

Choosing a Foundation

Architecture

Which foundation suits which ground and load, at an architect's level.

Ground conditions decide this, not preference.

Type	Suits
Strip	Walls on decent ground near surface
Pad	Columns on decent ground
Raft	Weak or variable ground, light loads
Piles	Weak ground, or heavy point loads
Underpinning	An existing footing being extended

Educational reference. Foundation design follows a ground investigation and is the geotechnical engineer's work.