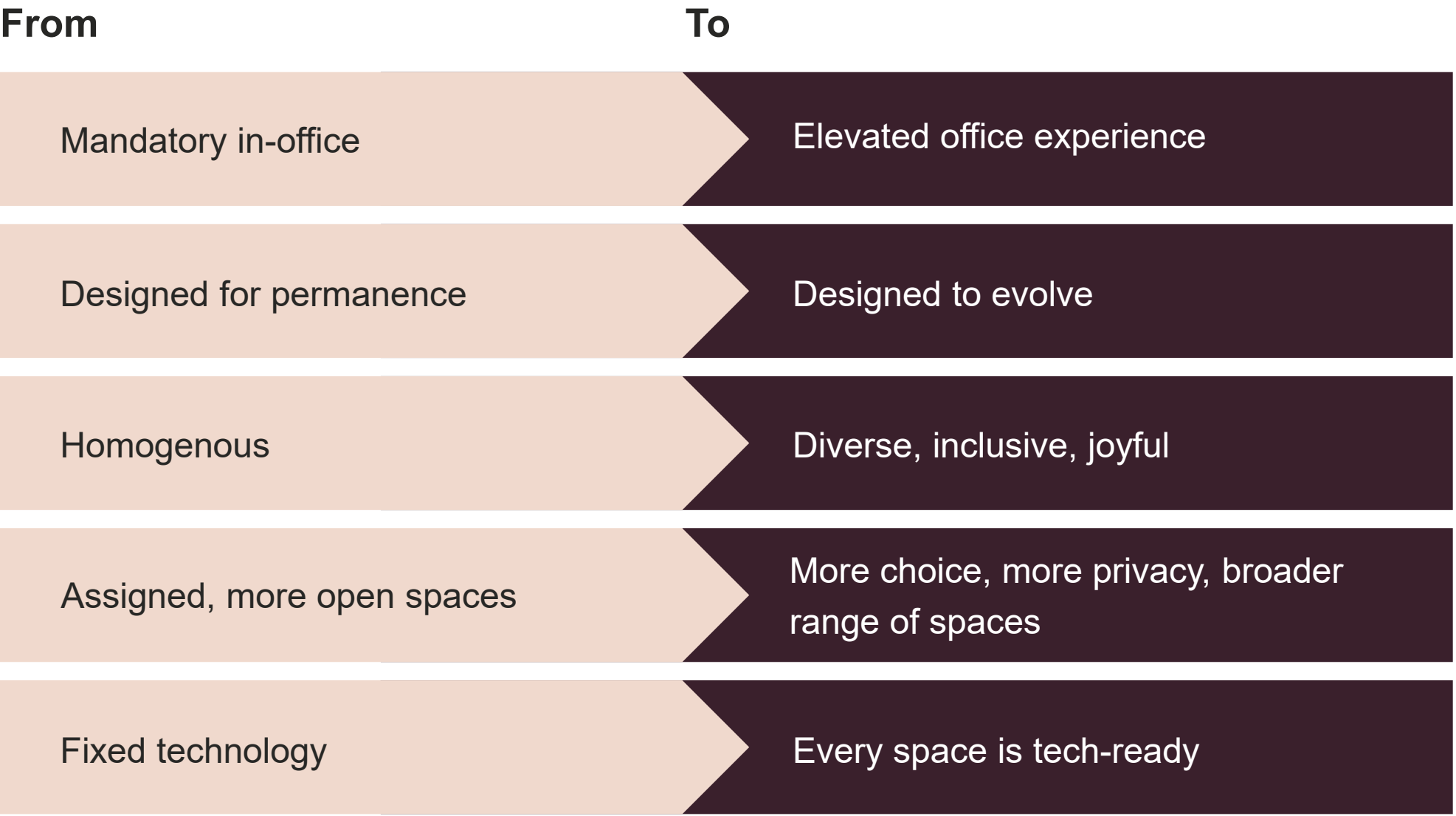
Emerging Workplace Tensions

Hybrid work creates a new set of tensions the workplace must address.



Workplace Shifts

Hybrid work creates a new set of tensions the workplace must address.



The Workplace Needs to Respond to Forces Changing Work Today

Four Macro Shifts



Living on Screen

56% of meetings include a remote participant.

AI Supercycle

75% of employees use AI at work.

Sustainability Mindset

More companies are making sustainability commitments in their organization and work environment.

Wellbeing Urgency

66% of employees are not thriving at work.

We're in more virtual meetings than ever before



56%

Include remote participants

44%

Fully in-person

Steelcase Global Research

People choose convenience over connection

50% of employees do not leave their desks for video calls. Here's why:

Easier to connect without moving from my individual space

38%

Better/more equitable experience for all participants

30%

No room is booked in advance

29%

No time between meetings to move

26%

Steelcase Leader Research

Macro Shift

Living on Screen

Screen-based interactions have overtaken in-person communications.



Living on Screen

Workplace Considerations



Hybrid collaboration spaces

Ensuring spaces can support video collaboration is crucial. See our [Hybrid Collaboration Design Guide](#) & [360 Focus: Hybrid Collaboration Guide](#)



Privacy

More screen-based work requires more acoustic and visual privacy.



Easy access to power

Adding power to social and collaborative spaces gives people more choices over where they work.



Spaces that support wellbeing

People need the ability to step away from their screens throughout the day.

Employees are leading the adoption of AI at work



Employees

75%

Of global knowledge workers use AI,
nearly doubling in six months

Leaders

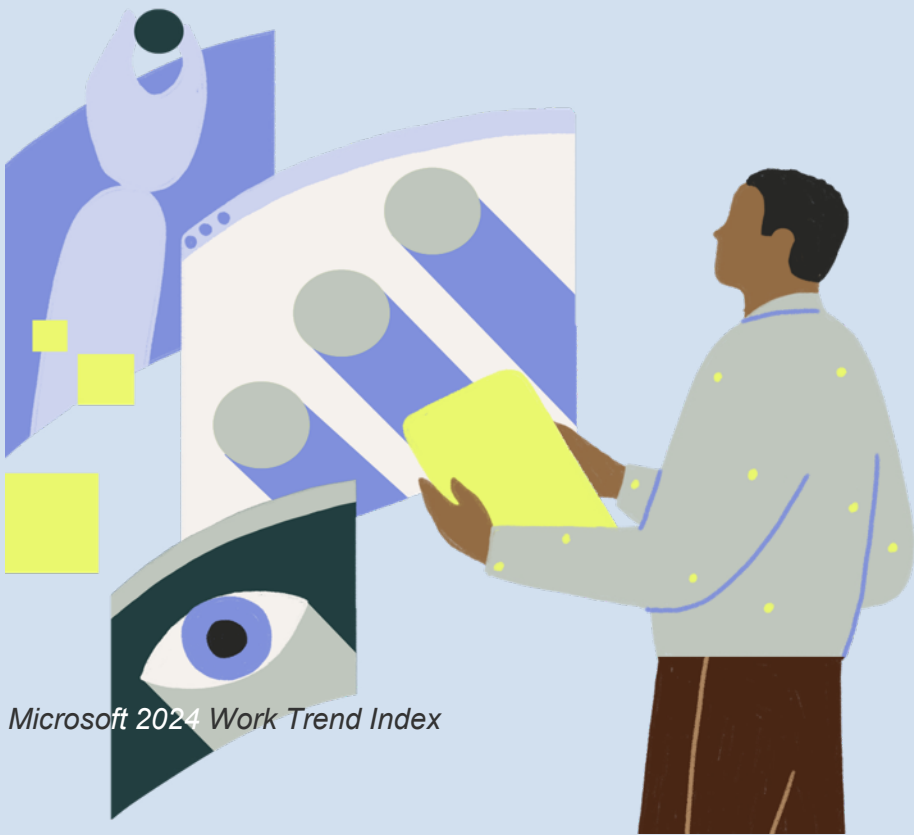
60%

Of leaders worry their organization
lacks a vision to implement AI

Steelcase Global Research

AI skills are now “must-haves”

66% of leaders would not hire
someone without AI skills



Microsoft 2024 Work Trend Index

Macro Shift

AI Supercycle

Employees are rapidly adopting AI and leaders
know they need to leverage it more.



AI Supercycle

Workplace Considerations



We + Shared

Hybrid collaboration spaces +
AI-powered video systems, meeting
assistants.



I + Owned

Individual spaces + personalization,
personal assistants.



I + Shared

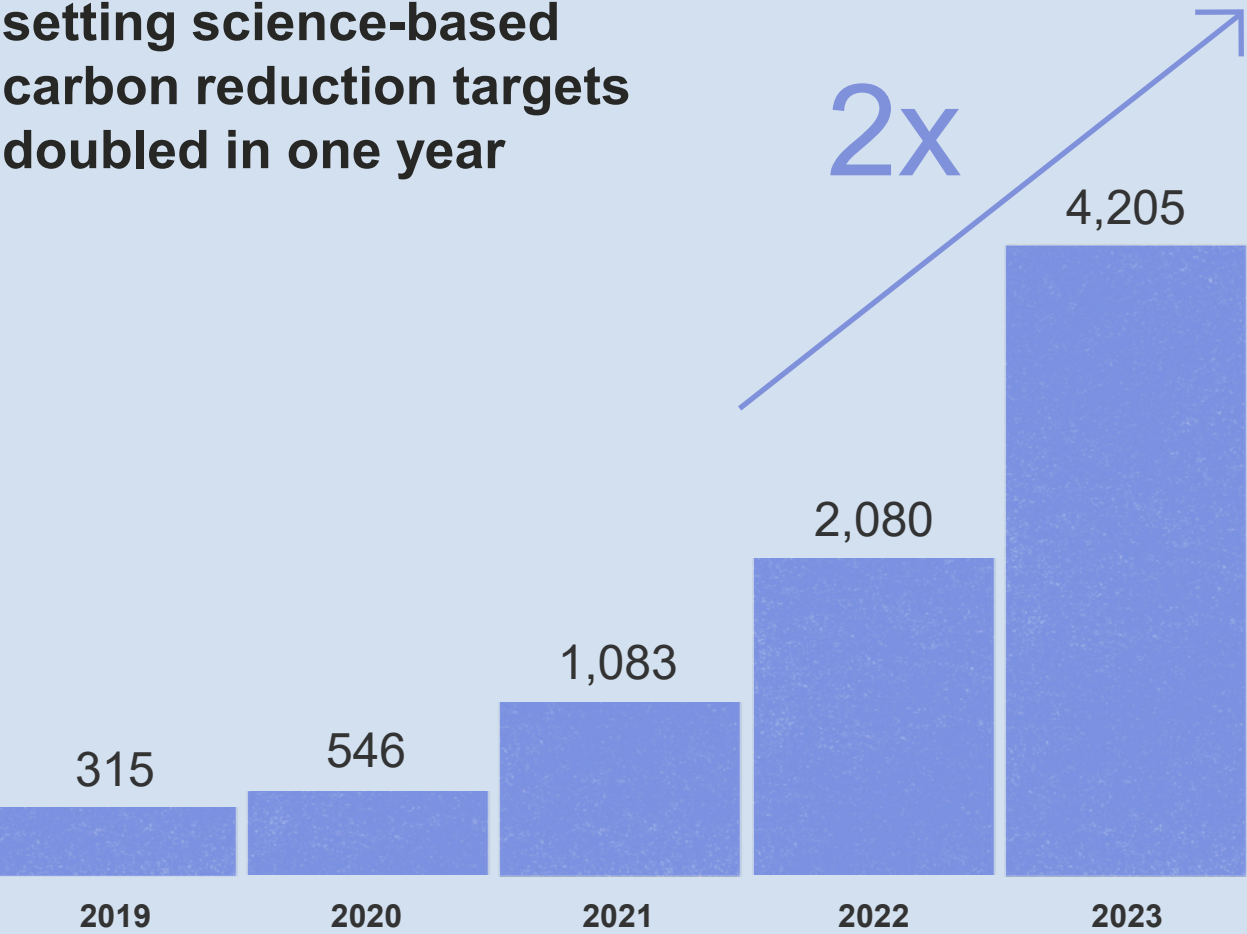
Hybrid enclaves + immersive video, sound.



We + Owned

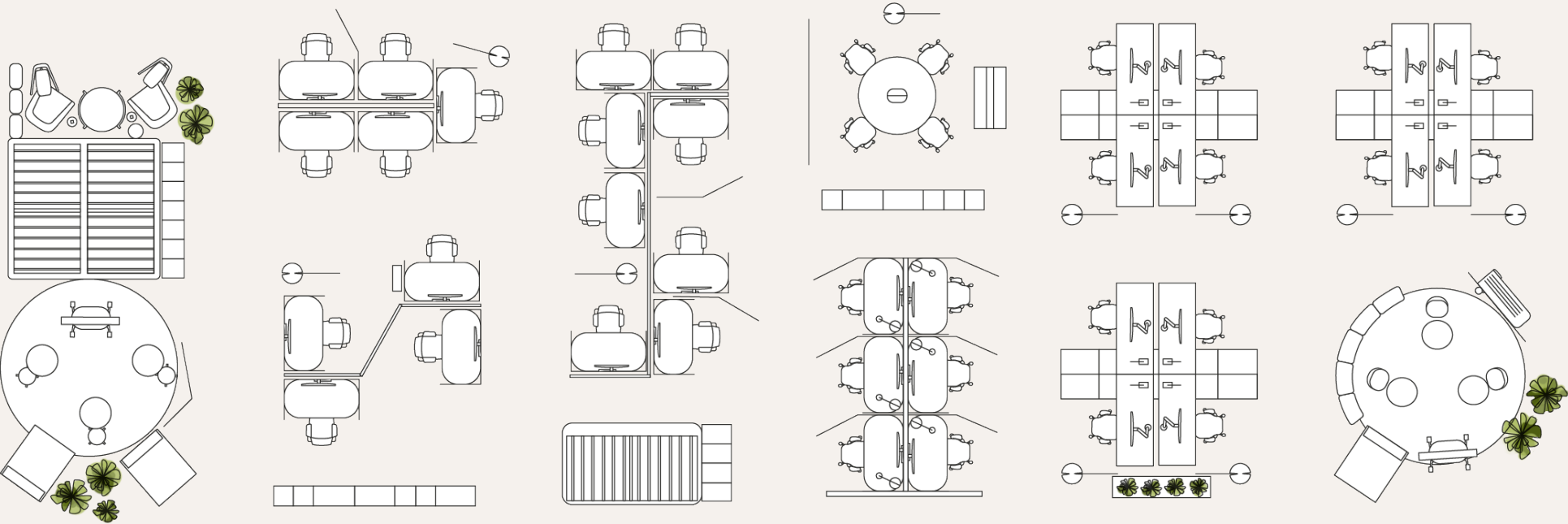
Team spaces + generative AI-tools,
interactive displays.

The number of companies setting science-based carbon reduction targets doubled in one year



Science Based Targets initiatives (SBTi)

Workplaces designed with a range of settings are easier to change and more sustainable



Macro Shift

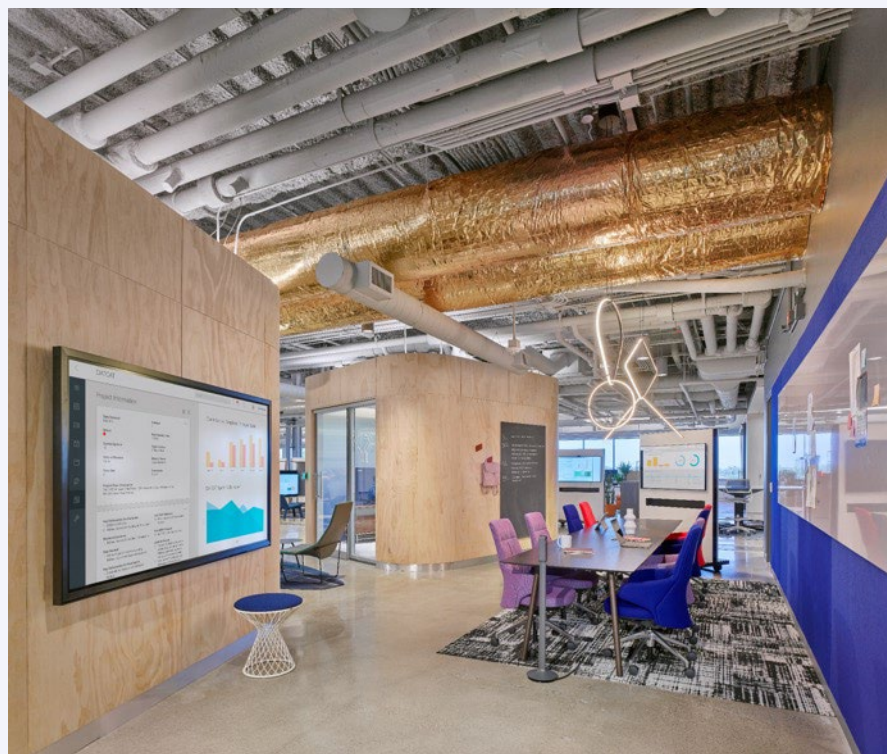
Sustainability Mindset

Organizations prioritizing sustainability need flexible and adaptable workplaces to help achieve their goals.



Sustainability Mindset

Workplace Considerations



Set a shared vision

Create visible and accessible leadership spaces.

Display key goals and priorities.



Choose sustainable partners

Seek out partners who deliver sustainable furniture solutions and services.



Foster a learning culture

Create places for group and individual learning in formal and informal ways.



Support cross-functional teams

Design shared collaboration & social spaces to encourage connections.

Many employees are not thriving



All Employees

66%

Of employees
are not thriving

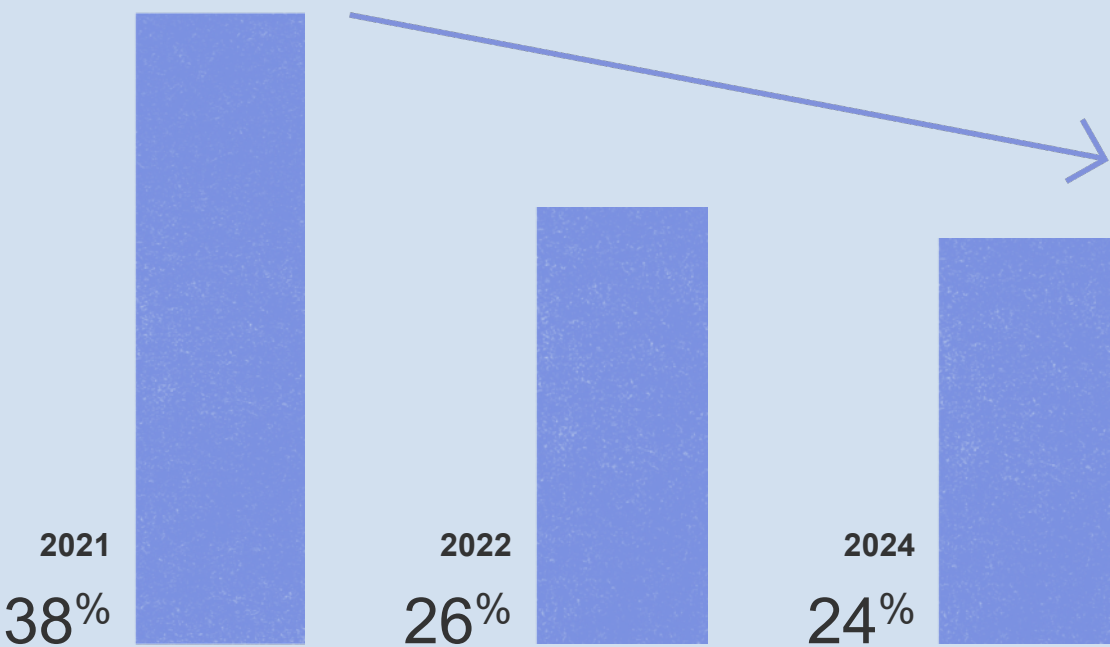
Millennials & Gen Z

69%

Of employees under
35 are not thriving

Gallup State of the Global Workplace

The number of U.S. employees who believe
their employer cares about their wellbeing
keeps dropping



Steelcase Employee Research

Macro Shift

Wellbeing Urgency

Employees have new expectations that organizations
will take action to support their mental health.



Wellbeing Urgency Workplace Considerations



Provide spaces for focus and various types of collaboration



Create spaces that support diverse human needs
Provide access to privacy and wellbeing spaces to recharge.



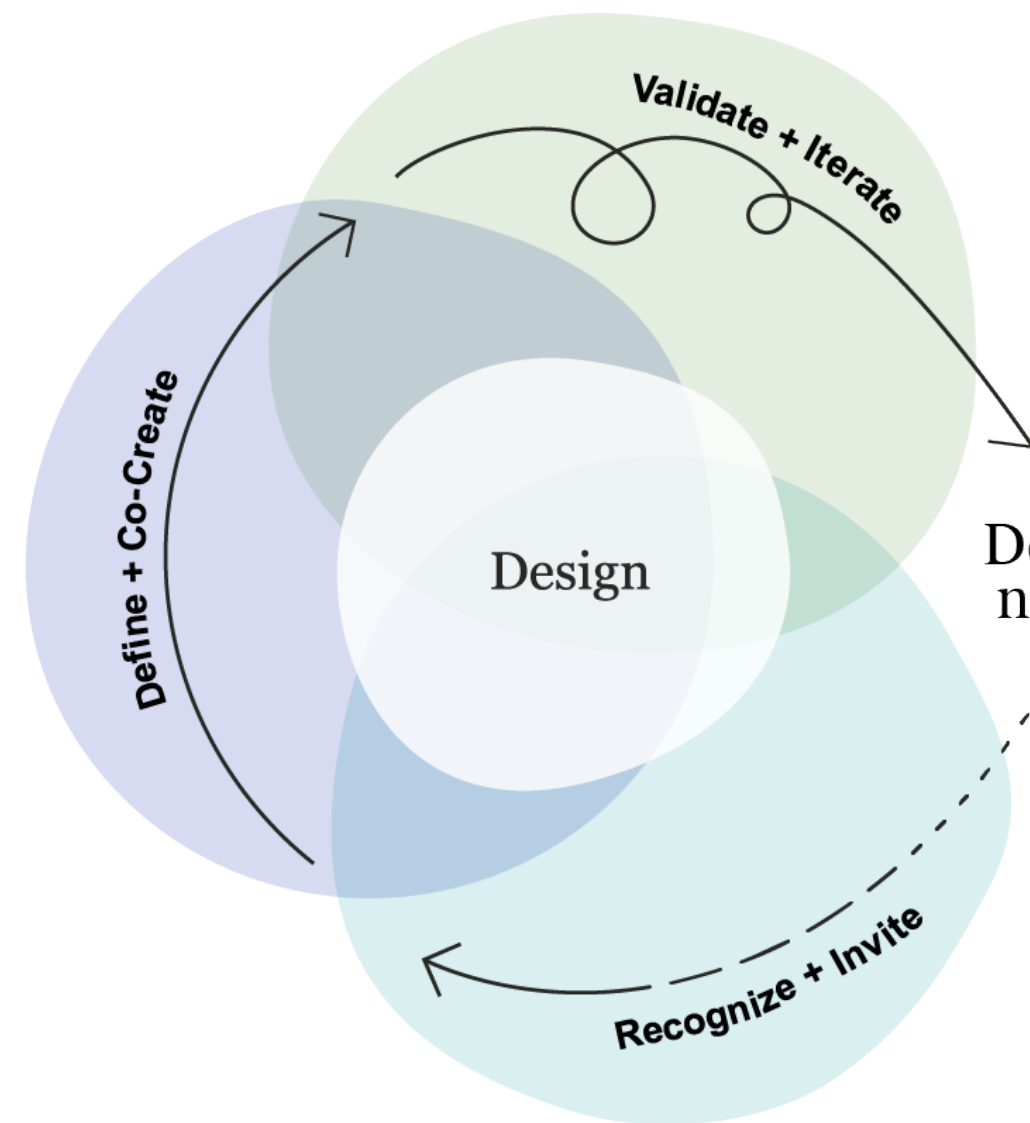
Design with, not just for
Practice inclusive design by engaging people with a variety of lived experiences.



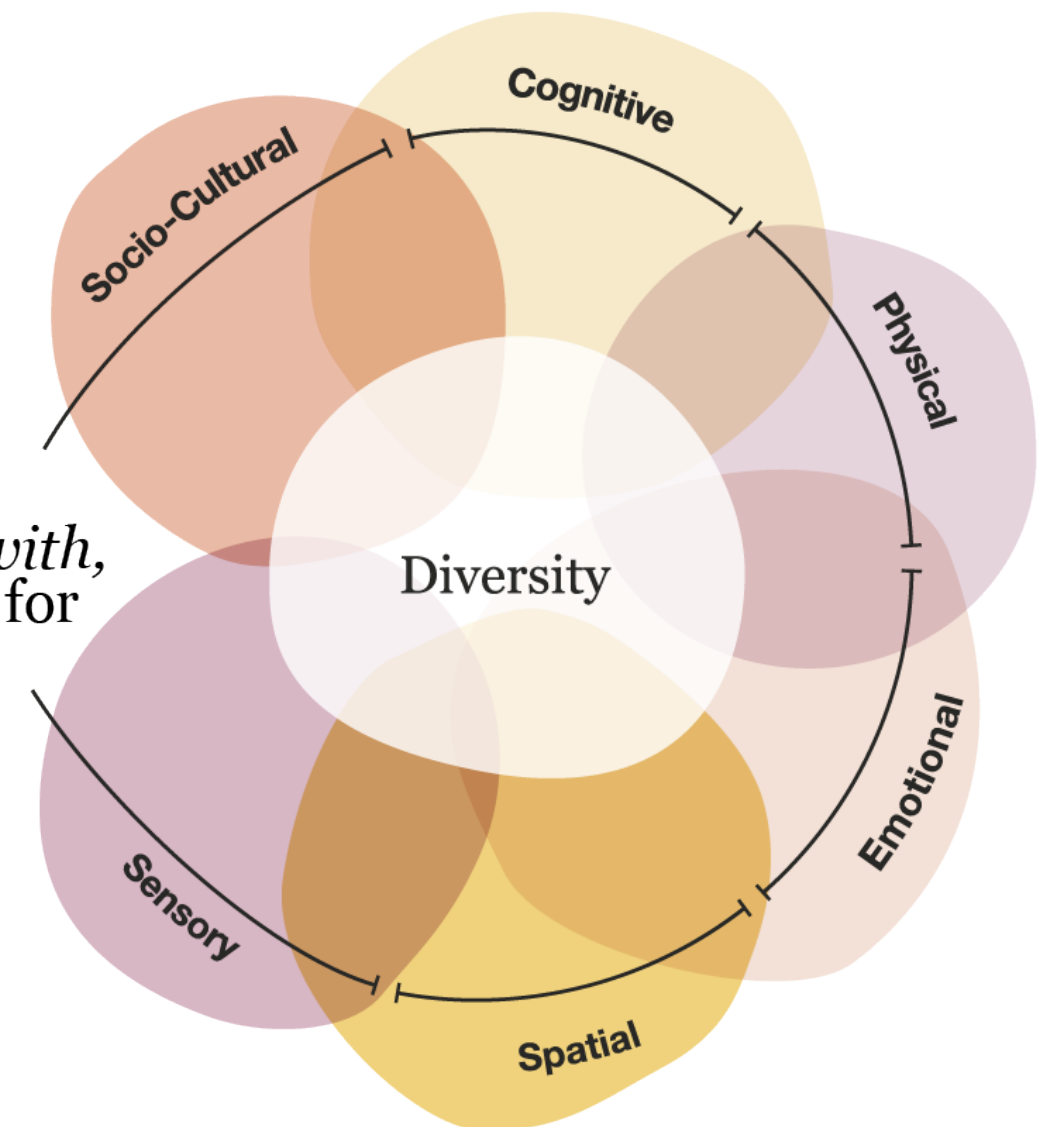
Design for effectiveness + affectiveness
Consider how the workplace supports the ways people need to work and how it makes them feel.

Inclusive Design

The process of using participatory methods to inform design and create new ways for traditionally excluded communities to engage in activities of their choice.



Design *with*,
not just for



Steelcase Inclusive Design

 [Check out the Inclusive Design landing page for more resources!](#)

Employee inclusion, flexibility, and regeneration are driving the workplace experience.

Inclusive

Engage individual input and collective voices in the workplace experience.

Flexible

Increase control over where, when, and how to work, considering policies, environment, and technologies.

Regenerative

Prioritize emerging work values with a workplace that is regenerative.



Inclusive

Companies need to bring more diverse voices into the conversation to design for everyone's needs, work modes, and work processes.



Employees expect the office to be optimized for their needs and to support their work modes better than their home experience.

Facility management is driving toward standardization while still meeting the needs of individuals.

Organization leaders identify company and team culture as a top priority.

Flexible

Companies need to design for flexibility of space, tools, and technology to create higher-performing experiences.

New talent is attracted by flexible work schedules that support work-life balance.

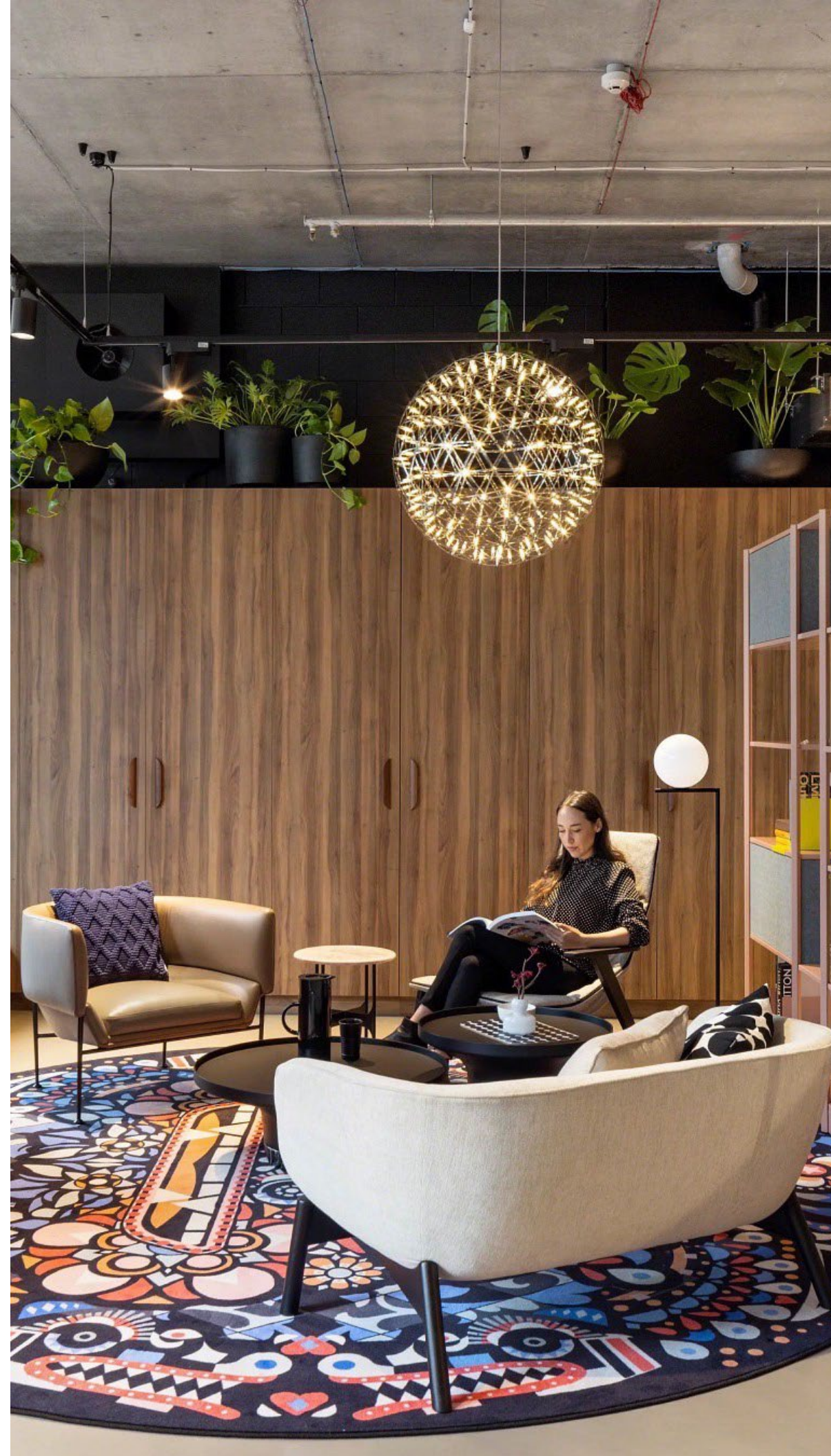
Professionals expect to be able to work and connect anywhere.

Office managers optimize for space utilization that supports a broader range of work modes.



Regenerative

Companies need to support emerging employee values with a work experience that is regenerative and restorative.



Professionals expect shorter working hours and better work-life balance.

Leaders are building community by cultivating individual purpose and wellbeing within the context of the organization.

Designers are responding to requests for stylization for law offices that reflect home and nature.

Spatial Considerations

Space

- Designed for focus, collaboration, and hybrid work
- Mix of private offices, shared workstations, and open areas, which includes open, shielded, and enclosed settings
- Combines assigned and unassigned spaces
- Supports video calls, in-person meetings, and quiet work, along with adaptable layouts for evolving team needs
- Reflects firm culture and individual identity

Technology

- Mobile-first tools for hybrid work
- Seamless video conferencing in all key spaces supporting virtual collaboration firm-wide
- Power and connectivity integrated throughout, and fully Wi-Fi enabled across the office
- Secure, cloud-based access to files and systems
- Tech-enabled spaces for hearings, meetings, and focus work

Lighting

- Layered lighting for different work modes
- Wellness-focused solutions with dimmable options, along with maximizing natural light and outdoor views
- Minimize glare with adjustable shading
- Lighting supports video calls and hybrid meetings
- Warm, inviting tones to enhance comfort and focus

Acoustics + Privacy

- Visual separation to reduce distractions and sound-absorbing materials throughout
- Defined zones for open vs. secure work, including enclosed spaces for confidential conversations
- Acoustic support for video calls and hybrid meetings
- Privacy features integrated into shared and individual spaces

Wellbeing

Wellbeing is a foundational principle in the design of modern workplaces. Spaces should support the full spectrum of employee needs—physical, emotional, and cognitive—by offering a variety of environments for focus, collaboration, and restoration. A range of postures, including options to sit, stand, lounge, and move, encourages healthy habits throughout the day. Natural light, biophilic elements, and quiet zones contribute to a sense of calm and connection. These environments should foster positive emotions, psychological safety, and a sense of belonging—whether employees are working in person or remotely—while reinforcing the firm’s culture and values.

Designing the Future Home of NEXT

There are **(39) NEXT employees** that will utilize this new office in Miami. There should also be (4) additional workstations for visiting consultants/advisors.

Requirements for this space – Departments

1. Senior Leadership (3)

- President and CEO – 1
- COO – 1
- Executive Assistant – 1

2. Brand and Marketing Department (7)

- Brand Director – 1
- Marketing Manager – 1
- Social Media Manager – 1
- Content Creator / Videographer – 1
- Graphic Designer – 1
- Copywriter – 1
- Intern – 1

3. Product Design and Development (6)

- Creative Director – 1
- Apparel Designer – 1
- Technical Designer – 1
- Product Developer – 1
- Textile / Materials Specialist – 1
- Intern – 1

4. Merchandising and Planning (3)

- Merchandise Manager – 1
- Merchandise Planner – 1
- Retail and Market Research Consultant – 1

5. E-Commerce and Digital Experience (4)

- E-Commerce Director – 1
- Website Manager – 1
- CRM / Email Marketing Specialist – 1
- Digital Analyst – 1

6. Sales and Business Development (4)

- Sales Director – 1
- Account Managers – 2
- Showroom Coordinator – 1

7. Operations and Supply Chain (4)

- Operations Manager – 1
- Supply Chain Manager – 1
- Inventory Coordinators – 2

8. Finance and Administration (8).

- CFO and Controller – 1
- Accountant – 1
- HR Manager – 1
- Office Administrator – 1
- Shared Administrators – 3
- Receptionist - 1

Provide (4) additional workstations for visiting consultants and advisors from the following:

- Brand Agency Representative, PR Agency Representative, Photography Studio Partner, Textile Sourcing Agents, Sustainability Specialists, Overseas Manufacturing Partners, Digital Marketing/SEO Agency, Wholesale Consultants

At NEXT headquarters, located in Miami, the office serves as the central hub all company operations, development, innovation, collaboration, and client engagement. While the firm embraces a hybrid workplace model, the NEXT employees are encouraged to work from the office four days per week. This approach supports the firm’s belief that in-person collaboration strengthens relationships, fosters trust, enhances knowledge sharing, and drives innovation—all essential to delivering exceptional products and exceeding customer expectations.

Numerous consultants and advisors that are integral to NEXT’s business will frequently visit the Miami headquarters for full day to multi-day working sessions. These visits are designed to deepen collaboration between execution partners, align on company initiatives, and engage with clients from regions across the globe. It is essential that visitors feel fully integrated and supported, with seamless access to the same technology, resources, and amenities they rely on in their own offices.

As part of the NEXT commitment to community, they will often sponsor community activities that support a healthy and active lifestyle through classes on how to eat clean, menu/meal prep, cooking essentials, and sewing for beginners. In addition, they also sponsor a variety of influencers to interact with the community to provide in-person style consultations, size fittings, and exercise counseling.

NEXT: Student Design Competition

General role and job responsibilities of the NEXT employees

- President and CEO – company vision, establishing culture, attracting investors and partnerships
- COO – manages and oversees day-to-day operations and growth strategy
- Executive Assistant – provides daily administrative support to CEO and COO

- Brand Director – brand strategy and positioning, campaign oversight, and customer experience
- Marketing Manager – campaign execution, product launches, and influencer partnerships
- Social Media Manager – social content, community management, and influencer coordination
- Content Creator / Videographer – reels, photography, product videos, and event coverage
- Graphic Designer – campaign graphics, packaging, lookbooks, and digital assets
- Copywriter – product descriptions, website copy, email campaigns, and storytelling
- Brand and Marketing Intern – supports the team with a variety of production tasks

- Creative Director – seasonal vision, collection aesthetic, and creative leadership
- Apparel Designer – garment design, sketching, and technical packages
- Technical Designer – fit specifications, construction details, and production standards
- Product Developer – vendor coordination, materials sourcing, and sampling
- Textiles / Materials Specialist – fabric sourcing, sustainability research, and performance testing
- Product Design and Development Intern – supports the team with a variety of production tasks

- Merchandise Manager – product assortment, pricing, and seasonal planning
- Merchandise Planner – forecasting, inventory planning, and product performance testing
- Retail and Market Research Consultant – analyses current and emerging trends

- E-Commerce Director – online strategy and conversion optimization
- Website Manger – product uploads and website management and maintenance
- CRM / Email Marketing Specialist – customer retention, loyalty programs, and email automation
- Digital Analyst – website analytics and customer insights

- Sales Director – wholesale relationships and revenue growth
- Account Managers – retail buyers, specialty stores, and marketplace relationships
- Showroom Coordinator – product presentations and sample management

- Operations Manager – process management and vendor coordination
- Supply Chain Manager – manufacturing, logistics, and vendor relationships
- Inventory Coordinators – sample inventory and product movement

- CFO and Controller – financial planning and budgeting
- Accountant – accounts payable and receivable
- HR Manager – recruiting, benefits, and employee experience
- Office Administrator - manages daily office operations, facilities, and administrative staff
- Shared Administrators – provide daily administrative assistance and shared across all departments
- Receptionist - greets visitors, manages calls, and supports office operations

Individual or Department Spaces	Quantity	Space Type
Senior Leadership		
President and CEO	1	225 SF Private office
COO	1	150 SF Private office
Executive Assistant	1	64 SF Open workstation
Brand and Marketing Department		
Brand Director	1	64 SF Open workstation
Marketing Manager	1	64 SF Open workstation
Social Media Manager	1	64 SF Open workstation
Content Creator / Videographer	1	36 SF Open workstation
Graphic Designer	1	36 SF Open workstation
Copywriter	1	36 SF Open workstation
Brand and Marketing Intern	1	36 SF Open workstation
Content Studio	1	Enclosed team space
Product Design and Development		
Creative Director	1	64 SF Open workstation
Apparel Designer	1	36 SF Open workstation
Technical Designer	1	36 SF Open workstation
Product Developer	1	36 SF Open workstation
Textile / Materials Specialist	1	36 SF Open workstation
Product Design and Development Intern	1	36 SF Open workstation
Product Review Room	1	Enclosed team space
Fit Evaluation Room	1	300 SF Small enclosed space within department
Merchandising and Planning		
Merchandise Manager	1	64 SF Open workstation
Merchandise Planner	1	36 SF Open workstation
Retail and Market Research Consultant	1	36 SF Open workstation
E-Commerce and Digital Experience		
E-Commerce Director	1	64 SF Open workstation
Website Manager	1	64 SF Open workstation
CRM / Email Marketing Specialist	1	36 SF Open workstation
Digital Analyst	1	36 SF Open workstation
Sales and Business Development		
Sales Director	1	64 SF Open workstation
Account Managers	2	64 SF Open workstation
Showroom Coordinator	1	36 SF Open workstation
Operations and Supply Chain		
Operations Manager	1	64 SF Open workstation
Supply Chain Manager	1	64 SF Open workstation
Inventory Coordinators	2	36 SF Open workstation
Finance and Administration		
CFO and Controller	1	150 SF Private office
Accountant	1	64 SF Open workstation
HR Manager	1	150 SF Private office
Office Administrator	1	36 SF Open workstation
Shared Administrators	3	36 SF Open workstation
Receptionist	1	TBD within Reception Area
Visiting Consultants and Advisors		
Consultants and Advisors	4	36 SF Open workstation
Communal and Shared Spaces		
WorkCafé and Community Hub	1	700 SF Open space as the social and hospitality center of the company
	1	500 SF All-hands on company events, brand launches, community events
Town Hall / Multi-purpose	2	120 SF Enclosed spaces for focused work with minimal visual or auditory distractions
Quiet / Focus / Wellness Rooms		
Reservable Team Room	2	300 SF Multi-purpose teams spaces for temporary but dedicated use
	1	200 SF Open space that houses all materials for products and is a hub for both creative inspiration and technical product development
Brand and Materials Library + Sample room		
Shipping, receiving and print/copy and storage room	1	200 SF Multi-purpose back of house space for NEXT team
Reception and welcome area	1	400 SF space for receptionist, greeting, welcoming guests
Conference Room	1	500 SF Conference Room for client presentations,team collaboration

NEXT Spaces

Reception & Welcome + Brand Display

Private Offices

Open Workstations

Quantity	1	4	35 individual workstations + 4 visitor workstations (39 total)
Space Allocation	400SF	150 - 225 SF	36 - 64 SF
Function	This space serves as the first point of contact for clients, guests, and employees—setting the tone for the company’s culture and brand image. It supports greeting, orientation, and informal interaction, while offering a welcoming and branded experience. A full-time receptionist will reside in this space. Incorporate into this space physical embodiment of the brand that showcases products and brand identity. Students can use their imagination to determine what and how things are displayed in this area. The receptionist needs a work desk, ergonomic task chair, computer with monitor and phone and think about an accessible transaction area within the receptionist's space. Provide seating for a minimum of 4-6 guests This area is <u>required</u> to be one of the renderings provided. Provide a view that best shows your overall design intent.	Offices are assigned to President/CEO, CFO/Controller, COO, and HR Manager. They engage in confidential phone calls and meetings. They do not need visual privacy and prefer to have open transparency and sight lines to the team. The CEO and COO work together constantly and should be in close proximity to one another as well as their teams. The CFO and HR Manager should be in close proximity to the Finance and Administration team. Design an office that allows for focused work as well as the ability to collaborate with 1-2 guests, storage for personal belongings, 1 large monitor with a docking station, a laptop, whiteboard and pin up space. Ample worksurface or table is needed to array several printouts. The NEXT protocol is to use these as a temporary private space as needed or small client meeting space when the assigned leader is away from the office.	Workstations that allow people to focus as well as collaborate with adjacent teammates. Brand/Marketing and Product Design/Development need one large monitor and everyone else should have 2 smaller monitors with the exception of Sales and visitor workstations – they use laptops with docking stations. All teams need storage for personal belongings. NEXT requires the adjacency of the Brand and Marketing and Product Design and Development teams. The Brand and Marketing area as well as Product Design and Development area are <u>required</u> to be two of the renderings provided. Provide a view that best shows your overall design intent
Lighting	Energy efficient direct/indirect lighting recommended. Make fixture recommendations. <u>Reflected ceiling plan required for this area (but not limited to).</u>	Direct/indirect lighting, supplemented by individual task lighting. Make fixture recommendations.	Direct/indirect lighting, supplemented by individual task lighting. Make fixture recommendations.
Furniture	Comfortable lounge seating, side tables, and digital displays for firm messaging or media.	Choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client’s vision and needs.	Choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client’s vision and needs.
Construction	Designed with open sightlines, acoustic treatments, and branded elements such as signage, materials, and finishes that reflect the firm’s identity and values.	Minimal use of drywall to divide space. Consider the use of Steelcase Inc. Architectural wall solutions. A minimum of one wall should incorporate glass for visibility in and from the space. Acoustics must be taken into consideration for this space.	

NEXT Spaces

Work Café and Community Hub

Town Hall / Multi-purpose

Conference Room

Quantity	1	1	1
Space Allocation	Approximately +/- 700 SF	Approximately +/- 500 SF	500 SF
Function	A communal and social space where employees can enjoy a meal together or alone. Coffee and espresso machines, sparkling water bar, organic snacks, microwaves, sink, dishwasher and refrigerators are provided. Storage needed to house cups, utensils, paper products, etc. This space needs to accommodate for NEXT teammates to use as an alternative space to get work done. They can step away from their primary workspace and either take a break or continue to work. Provide adequate spaces for power as employees can use their laptops in any of the space within the office. Provide different types of seating to accommodate a variety of choices. A design consideration; however, not required, is to have the WorkCafe and Town Hall adjacent so they can form one large open space as well as consider how you might divide the space if needed while still making it feel open and inviting while both are in use for different activities. This area is <u>required</u> to be one of the renderings provided. Provide a view that best shows your overall design intent. <i>Food preparation spaces are not needed for this project.</i>	This space is intended for large-group interaction, including professional development, community-activities and engagement, and informal social events. It supports reconfiguration and adaptability, making it a central asset for firm culture and engagement. Designed to flexibly accommodate training sessions, social gatherings, and firm-wide events. Consider flexible tables and seating and ability to add stackable chairs. Build in room for stow away items when not in use. This area also serves as an “all hands on deck” for weekly, brief “town hall” updates to all employees, to host guest speakers to all employees, or to debut new campaigns to everyone. Need to consider how displayed information will be available to everyone. Provide enough space to add flexible stackable seating and counter space to service catered buffet style meals. Provide <u>two different layouts</u> for how this space might be configured for different use scenarios and clearly identify which scenario you were planning for. This area is <u>required</u> to be one of the renderings provided. Provide a view that best shows your overall design intent.	This space supports team collaboration, client discussions, and hybrid meetings in a more intimate setting. It’s optimized for visibility, engagement, and content sharing among both in-room and remote participants. Designed to accommodate 10-12 participants comfortably in the room for hybrid or in-person meetings.
Lighting	A combination of lighting sources is recommended. ; Make fixture recommendations. All selections should be energy efficient. <u>Reflected ceiling plan required for this area (but not limited to).</u>	Direct/indirect lighting; Make fixture recommendations. All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections. Adjustability for presentations. <u>Reflected ceiling plan required for this area (but not limited to).</u>	Direct/indirect lighting; All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections.
Furniture	Choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client’s vision and needs.	Choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client’s vision and needs.	Mid-sized conference table, ergonomic seating, markerboards, and pin-up space with cameras for hybrid content sharing.
Construction			Enclosed with glass or solid partitions, optional privacy film, and technology integration for seamless hybrid functionality and acoustic privacy.

NEXT Spaces

	Content Studio	Fit Evaluation Room	Brand and Materials Library + Sample Room
Quantity	1	1	1
Space Allocation	300 SF	300 SF	200 SF
Function	This space is used by the Brand and Marketing team. The Content Studio is a central hub where brand storytelling, campaign development, product marketing, social content, and digital assets are created, managed, and distributed. The furniture should support creative collaboration, content production, project management, product styling, editing, and informal brand reviews. Photography and video is shot in third party studio offsite.	This room is within the Product Design and Development department. This space functions as a space where designers, technical designers, patternmakers, product developers, and merchandising teams evaluate garment fit, movement, comfort, silhouette, construction quality, and styling before production. The space should have a small changing area with a privacy curtain, wall rack to hang garments, and a bench.	This is a centralized resource space where brand assets, apparel materials, trims, packaging elements, product samples, and marketing collateral are organized, displayed, and reviewed. It functions as the physical knowledge center for the Brand, Marketing, Product Design, Product Development, and Merchandising teams. This space helps maintain brand consistency, accelerate product development, improve collaboration, and preserve institutional knowledge across seasons and collections.
Lighting	Direct/indirect lighting; All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections.	Direct/indirect lighting; All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections.	Direct/indirect lighting; All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections.
Furniture	Mobile/reconfigurable tables, ergonomic seating, writable surfaces on walls, tackable and pin-up surfaces, and mobile project carts)	The room should have a raised platform to accommodate one person surrounded by floor to ceiling three-way mirrors to evaluate front, side, and back simultaneously.	This space needs open material shelving, flat-file cabinets, pull-out textile drawers, sample display panels, material bins, mobile sample carts, and worktables for review
Construction			

NEXT Spaces

	Product Review Room	Reservable Team Room – Seat 4-6 people	Quiet/Focus/Wellness Rooms
Quantity	1	2	2
Space Allocation	150 SF	300 SF (each)	120 SF (each)
Function	This space is for the Product Design and Development team. A dedicated space where product design, development, merchandising, sourcing, technical design, and leadership teams evaluate products throughout the development process before they move into sampling, production, or market launch.	This space needs to support a minimum of 4 people to a maximum of 6 people. A reservable room where teams can go to brainstorm. NEXT celebrates a LOT of brainstorming activities. These rooms should be more like a lounge setting with flexible soft and ancillary seating, a large digital monitor, layout space, whiteboards, and pin-up space. This space needs acoustical privacy; however, visual privacy isn't needed. Provide hospitality counter for food and beverage. This space needs to be optimized for video calls and content sharing.	Creative work requires many brain modes. These rooms allow people to balance active group work with solitude and individual think time. Consider a space that is shielded or fully enclosed to manage stimulation. This room is used by employees to relax or rejuvenate. Provide lounge seating that promotes personal comfort. One of the rooms should also be able to be used as a lactation room that is private, lockable space that is for parents who are nursing.
Lighting	Direct/indirect lighting; All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections.	Direct/indirect lighting; Make fixture recommendations. All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections. Adjustability for presentations.	Students should research the best lighting solutions for this room; however, consider subdued, user controlled (dimmable) lighting and make energy efficient fixture recommendations.
Furniture	Collaboration review tables that are mobile and can gang together to make a large table, rolling garment racks, adjustable display walls, digital presentation zone	Choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client's vision and needs.	Choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client's vision and needs. A mini-refrigerator space for nursing pump equipment in one of the units.
Construction			Consider acoustically sound traditional construction

NEXT Spaces

	Shipping, Receiving, Print/Copy/Storage	ADD a Monumental/ Connecting Staircase	Wildcard Space
Quantity	1	1	1
Space Allocation	200 SF	Varies – To be determined by student designer	Varies – To be determined by student designer
Function	A multi-purpose space that serves as a copy/print area, mail room, package storage, office supply storage, and recycling center. Provide the following: (2) copier/printers, (1) recycling station, mailboxes or mail trays, and sufficient counter space, and storage for general office supplies.	With the NEXT office space having two floors, this provides the opportunity for volumetric creativity and connectivity within the project scope. You need to design a monumental stair to connect the two floors. This connecting/monumental staircase can be added anywhere within the project area that is in scope. It should meet code and support the student’s design intent and functional flow of the space on both floors. This area is <u>required</u> to be one of the renderings provided. Provide a view that best shows your overall design intent.	NEXT is committed to and inspired by their local community. Design a space that could be used to engage their local community and/or future/emerging designers Take advantage of available real estate in the floor plan and design something unique for NEXT. Be creative, develop something unique that aligns with the NEXT ethos. This area is <u>required</u> to be one of the renderings provided. Provide a view that best shows your overall design intent.
Lighting	Direct/indirect lighting; Make fixture recommendations. All lighting choices should be energy efficient selections.	To be determined as appropriate by student designer	To be determined as appropriate by student designer
Furniture	As needed, choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client’s vision and needs.		As needed, choose the most appropriate Steelcase Inc. product(s) for this space based on the client's vision and needs.
Construction		To be determined by student designer	

Everything You Need to Bring the Vision to Life

NEXT: *Student Design Competition*

Design Resource ideas (not limited to):

- [Steelcase.com](https://steelcase.com)
- [Steelcase Planning Ideas](#)
- [Hybrid Collaboration Guide](#)
- [Revit Plug-in on Autodesk App Store](#)

Steelcase Resource ideas (not limited to):

- [Steelcase Research](#)
- [Work Better Research](#)
- [Unleashing team creativity](#)
- <https://www.steelcase.com/spaces/inclusive-design/>
 - [Designing With, Not For](#)
 - [Ideas for Designing Inclusive Workplaces](#)
 - [Inclusive Design In Practice](#)
 - [Uncovering Barriers](#)
 - [Balancing Tensions to Create Spaces for All](#)



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