



All India Design Aptitude Test



Syllabus & Exam Pattern

Exam Pattern

Exam Component	Details
Exam Duration	60 minutes
Question Type	Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)
Total Questions	100
Negative Marking	No negative marking for wrong answers

Paper Structure

(Total: 100 Questions)

Section	Topic	No. of MCQs
1	Design Aptitude	20
2	General Knowledge about Design Discipline	15
3	Elements & Principles of Design	15
4	Logical Reasoning and Measurement	20
5	Critical Thinking and Creativity	15
6	Form & Function	15
Total		100 MCQs

Syllabus

LEVEL 1 — FOUNDATIONS OF DESIGN THINKING

(Understanding design as a discipline and building basic awareness)

1. General Knowledge about Design Discipline

- History of Design: Industrial, Graphic, Textile, Interior, Fashion, Architecture
- Indian Design Heritage: Traditional crafts, indigenous art forms
- Famous Designers and Movements:
 - Bauhaus, Art Deco, Minimalism, Postmodernism, De Stijl, etc.
- Contemporary Design and Sustainability
- Role of Technology in Design (AI, AR/VR, 3D printing, Biomimicry)
- Major Design Institutions (India & Global)
- Design Careers: Product, UX/UI, Fashion, Animation, Communication, etc.
- Design and Society: Cultural, ethical, and ecological roles of design

LEVEL 2 — VISUAL & AESTHETIC FOUNDATIONS

(Developing visual literacy, form understanding, and aesthetic sensitivity)

2. Elements & Principles of Design

- Elements: Line, Shape, Form, Texture, Color, Space, Value, Light
- Principles: Balance, Contrast, Emphasis, Rhythm, Harmony, Unity, Proportion
- Color Theory: Color Wheel, Schemes, Psychology of Color
- Composition & Layout Principles
- Gestalt Principles: Closure, Continuity, Proximity, Figure-Ground
- Visual Hierarchy and Aesthetic Harmony
- Application in Posters, Logos, Product Forms, Interiors, Fashion

3. Form & Function

- Understanding Form (Geometric/Organic, Static/Dynamic)
- Understanding Function (Utility, Ergonomics, Human Factors)
- Relationship between Form and Function
- "Form Follows Function" vs. "Function Follows Form"
- Usability, Efficiency, and Aesthetic Value
- Symbolism and Meaning in Design
- Emotional and Experiential Function
- Applications in:
 - Product Design (Ergonomics, Use)
 - Architecture (Structure, Space)
 - Fashion (Fit, Flow, Functionality)
 - UI/UX (Interface Functionality & Aesthetic Balance)

LEVEL 3 — COGNITIVE & CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

(Sharpening observation, reasoning, and imaginative skills)

4. Design Aptitude

- Visualization and Imagination Skills
- Observation and Perception
- Creativity and Innovation Techniques
- Design Thinking Process (Empathize → Define → Ideate → Prototype → Test)
- Problem Solving through Design Contexts
- Ideation Techniques: SCAMPER, Mind Mapping, Lateral Thinking
- Composition, Storyboarding, and Visual Narratives
- Everyday Object Analysis: Form, Material, Function
- Analytical Sketching and Concept Visualization

5. Critical Thinking and Creativity

- Critical Analysis and Evaluation
- Observation and Inference Building
- Divergent and Convergent Thinking
- Brainstorming, Idea Generation, and Refinement
- Analogical, Metaphorical, and Symbolic Thinking
- Reframing Problems and Multiple Perspectives
- Creativity under Constraints
- Case Studies of Innovative Design Solutions
- Communication of Concepts (Verbal & Visual)

LEVEL 4 — ANALYTICAL & TECHNICAL SKILLS

(Applying logic, structure, and measurement in design contexts)

6. Logical Reasoning and Measurement

- Visual and Spatial Reasoning
- 2D and 3D Transformations
- Series, Patterns, and Sequences
- Mirror and Water Images
- Mental Rotation and Perspective Concepts
- Analytical and Logical Puzzles
- Basic Geometry: Angles, Shapes, Volumes, Areas
- Scale, Proportion, and Measurement in Design
- Ratio, Symmetry, and Modular Thinking
- Data Interpretation and Quantitative Analysis in Design Contexts

LEVEL 5 — INTEGRATION & APPLICATION

(Bringing all skills together for real-world design problems)

- Creative Problem Solving Projects
- Design Analysis: Evaluating Good & Bad Design Examples
- Concept Development and Presentation
- Form Exploration through Materials and Prototypes
- Visual Communication & Storytelling
- Sustainable and User-Centered Design Exercises
- Portfolio Development / Exam Preparation Tasks

Optional Add-ons (for Advanced Preparation) Semiotics and Visual Language

- User Experience Design Basics (Empathy Mapping, User Journey)
- Trends in Global Design and Technology Integration
- Design Ethics and Intellectual Property
- Cross-disciplinary Design (Design + Engineering / Design + Psychology)



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