

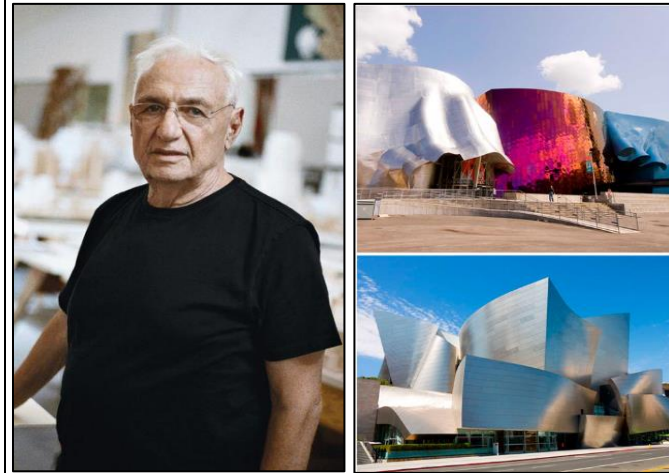


FRANK GEHRY KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



Biography

- Frank Gehry is an American-Canadian architect.
- A number of the buildings that he has designed (including his own house) have become world famous tourist attractions.
- His most famous buildings include *The Guggenheim Museum*, *The Walt Disney Concert Hall* and *The Dancing House*.
- His works are often considered amongst the most important pieces of contemporary architecture.
- He has designed buildings that have been constructed all across the world. In 1989, he won the Pritzker Prize – a prize given to people who have contributed a great deal to art.



-Frank Gehry was born on the 28th February, 1929, in Toronto, Canada. He now lives in Los Angeles, USA, and has American citizenship.

Significant Works

The Guggenheim Museum (1997)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Guggenheim Museum is a museum of modern and contemporary art in Bilbao, Spain. -The building is one of the most admired works of contemporary architecture in the world. -The curves on the building are designed to appear random, blending with the water of the Nervion River. The building is clad in titanium, helping it to fit in with the local urban buildings.
The Walt Disney Concert Hall (2003)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Walt Disney Concert Hall is in Los Angeles, USA. It is the home of the LA philharmonic orchestra and seats 2,265 people. -The building was originally an underground parking garage. It was originally designed to have a stone exterior, but was replaced with a cheaper stainless-steel skin, which resembles silver sails. -It also holds an oasis garden with a rose fountain.
The Dancing House (1996)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Dancing House is the nickname given to the Nationale-Nederlanden building in Prague, Czech Republic. It was controversial at the time, because it stood out amongst Prague's more traditional old buildings. It is designed in a deconstructivist style. The 'dancing' shape is supported by 99 concrete panels.

Key Vocabulary

Frank Gehry

USA

Canada

Los Angeles

Prague

Bilbao

Deconstructivism

Contemporary

Architecture

Postmodern

Design

Guggenheim Museum

Walt Disney Concert Hall

The Dancing House

Styles and Techniques

Postmodern Architecture

- Postmodern architecture is a style of architecture that emerged in the 1960s. It was a reaction to the traditional, formal and repetitive nature of modern architecture.
- Postmodern architects felt that modern architecture was 'uniform' (all the same) and ignored the history and culture of the cities in which it appeared.
- Postmodern architects aim to use unusual materials and form unusual shapes, whilst also making subtle references to the location's landscape and historical background.
- Gehry uses bold architectural features & unusual shapes.
- He tries to incorporate the history and traditions of the site into the building – e.g. his own 'Gehry home' in Santa Monica was built around an original Dutch colony house. Despite the radical design, the original exterior was kept.



Deconstructivism

- Deconstructivism is a movement within postmodern architecture that first appeared in the 1980s.
- It gives the impression that the building is in some way 'fragmented' (in pieces) and open.
- There is normally very little symmetry in these buildings.
- Deconstructivism also uses non-rectilinear shapes to create bold and unusual buildings.
- Gehry's work is deconstructivist: he often creates sculptural forms with the appearance of movement.



How do I design houses like Gehry?

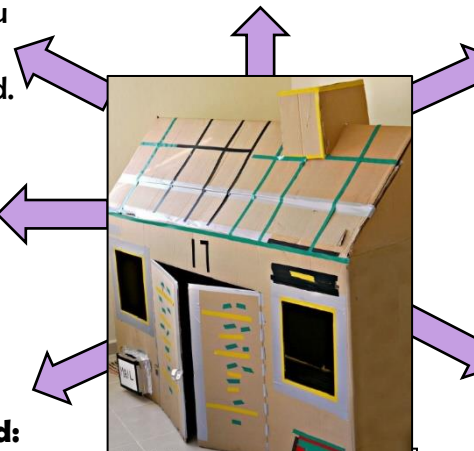
Step 2: Create your roof structure by making the flaps of the box into a triangular point. You may need to add additional cardboard.

Step 3: Cut out sections for windows. To make an opening door, cut 3 sides of a rectangle, and fold from the remaining side.

Step 4: Consider which additional details you want being creative with materials. You can cut off a section of a toilet roll tube for a chimney, or add grey masking tape for a stainless-steel effect.

Step 1: Pick a box to use for the main part of the house. Slightly larger than a shoebox is perfect.

Things you'll need:
Cardboard boxes, sticky tape, coloured tape, toilet roll tube,



An in-progress child's Gehry-inspired model building

Step 5: Innovate your house to make it postmodern. Use additional cardboard to make unusual shapes, and add new and creative materials!

Frank Gehry Timeline

28th February 1929 Frank Gehry is born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.	1949 Moves to L.A. to begin college.	1956 Attends Harvard Graduate School of Design in Massachusetts, but eventually drops out.	1962 Establishes his own architectural practice.	1969-73 Makes his own cardboard furniture line, under the brand name 'Easy Edges.'	1980 Turned to designing homes in southern California.	1989 Received the Pritzker Prize.	2001 Opens his own partnership – Gehry Partners LLP.	2001-2011 Designs a number of buildings that become famous.	2003 Walt Disney Concert Hall finished..	2010-2020 Continues to design buildings into later life.
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