

# The Power of Community Spaces: Designed and Self-Created



Community spaces are essential for the well-being of any community. They provide a place for people to gather, socialize, learn, and grow. Community spaces can be designed by architects and urban planners, or they can be self-created by community members. Both types of community spaces can have a positive impact on the community, but each has its own unique advantages and disadvantages.



## **Community spaces: Designed or Self-created** by Kruti Joshi

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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## **Designed Community Spaces**

Designed community spaces are typically created by architects and urban planners. These spaces are designed to meet the specific needs of the community, and they often include a variety of amenities, such as playgrounds, basketball courts, picnic areas, and community centers. Designed community spaces can be a great asset to a community, but they can also be expensive to create and maintain.

One of the main advantages of designed community spaces is that they can be tailored to the specific needs of the community. For example, a community space in a low-income neighborhood might include a food pantry and a job training center, while a community space in a wealthy neighborhood might include a swimming pool and a tennis court. Designed community spaces can also be designed to be accessible to people with disabilities.

However, designed community spaces can also be expensive to create and maintain. The cost of designing and building a community space can range from hundreds of thousands of dollars to millions of dollars. Additionally, the cost of maintaining a community space can be significant, especially if the space includes amenities such as a swimming pool or a fitness center.

## **Self-Created Community Spaces**



Self-created community spaces are created by community members themselves. These spaces can be anything from a community garden to a street mural. Self-created community spaces are often more affordable than designed community spaces, and they can be more responsive to the needs of the community.

One of the main advantages of self-created community spaces is that they are affordable. Community members can often create these spaces with little or no money. For example, a community garden can be created by simply planting a few vegetables in a vacant lot. Self-created community spaces can also be more responsive to the needs of the community. Community members can create spaces that meet their specific needs, and they can change these spaces as the needs of the community change.

However, self-created community spaces can also be less sustainable than designed community spaces. Self-created community spaces are often created without the input of architects and urban planners, and they may not be as safe or as accessible as designed community spaces.

Additionally, self-created community spaces may be more difficult to maintain, as there is often no dedicated funding source for these spaces.

Both designed and self-created community spaces can have a positive impact on the community. Designed community spaces are typically more expensive to create and maintain, but they can be tailored to the specific needs of the community. Self-created community spaces are often more affordable and more responsive to the needs of the community, but they may be less sustainable. The best type of community space for a particular community will depend on the specific needs of the community.

Here are some tips for creating a successful community space:

- Involve community members in the planning process.
- Create a space that is accessible to all members of the community.
- Provide a variety of activities and amenities.
- Create a space that is safe and welcoming.
- Create a space that is sustainable.

With careful planning and execution, community spaces can be a valuable asset to any community.

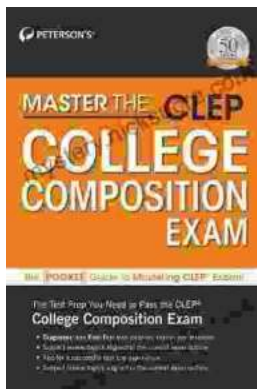
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