

North –West Orientation for House**Prof. S.K GUPTA****B.Sc, B.Arch, M.U.R.P (IIT RKE)****Dean Director –Amity School of Architecture & Planning
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Amity University, Haryana, Manesar, Gurgaon. Pin 122413****Abstract**

The ancient Vedas contains knowledge of Vaastu (meaning building) Shastra (Science). This vast science acknowledges how to design an environment by the art of placement, channelizing flow of energy to support prosperity and wellbeing and how the absence of its basic application may lead to unhealthy environment. While designing, architects or designers come across various orientations like N,S,E,W with sub directions, NE, NW, SE and SW which enables them to use the five elements of nature required for a human habitat in the best suited way.

The paper discusses a brief about the benefits of North-West Orientation in a residence design highlighting its affect on the occupants owing to the increase in beliefs for this building science and would suggest the areas best suited for this sub direction.

Keywords: North - West Orientation, Health & Wealth, Architecture, India

1. Introduction

Since time immemorial the science of Vaastu Shastra has guided practioners or architects to orient the buildings and respective rooms in a direction best suited for a healthy and prosperous life. One way is to design following the principles of VAASTU and other is to modify without many changes in the already designed spaces. The vast knowledge of this subject discussing the auspiciousness of placing rightfully artifacts, selecting right shape & sizes for different building use, benefits of each orientation and sub directions cannot be contained in this paper.

The five elements of nature air, water, fire, earth and sky plays an important role in the human life. Architecturally also it is the need of these elements which directs practitioners or rather are the deciding factor for openings ,their sizes, projections, type of shading devices in a particular direction enabling or disabling light or air and providing easy access to other elements depending on the climatic conditions of a particular location.

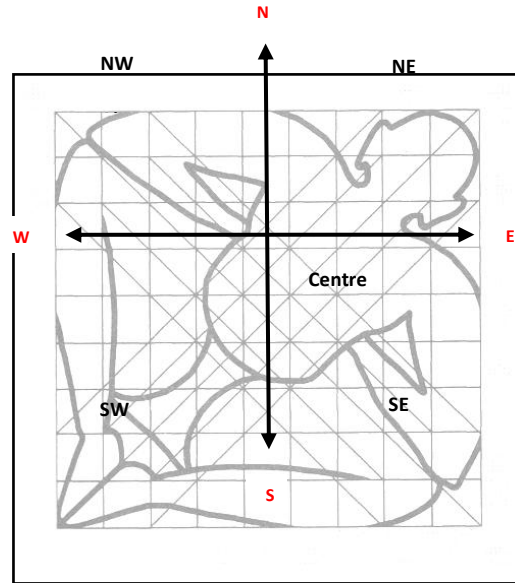


Figure 2. Four directions of Vaastu Purusha Mandala

Figure 1. Aspects in Consideration



The Implementation of Vaastu principles is nothing but enabling flow of energy in the form of these elements by rightfully orienting spaces in a building for increase in quality of life.

2. North West Orientation

In Vaastu equal importance has been given to all four directions. One of the sub directions of North orientation is North-West known as Vayavya. The depth of the direction holds more vital information.

Sub Direction	North -West
Lord	Vayu ,Sadhagathi (meaning moving always)
Element	AIR
Constituents	Quality Both North & West directions
Also known an	Vayavya

Table 1. Facts on NW

Some of the key points highlighting the 'need' to understand this direction are listed below.

1. The direction is capable of making a man rich or poor according to its use. That means it readily gives everything to the occupants. Being element of air, it will give education & happiness to the occupants.
2. It has more relevance to women. Their lives, birth of children & their development depends on the utilization of this direction. Those who live in properly constructed North-West direction will get fame & make substantial development. North -West also enables Foetus formation, its development & easy delivery. This direction therefore should be curtailed & properly utilized in order to get more prosperity, happiness & good off springs.
3. Right full use also gives longer life, health, dignity & enables support from Government authorities.

2.1 Effect of various building forms & conditions

1. Slope towards North-West

Slope in North -West raises enemy and cause other troubles like theft & ill health. If North West is lower than the North -East it causes ill health. In case North-West is higher or elevated than North-East, but lower than South-West & South-East it leads to success, wealth, travelling abroad etc. If this direction is extended in any way or have a pit, pond, well etc. it will lead to more problems in life. Women in the house become quarrel some & many litigation problems may arise.

2 Extension in North or North West

Plots with extension in North or North-West are unfavorable as it can lead to financial loss, theft, disputes, increase in enemies, sale of house or migration to other place. In such families expenses will not be controllable & can lead to unrest. Therefore extension of Vayu corner is not advisable unless "one enjoys travelling from one place to another"!

3 Cut in North West

It has mixed results although a cut in this corner extends the North-East & this is beneficial but at the same time it extends the west leading to robbery and other previously mentioned consequences. To rectify the same, one can separate the west side by constructing a 3"0"high wall. By doing this auspicious result of north and favorable square shape can be retained & unfavorable effects on West can be avoided.

4. North West Corner Plot

Plots with roads on North & West are Vayavya plots. The vayavya plots can confer abundant wealth or can lead to bankruptcy. These plots can promote enmity, failure, litigation or disputes. But North West plot having an auspicious veethi shoola in West of North West, an entrance executed in grids & construction as per vastu rules confers good results.

5. Road on North West

Road which thrust into a site at East of South-East, South of South-West, West of South -West or North of North-West are considered inauspicious. But it is suitable for residence, Shop, Show room, Factory, Garage, Petrol pump, cinema hall, Air-conditioning Agricultural equipments.

6. **Septic Tank**

Septic tank should be in North, North-West or West of North-West only. But it should not touch the boundary wall or foundation wall of the building. Height of tank should be levelled with the plot & must not reach plinth level. Also it is advisable to keep the drain pipe & drains in North or West side.

7. **North-West Bedroom**

Vayavya (North – West) is ruled by Vayu or air.

Since this side is related to movement or transit, it acts as a favorable zone for placement of marriageable daughter's bedroom. North-West bedroom is also recommended for newlyweds & for couples planning to have a baby.

On the other hand this direction should be avoided as bedroom for children. Being in Vayavya zone, having inherent property of wind which is constant movement, children will become hyper active & will lack concentration if placed in North-West side. But on the other hand is a good zone for locating a guest room!

8. **Location for Young Family**

a. Location of Bedroom

As mentioned North-West in an ideal direction for a bedroom for newlywed couple. This can also be used as a bedroom for couple desirous of starting a family.

b. Interiors of a Bed room**• Colors and Lights**

It also plays an equally important role on a person psyche. Use of different colours such as lalic, mint or white can brightens up the bedroom. Peach colour has been found to be the best. Keeping fresh flowers in the bedroom is ideal to set the day! One can also keep fruits, especially pomegranates, which is a symbol of fertility. The attached toilet door must be kept shut & the toilet seat should always be cover down

• Placement of Mirror

Ideally it should be avoided in a bedroom. In case needed as a part of dressing table, it must be placed in a way that the bed does not get reflected in the mirror.

• Thumb Rules

- i. The wife should sleep towards the left side of her husband.
- ii. The foot of the bed should not directly face the door of the bed room.
- iii. No bed to be placed between two doors or under a beam. If there is no alternative, it is better for the beam to run the length of the bed rather than the width of the bed.
- iv. For marital harmony, the beam should be rectified by hangings two bamboo flutes from it or by using suspended ceilings to cover the beam and one must ensure that their bed is not under a beam or sharp objects like the edges of a table or cabinet are not pointing towards the bed.
- v. Sleeping with head towards North in totally prohibited.
- vi. For harmony in relationships couples are advised to use double bed with a “single mattress” which could also be stitched to appear as one piece.
- vii. Objects, painters, pictures, which are associated with happy memories for the couple, should be displayed in South-West direction wall of the room.
- viii. One can also hang seven rod silver wind chime outside the window in the west direction.
- ix. Daily removals of any clutter from the bed room and room should remain aesthetically pleasing & welcoming.
- x. The South-West is the zone for power, but it also governs love, luck, romance & family happiness. One may hang a wind chime with a crystal in the South West corner of your bed room for better relationship.

- xi. Never have an open Mandir in your bed room.

Suggestions

The science of Vaastu Shastra is vast as every direction and sub direction has a role to play for healthy living and working environment. The following observations are made from the above discussion for North-West sub direction.

ADAPTABLE	INADAPTABLE
Daughter's Room	Master Bed Room
Guest Room	Heavy Materials
Newly Wed Room(before starting family)	Valuable Items
Toilet, Garage, Shoes-Rack in Verandah	Servant Room
Foyer or Lobby	
Septic Tank	

These are certainly recommended but one must respond according to site context, climate, location, use of building and curtail to client's requirement.

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