THE FUTURE OF WORK



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Overall

- The windows into people's personal lives during lockdowns taught us empathy as we got to see their homes and families; that is hard to undo
- It's important to create shared experiences across physical and digital spaces
- Future-proofing a spaces can include "digitally addressable" fixtures and technology: flexibility through infrastructure
- The range of generations in the workplace is greater than it's ever been, increasing the need for individual control of the immediate environment

Design

- An important influence of the residential environment is the ability to fully control your environment furnishings, temperature, light
- Equally important is the cultural permission for employees to actually exercise this control
- People need a reason to come to the office, including connection and work life balance: creating separation between work and home by leaving the home to go to work
- Offices should take design cues from spaces that are designed for people to gravitated toward other people, eg hotel lobbies, bars, restaurants
- Sought after amenities: access to outdoor space; fresh air; natural light

Lighting

- At noon, the color temperature of natural light is 5000K; at sunset, it drops to 2200K to 2700K; if the office is a consistent 3000K – 3500K, there is always a discrepancy between natural light and office lighting, which can be distracting
- This introduces the need for the concept of dynamic lighting that mimics the lighting conditions outside, warming and dimming as the day progresses
- The eye receives less light as we age so time-dependent individual control—i.e., giving the user more control over their environment lighting as the day goes on—is important
- There is now demand for lighting as an amenity, not just a necessity
- Personalization extends to lighting, e.g., walking into a conference room and pressing a button or scanning a QR code to trigger the warmth and intensity that is personal to you
- Chromatherapy using light with color added to help impact wellness and wellbeing

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