

The Column Grid

Architecture

Why the grid is set early, and the dimensions that other things quietly force on it.

The grid is a planning decision as much as a structural one.

What sets it

Economic span for the chosen system

Car parking bays if there is a basement

The planning module of the fit-out

Facade panel and window widths

Room sizes the brief demands

Common grids

Office: 7.5 x 7.5 m or 9 x 9 m

Parking: about 8.1 m for three bays

Housing: 4 to 6 m across the flat

Planning module: 1.5 m, or 1.2 m

Changing the grid after the plan is drawn is expensive in studio time.
Set it, then test it against three plans.