

**The Importance of Soft Furnishings in Interior Spaces. Pilot
Study – Living Spaces**

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ABSTRACT

In this study, the importance of the usage of soft furnishings in interior spaces is going to be emphasized. Especially, the usages of soft furnishings in living spaces are analyzed with the help of selected examples from different living spaces.

Explanation of soft furnishings is expressed by starting from its usage area. Architectural elements of interior spaces are analyzed to show the possible usage areas of soft furnishings. Word meaning of soft furnishing will be explained whereafter the importance of furnishing is explained.

Soft furnishing is expressed by the help of the definition of furnishing. Soft furnishings are not realized recently, they come from the ancient times. Thus, the history of soft furnishing is going to be handled in this study.

Soft furnishings are used differently in environments depending on their functional requirements. Starting from the living environment; public, semi-public, semi-private and private spaces are analyzed in terms of soft furnishing usages. Home environment is taken as the smallest scale of an environment for the deeply analysis of a soft furnishings. Every space of the home environment is analyzed by their soft furnishing usages.

Living spaces have an important role for people as they give an idea about the characteristics of users to first themselves and then the other people. It is the most public space among other spaces, friends, relatives and quests are hosted. Living spaces are furnished more conscientious than other spaces due to these reasons. 20 houses are selected as a pilot study area in order to analyze used soft furnishings. The main aim of the study is to examine the used soft furnishings in living spaces by different users.

As a result of analysis and evaluations, it is proved that, soft furnishings have an important role in interior spaces. It is seen that, the character of interior spaces are generally

affected by the usage of soft furnishings because they are the reflection of user's personality and lifestyle. Soft furnishings become a must element for interior spaces since meaning is loaded in interior spaces they are used. Results also show any interior space cannot be imagined by people without the use of soft furnishings.

This study is concerned with exploring the issues about soft furnishings in interior spaces. It helps interior designers and people who are interested with those issues to realize the importance of soft furnishings in interior spaces. This study also provides a basis for future studies.

Keywords: Interior spaces, Living Spaces, Soft Furnishing

ÖZ

Bu çalışmada, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin iç mekanlardaki kullanımı ve önemi vurgulanmıştır. Özellikle bu ürünler, pilot çalışma alanı olarak seçilen farklı oturma mekanlarında ele alınarak değerlendirilmiştir.

Kumaş/Tekstil ürünlerinin açıklaması, kullanım alanlarının belirlenmesiyle tanımlanmıştır. İç mekanlardaki mimari elemanlar, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin olası kullanım alanları üzerindeki analizi ile birlikte meydana çıkmaktadır. Buna ek olarak, bu ürünlerin tanımından önce, genel olarak mobilyanın önemi üzerinde durulmuştur.

Kumaş/Tekstil ürünleri, mobilya tanımının yardımı ile birlikte ifade edilmiştir. Bu ürünler yeni keşfedilmiş bir konu olmayıp, eski yıllardan günümüze kadar ulaşmıştır. Böylece, çalışmanın devamında, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin tarih içindeki gelişimi, kullanım alanları, mekanlardaki önemi de ele alınacaktır.

Kumaş/Tekstil ürünleri fonksiyonel gereksinimlere bağlı olarak her mekanda farklı olarak kullanılmaktadır. Bu yüzden, yaşam çevrelerinin ele alınmasıyla birlikte, bu ürünlerin kullanımı, halka açık, yarı halka açık, yarı özel ve özel mekanlarda analiz edilmiştir. Kumaş/Tekstil ürünlerinin analizi, yoğun olarak, mekanların ölçeği küçük ve özel olan konut ortamlarında gerçekleştirilecektir. Farklı konut mekanlarının kendi içinde, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin kullanımına göre analizi yapılacaktır.

Konutlardaki oturma mekanları, kullanıcıların başka kişilerle paylaştığı, aslında kullanıcıyı yansıtan ve özellikle kullanıcının diğer kişilerle özelini paylaşmasından dolayı büyük bir önemi vardır. İnsanların kendi arkadaşlarını, akrabalarını ve misafirlerini ağırladığı ve diğer mekanlara göre de en umumi olduğu varsayılan bir mekandır. Bu anlamda, oturma mekanlarını diğer mekanlara göre tasarlamak, döşemek insanlar için daha büyük bir önem taşımaktadır. Bu nedenle, 20 konut, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin analizi için pilot çalışma alanı

olarak seçilmiştir. Bu çalışmanın amacı, farklı kişiler tarafından tasarlanmış, döşenmiş olan oturma mekanlarını, kullanılan bu ürünlere göre değerlendirilmesi olacaktır.

Yapılan analiz ve değerlendirmeler sonucu, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin iç mekanlar için önemli bir rolü olduğu vurgulanmaktadır. Bunun yanında, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin kullanıcının kişiliğini ve yaşam tarzını yansıttığını vurgulayarak, bu ürünlerin kullanılmadığı bir iç mekanın, özellikle kişiselleştirme ile ilgili olarak, anlamını negatif yönde etkileyeceği ortaya konularak önemine vurgu yapılacaktır.

Bu çalışma, kumaş/tekstil ürünlerinin iç mekanlardaki kullanımını keşfetmeyle ilgilidir. Dolayısıyla bu konuda uzmanlaşmak isteyen veya araştırma yapan kişilere, iç mimarlara, ışık tutacak ve iç mekandaki önemine de vurgu yapılacaktır. Bu çalışma, aynı zamanda, gelecek çalışmalar içinde kaynak oluşturacaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: İç Mekanlar, Oturma Mekanları, Kumaş/ Tekstil Ürünleri

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... TO MY FAMILY

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Interior spaces can be designed by using different soft furnishings. Soft furnishings are used differently in each interior space by different users. Beside to other factors, soft furnishings are one of the things that give identity to interior spaces and used and shaped by users. This study is, therefore, structured to reveal the importance of soft furnishings according to users in interior spaces.

Chapter II contains the theoretical aspects of space. Walls, floors and ceilings are the architectural elements which help to identify interior spaces. These are the main elements for shaping interior spaces. While shaping interior spaces, openings within the wall surfaces also make a contribution. As architectural elements make a contribution to interior spaces, furnishings are also the essential products for interior spaces. The importance of furnishing is then analysed for the usage of interior spaces.

Chapter III focuses on soft furnishings. The definition of soft furnishing is made. Detailed explanation of soft furnishing is made together with its derivation and materials which helped to create the soft furnishing is analysed and researched. Usage of soft furnishings goes back in time. Its historical development is also going to be analysed in this chapter.

Chapter IV contains the main usage area of soft furnishings. From public space to private space, soft furnishings take part in every section of life. Home is the smallest scale of a public

space. It is one of the most important space that features people identity depending on user choices. Home environment is thus analyzed in detail for the usage of soft furnishings.

Chapter V examines living spaces as a pilot study area. Used soft furnishings are analyzed and evaluated in four different plans each consisting of five living spaces that sums up to 20 houses in total. The evaluation is supported by the plans and photos from pilot study areas.

Chapter VI finalizes the findings and makes a conclusion of this study.

1.2 Aims and Objectives of the Study

The main aim of the study is to reveal the importance of soft furnishings in interior spaces. The main issue in this research is to analyze the used soft furnishings in living spaces and explore the reasons what makes people to use soft furnishings in interior spaces. Main research question arises from this study is; how interior space is affected by using soft furnishings in living spaces and the sub questions are;

- What is the importance of the soft furnishing in home environments?
- What is the underlying reason for people to use soft furnishings in living spaces?
- What soft furnishing express to people?
- What is the frequency of occurrence of soft furnishings in living spaces?

1.3 Research Methodology

This study introduces the importance of soft furnishings in interior spaces. How these issues are reflected into interior spaces is going to be analyzed throughout the selected examples. At first instance, elements of interior spaces and the importance of furnishings have been dealt elaborately so as to discover the significance of soft furnishings in interior spaces. Secondly, the main concentration area for soft furnishings is moved through the living spaces. Therefore, the living spaces are selected as the pilot study area. Questionnaire part is

developed for every selected pilot study area to analyze, exemplify and clarify the usage of soft furnishings in living spaces. This research also aimed at collecting the data from the analysis of selected pilot studies research and qualitative and quantitative research methods used while comparing the examples between each other; tables and photos are also used. Qualitative research method is used while observing and analyzing the living spaces however, quantitative research method is used for evaluating the covered spaces with soft furnishings in living spaces; also at vertical and horizontal planar elements.

1.4 Limitations of the Study

The usages of soft furnishings are analyzed in home environment. Home environment is one of the places that is controlled and shaped by the users. They are the places where people lifestyle, character and habits are observed. The observation shows us to see the people reflections on the usage of soft furnishings. Home environments are the first concerns while analyzing this study. Living spaces are however the focus point among others as they have the priority for people while designing their house. Pilot studies used for this study are thus limited with living spaces where users can share anything they want with other people. 20 living spaces are selected for pilot study research. They are selected from newly developed areas (Ortaköy, Yenikent and Gönyeli districts) and their construction dates are up to date (2001, 2009 and 2008). They all have same plan and façade organizations characteristics in themselves. For the analysis and evaluations of the living spaces, questionnaire is developed and filled for each person to identifying the soft furnishings. Soft furnishings are based on fabric/textile usages. In this study, fibers are the focusing points for the fabric/textile usages while identifying the soft furnishings. Detailed explanation for the selection of pilot study area and questionnaire is explained in chapter 5.

Chapter 2

THEORETICAL ASPECTS OF SPACE

2.1 Architectural Elements

Main function of the building's structural system is to support the building and to react to the applied forces (Ching, 2005). There are two main planar structural elements, namely the load bearing wall and the horizontal slab. 'A bearing wall acts as a long, thin column in transmitting compressive forces to its support or foundation'(Ching, 2005; p.12). Load bearing walls define the physical limits of space, hence giving a sense of enclosure. Besides, there is a non-load bearing wall which has not physical supports to a building. It is, however, used to define or modify space. Horizontal beams and slabs are supported by the grid of columns (Ching, 2007). Load bearing walls and horizontal slabs are the main elements so as to define boundaries of spaces and to set up the basic form of interior spaces.

Interior spaces are firstly formed by the building's structural system, further defined by the wall, floor and ceiling surfaces. Mentioned elements are related to other spaces by windows and doors. These are the main elements shaping interior spaces. They are gathered together to define the space enclosure as they are functionally related to each other (Ching 2005). The architectural surfaces of a space, walls, floors, ceilings, are taken for granted as they constitute background stages for furnishings (Clark, 1996).

2.1.1 Walls

Exterior wall planes make distinction from the environment and create controlled interior space. The usage of walls provides both privacy and protection from the climatic factors for interior spaces (Ching, 2007). Walls are the vertical elements that surround and divide interior spaces, thus helping to enclose, separate and create different interior spaces. They have a great effect as a spatial boundary as well as a barrier to our movement. Walls also help to separate different functions from each other (Faulkner, 1979). Partition walls, as an example are used to divide the interlocking spaces; they can either be load bearing walls or not.

Openings are created within wall planes, as windows and doorways, in order to create a connection with the exterior environment (Ching, 2001). Openings within the wall planes are shown in figure 1. An opening within a wall provides a passage for light, heat and sound. It, thus, creates continuity between exterior and interior environment. Windows and doors, visually and physically, act as a transitional element of interior design linking one space to another inside out. Walls generate spaces, whereas windows and doors help to connect these spaces both visually and physically (Kalinkara, 2006).

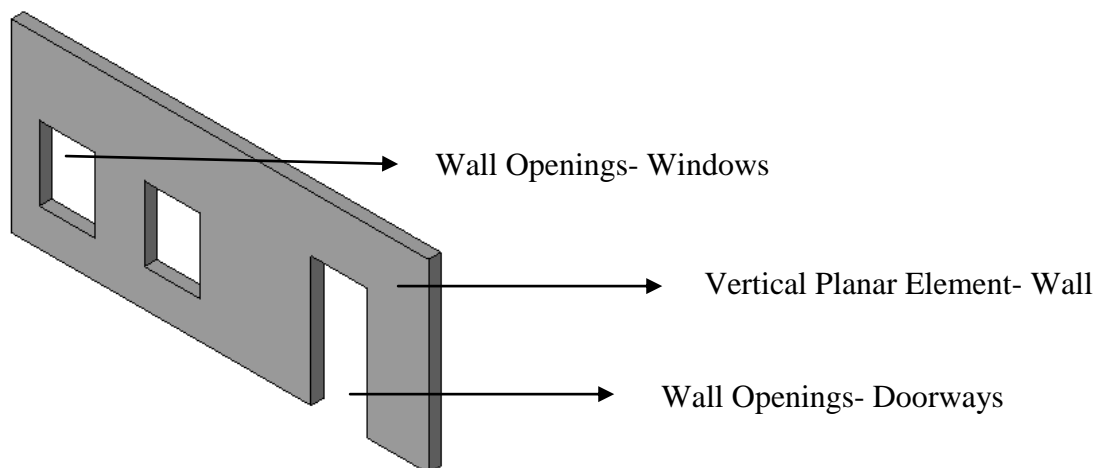


Figure 1: Openings created within the wall planes (Figure is illustrated from the Ching's book, 2005)

2.1.1.1 Windows

‘Windows let light and air into the interior spaces of buildings and provide views of the outdoors or from one space to another. Their size and placement, relative to the wall plane in which they occur, also affect the degree of separation between an interior space and the exterior environment’(Ching, 2005; p.30). Interior windows used in an interior space, visually expand a room allowing it to act as a whole in interior spaces. They attract people’s attention visually their brightness and outlook. Windows have also other important functions, such as providing privacy, framing the view and controlling the entry of light and heat gain for interior spaces. They should be planned to frame the outside view by this way outside view is brought into an interior space. Due to the view, the arrangement of furnishings mostly oriented in reference to daylight. However, too much light and heat gain can damage the interior furnishings (Nielson and Taylor, 1994).

2.1.1.2 Doors

Doors help people to enter the interior spaces. ‘Doorways provide physical access from one space to another. When closed, they shut a room off from adjacent spaces. When open, they establish visual and spatial and acoustical links between spaces’ (Ching, 2005; p.29). They provide light, sound, smell, wind and heat transitions among spaces and control the circulation in interior spaces (Kalinkara, 2006). They also provide continuity between adjacent spaces. The number and location of doorways affect the movement of people within an interior space. Arrangements of furnishings are affected by doors` locations at interior spaces. Operations of doors provide comfortable movement within a space. Doors provide a control for passages, visual privacy, sound privacy, security, light control and serve a decorative function in interior spaces (Ballast, 1998).

2.1.2 Ceilings

Ceilings are one of the major architectural elements of interior spaces. They are playing an important visual role inside of the spaces and act as a shelter element of interior designs. ‘Ceilings are literally the crowning glory of a room. Ceilings may be decorative or structural and may even serve the important function of covering, yet providing access to, mechanical systems located in the ceiling’(Nielsen and Taylor, 1994; p.185). Ceilings are the main covering elements for interior spaces. They are formed by the undersides of floor and roof structures.

2.1.3 Floors

Along with ceilings, floors cover the largest area in interior spaces. Floor covering is more important than a ceiling, since a person constitutes direct contact with a floor (Pile, 1995). ‘Floors are the flat, level base planes of interior space’ (Ching, 2005; p.148). Flooring is an integral to an interior space like any other wall treatment. They are main surfaces for placing furniture and creating a background for them (Kalinkara, 2006). Floors are the horizontal surfaces which carry movable (people and furnishings) and immovable loads (load of the flooring system). Their surfaces must be durable enough to be resistant for the usage of furnishings. A floor transmits their loads to the beams and columns in a horizontal way (Ching, 2001). Floors are relatively permanent fixtures in interior spaces. They equalize the acoustics, by absorbing and reflecting the noise within a space. Floors are designed with the combination of hard and soft surfaces. Distribution of the planar elements of an interior space; wall, ceiling and floor are shown in figure 2.

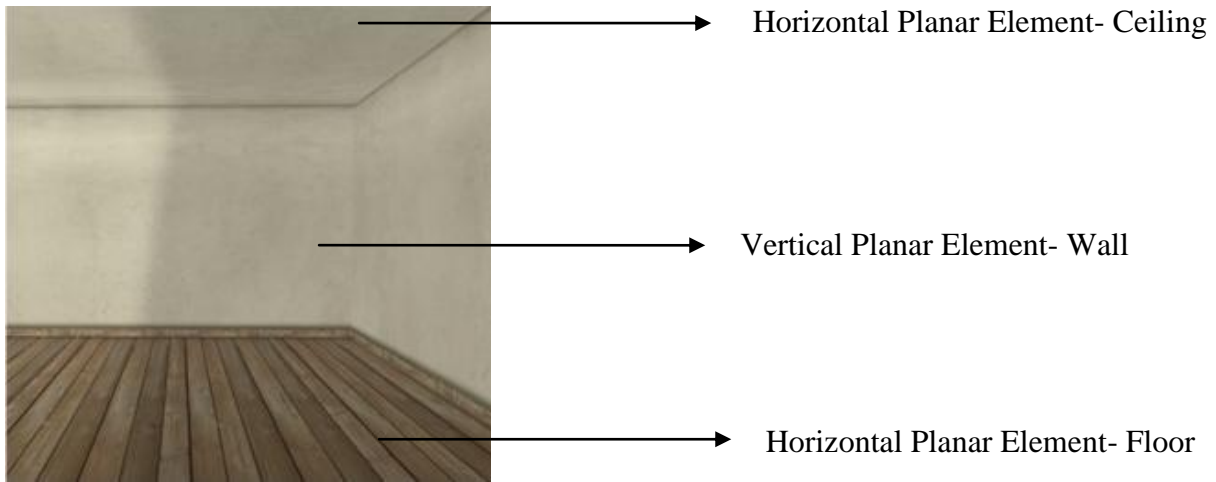


Figure 2: Distribution of the planar elements of an interior space (Picture is taken from the URL 1)

2.2 Spatial Design Elements

2.2.1 Space

Space is defined as a finite or infinite three dimensional expanses which all objects are located and all events are occurred (Ilgin, 2008). Space is defined by the degree of enclosure. Different boundaries help to define spaces. These boundaries can be the earth, sky, trees and flowers or architecturally they can be linear columns, beams, planar walls, floors and roofs which are formed from the geometric elements; point, line, plane and volume (Figure 3). Also, with the combination of mentioned elements, space can be defined and limited (Çınar, 1994).

‘Space is a prime ingredient in the designer’s palette and the quintessential element in interior design’ (Ching, 2005; p.2). In general, use of right angled geometric elements help to define the interior spaces’ closure. Thus the differentiation between inside and outside spaces are determined. Apart from right angled relationships between geometric elements, interior spaces can also be generated by using non-right angled relationships to define the closures (Pile, 1995).

The definition of space occurs with building construction and it can be differed as an exterior and interior space. Architectural elements of spaces (walls, floors and ceilings) and also the furnishings help to create a series of spaces within the building (Nielson and Taylor, 1994). Space should not only design for aesthetic reasons, it should also answer to human needs. Moreover, space can also be visually expanded through the use of light, color, texture and pattern (Nielson and Taylor, 1994).

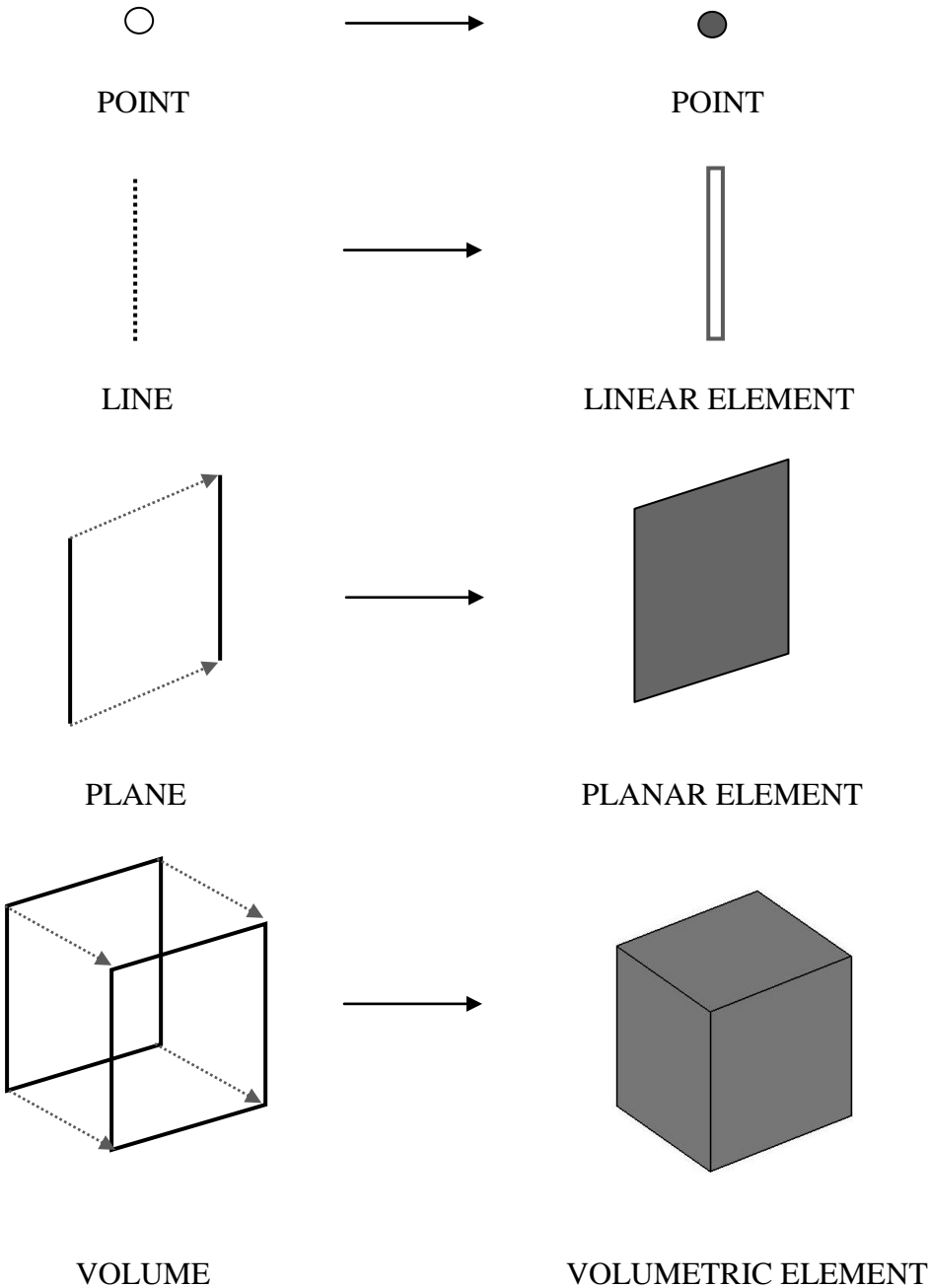


Figure 3: The Relationships between the elements of architectural form (Ching, 2005)

2.2.2 Interior Space

Interior spaces provide a feeling of enclosure and a sense of shelter. Shelter which covers the interior spaces become integrated together with the nature and provides relations between exterior spaces (Tuncel, 2007). The planar element is the basic element of interior architecture. Planar elements are formed firstly from a point, then from a line and the combination of repetitive lines constitute planar elements (Figure 4). They can either be vertical or horizontal planar elements and are used to define three-dimensional interior spaces (Ching, 1987). Three basic architectural elements are used to define the interior spaces. These elements are the walls, floors and ceilings which are constituted from the planar elements. Therefore the design of interior spaces can be separated as structural and architectural elements.

While a building's structural system and the architectural elements constitute the basic form of the interior spaces, selection and the arrangement of design elements also shaped the other needed requirements for the interior spaces. The color, texture and pattern of wall, floor and ceiling surfaces affect the visual perception of an interior space. The dimensions, scale and the proportional relationships between elements also affect the perception of space (Ching, 2005). Even the usage of lightings affects the interior space's surfaces. Interior spaces are structured and developed with the architectural elements; also influenced by how it is planned, arranged and organized by the design elements.

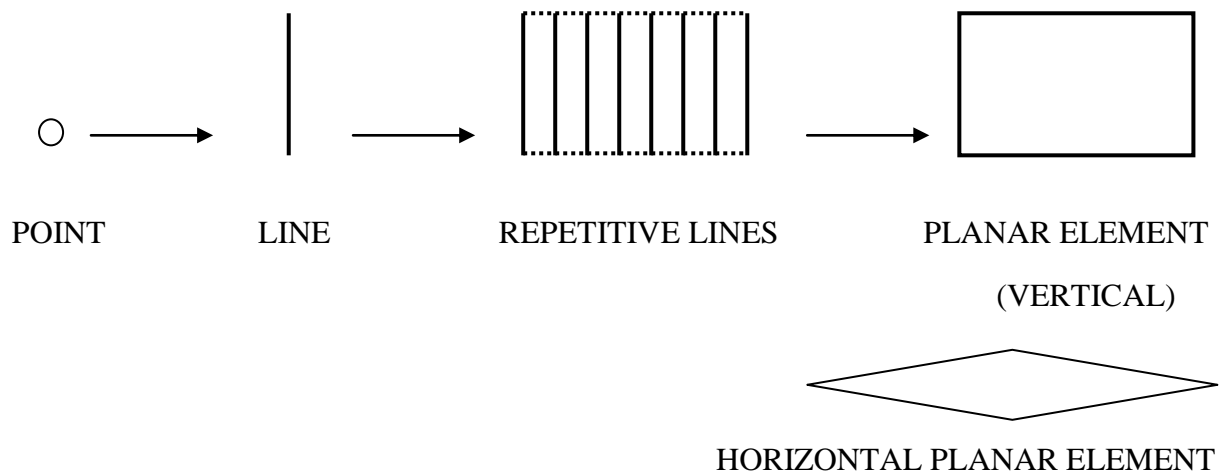


Figure 4: Vertical and Horizontal planes are generated from repetitive lines and points

2.3 Importance of Furnishing in Interior Spaces

Interior spaces are defined by the use of architectural elements; walls, floors and ceilings. These elements also give a shape to interior spaces. These major elements of interior spaces are developed, modified and enhanced depending on the type of an activity and user wishes. Said elements make interior spaces habitable.

As walls, floors and ceilings are the major elements of architectural design of a space, the usage of furnishings are the essential products for interior space. Furnishings are part of interior spaces and main architectural elements (walls, floors and ceilings) creating a background for their usage. Furnishings are significant parts and products for the design of interior spaces. They make interiors habitable by providing comfort and adjusting in type of an activity (Ching, 2005). People prefer to use furnishings as they help sustaining peoples' activities in a more comfortable way. In other words, sitting on a stool or chair is more comfortable than sitting on a ground (Nielson and Taylor, 1994). Furnishings are special and ergonomic products in people lives in order to conform the type of an activity. In addition to fulfill specific functions, furnishings should be adaptable to the character of activity. The form, line, color, texture and the scale of furnishing products also affect the type of an

activity. Furnishings, thus, give people a chance to a functional for different functions within the architectural elements - walls, floors and ceilings. Furnishings are generally selected depending on user choices and wishes. There is not any certain rule that should be obeyed. They differ from design to design, person to person and offer a transition between interior space and the people (Ching, 2005). The way of using furnishings affects the usage of a space. Circulation and flow among spaces are also influenced by furnishings. When furnishings are placed by professional people related to space design, they provide comfortable movement within a space (Mitton and Nystuen 2011).

Necessity and usage of furnishings are not new in today's world. It is evolved and developed parallel to the needs and requirements of human beings. The form, scale, material and proportions of a furnishing are designed conveniently with the conditions of every historical period. The role of furnishing in the design history also takes part while designing interior spaces (Grimley and Love, 2007).

Furnishings are the selection and arrangement of elements and they are used both in exterior and interior spaces. Furnishings, in interior spaces, include furniture, the fabrics that can be used on wall surfaces, on floor surfaces, on furniture, art and accessories (<http://www.indobase.com/home/furnishings/index.html>). According to Ching (2005), as walls, floors, ceilings, windows and doors establish the architectural design of a building; furnishings are the selection and arrangement of movable interior design elements. They are used in interior spaces and counted as a movable type of furnishings. The placement of furnishings can change easily in interior spaces, because their places are not exact and prerequisite.

Chapter 3

SOFT FURNISHING

3.1 Explanation of Soft Furnishing

Furnishings are needed by people as an essential element both in exterior and interior spaces. They provide people comfort, increase their life standards and help to sustain activities in a more comfortable way (Nielsen and Taylor, 1994). Furnishings are essential element in people`s lives. Without furnishings, people cannot maintain their lives, nor they can perform tasks. They cannot pass comfortably time in their living environments. In general, furnishings help to make spaces suitable for living. They create an opportunity to sleep, sit, relax and entertain. Furnishings, especially for the interior spaces, load a message to make spaces personal and reflect user`s personality (Kalinkara, 2006). Furnishings turn neutral spaces into personal and special spaces for people (URL 2). Furnishings include furniture, fabrics, arts and accessories for interior spaces.

Fabrics are like a material for furnishings in interior spaces. They are the things that used and shaped by users in a different way so, fabrics have a role of personalizing interior spaces. The connection between fabrics and soft furnishings are started constitute. By this way, fabrics are also the material for soft furnishings. So, they clear the way of defining soft furnishings. Many researches defined fabrics as:

- ‘Fabric, more than any other tactile element in design, has the ability to humanize our interiors. Fabric can give a sense of personal space, since so often it is selected with personal preference as a prime criterion’ (Nielsen and Taylor, 1994).

- ‘Fabrics most often appear in interior spaces as upholstery cover materials for chairs, sofas and cushions, as bed and table covers and in window treatment’ (Pile, 1995: p.331).
- ‘Fabric can be used to inject color and add softness to a room. Because of its versatility, fabric can be used to make accessories which will create drama and add pattern to a dull interior space’ (URL 4).
- Fabrics introduce a sense of softness, curvature, and flexibility into a space, making a hard looking room seem soft, comfortable and humane (Pile, 1995: p.331).
- ‘Fabrics are the major part of soft furnishings, we use these for making drapery, curtains, cushions, valances, tiebacks, wall panels and upholstering our furniture to make it more comfortable to sit on’ (URL 5).

According to abovementioned explanations, definition of soft furnishing is made by concentrating on fabrics. However, in some references, fabric is mentioned as a textile. Oxford dictionary defines the word textile as; refers to woven fabric. Thirty years ago, almost all of fabrics were textiles; however since the industry’s demand, faster production has resulted in a broader sense of nonwoven fabrics (Larsen and Weeks, 1975). Therefore, in this study, both fabric and textile terms are used while identifying the soft furnishings. Fibers are also the focusing points for the study as a material for the fabric/textile usages while identifying the soft furnishings. Fibers can be categorized as natural, man-made or chemical. Thus, nylon, polyester, glass fibers and aluminum resources can also be the type of fibers. However, this study is limited with the usage of natural fibers. At the history of soft furnishing part, natural fibers are going to be explained in a more detail way.

So, because of the material of a fabric/textile which gives softness to furnishings is identified as soft furnishings. They are included on soft furnishings and cover all of soft materials. Fabrics/Textiles have a role to humanize interior spaces, as they give a sense of

softness and control the atmosphere of the interior space (Pile, 1995). Soft furnishings are selected according to personal preferences as every person has different character, lifestyle, habits, ideas and culture. They give character to a space and have prime contribution to interior spaces. They are unique and reflect user`s personality (URL 3). By this way, different tastes and styles are created in interior spaces. Below are some quotations showing relations between soft furnishings and fabrics/textiles and to clear up what soft furnishing is.

- ‘Household textiles, frequently referred to as soft furnishings, are fabrics used in the home (URL 6).
- Soft furnishings are the fabrics which include curtains, draperies, cushions, carpets, rugs, bed linen, table linen and upholstery (URL 2).
- Soft furnishings are the happening thing in the textile and they include a variety of products; Carpets and rugs, Curtains, Table linen, mats and runners, Kitchen linen and other kitchen accessories, Bathroom furnishings, Window Treatments, Hammocks, Bed linen, Bed spreads, Blankets, Pillows and pillow covers, Cushion and cushion covers (URL 2).

With the help of above references soft furnishing is explained; it includes the fabrics/textiles which can be applied on wall surfaces; windows (curtains), on floor surfaces (carpets), and on furniture; upholstery, cushions, bed linens and table linens. All of these have a soft effect in interior spaces and add color and texture to an interior space (URL 5). Selection and the usage of soft furnishings depend on users choices.

Fabrics/Textiles applied on wall surfaces are the curtains. Curtains are the types of soft furnishings that can be used in wall openings. It is a finish material for window coverings. Carpets are the soft furnishings that are used on floor surfaces. They are used for floor

coverings in interior spaces. Soft furnishings which are also used on furniture are the upholstery covers material for chairs, sofas; cushions, and the bed and table covers.

Moreover, soft furnishings are the elements that every person possesses easily, as they are preferable by people. As a consequence of its scale, being an economic product and suitability for interior spaces, soft furnishings give chance to people in order to easily change interior spaces. Consequently, they are flexible and can be easily changed, replaced or added in interior spaces (URL 2).

3.2 History of Soft Furnishing

Existence of human beings on earth is about 1.7 million years. The word ‘history’ contains recorded events and developments base upon six or seven thousand years. History helps us to give information about the events and their orders (Pile, 2009). Thus, the first use of soft furnishings, how it is evolved and developed parallel to the human needs and requirements are going to be analyzed by the historical developments of different periods.

The general uses of soft furnishings mainly occur in the interior spaces. The historical survey of interior organization of spaces is started to be interested in the evolution of space planning, interior architecture, decorative detail and furnishings (Blakemore, 2006). Therefore, the historical survey of different periods gives a clue about the usage of soft furnishings; its first usage area, how it is started to be used mainly in interior spaces and how it becomes important day by day. It helps to understand the word soft furnishing more deeply during the history.

Interior spaces are developed by the human beings depending on technological developments within the history. Different materials are discovered appropriately to historical developments. Hence, soft furnishing is obtained by the usage of materials. Technological developments make an increase in the usage of soft furnishing day by day. Thus, the historical

survey started from the first used materials for an attempt of using soft furnishing. The usage of soft furnishing is started by the appearance of related materials with it.

Cloths were the first discovered materials; others were shaped under the broad category of cloth. 'Cloths were the large, thin sheets of material made from fiber, which are soft and floppy enough to be used as coverings for people and things. Technically the word textile, which comes to us from the Latin *texere* 'to weave' refers exclusively to woven cloth' (Barber, 1990; p.5). Existence of cloth gives an idea about the prehistoric fabrics/textiles. Weaving requires suitable materials, because without them the craft cannot exist. Consequently, the exploration was started from fabric/textile materials. The use of fabric/textile was coming from various fibers. 'As the basic component of cloth, fiber is important' (Larsen and Weeks, 1975; p.48). Fibers are grouped in two general types; natural and man-made fibers. Natural fibers come from two sources: cellulose and protein. Cellulosic fibers are derived from plants; plant leaves, stems and stalks which are called bast fibers. Protein fibers come from animals such as wool of sheep, hair of goats, horses and other animals (Nielson and Taylor, 1994).

Furthermore, the evidences from the human shelters also give an idea about the used materials. 'The oldest known traces of built human shelter, found in Terra Amata in southern France, are believed to be 400,000 years old' (Pile, 2009; p.15). Humans were used twigs, branches or animal skins for enclosing the shelters. Thus, the planar elements, even for a shelter, are covered by the help of fibers. Figure 5 is illustrating the primitive human shelters. Its outer walls were covered with skins. Humans were also protected from the exterior conditions; create insulation.



Figure 5: Primitive human shelter example (Pile, 2009)

Initial idea of the fibers used in ancient times was dated to the Neolithic period. The first fiber which was flax, known as linen, found in the mid 19th century dated as far back as 3000 B.C. (Barber, 1990). ‘The early textiles turned out to be of plant fiber, specifically of some sort of linen’ (Barber, 1990; p.10). Also, the initial ideas for used plant fibers were found in 1962 at the Turkish site of Çatal Höyük. Carbonized remains of variety of fabrics/textiles were found (Barber, 1990). There is not any clear founding on the first usage of fabric/textiles at ancient times. However, the early textiles are formed from the plant fibers which were flax (before 5000 B.C.), hemp and nettle. It, then, continued with the usage of wool (around 5000 B.C.), silk and cotton (3000 B.C.) (Barber, 1990). Wool fibers were differed from the bast fibers. It has an ability to be felt on smooth surfaces. With the usage of wool fiber, usages of soft materials are started in human lives and continued with silk and cotton (Barber, 1990).

The earliest actual textiles found to date are from Nahal Hemar, in Israel, in 6500 B.C. (Figure 6), and from Çatal Höyük, around 6000 B.C. The textiles from Nahal Hemar are largely of flax (Barber, 1990; p.25).



Figure 6: Linen cloth from Nahal Hemar dated as 6500 B.C. (Barber, 1990; p.131)

With the help of mentioned considerations, first usage of soft furnishing is not clear. Therefore, according to the earliest findings, it can be said that, the first use of fabric/textile is around 7000 B.C. The development of soft furnishings in interior spaces is analyzed by using the historical orders of the periods which covered moves from ancient Egypt in 20th century.

Documentary evidence of interior architecture and decoration of the Egyptians (3200-341 B.C.) comes from variety of valid sources; texts, representations as drawings, paintings, reliefs, models and excavations (Blakemore, 2006) (Figure 7). Wealth and power were the most important facts for that time and furniture designed in a richly decorated way. Stool was used for people seating activity by all levels of society, both royalty and ordinary people (Pile, 2009). Stool surfaces are from the interwoven rushes, reeds or wooden slats that are used for composing the seating part of chairs. Mostly the seating surface is covered with leather (Blakemore, 2006) (Figure 8). ‘Leather is a natural fabric constructed of protein fibers’ (Larsen and Weeks, 1975: p.46). The usages of leather show that there is a need for different materials to provide the humans comfort. Human’s requirement on comfort shows the attempt on the usage of soft furnishings.

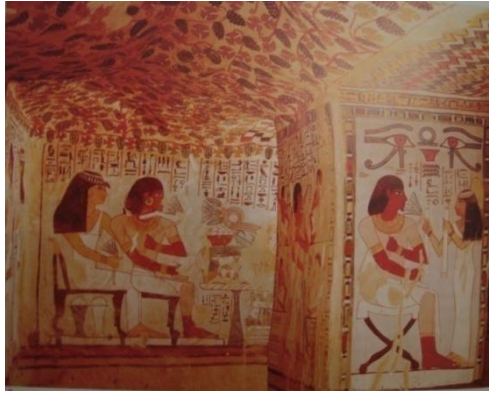


Figure 7: Representation of interior spaces by drawings and paintings (Blakemore, 2006)



Figure 8: Egyptian stool design-usage with leather material (Blakemore, 2006)

Greece (500-30 B.C.) displays traces from the Egyptian culture and with the development of Greek alphabet, all developments were started to be recorded (Pile, 2009). Greek interior space organization comes from detailed images appear on painted vases and plates (Pile, 1995). Comfort and luxury again were the concept for humans; the usage of leather was continued.

The Romans (509 B.C.-A.D. 476) gave more attention to interior look rather than the Greeks. Interior planes (floors, walls and ceilings) can be described as a revealing of ornaments and ornamental patterns; an animated effects on surfaces. There is not any development on soft furnishing at Roman period. At that time, Romans were developed their architectural and technical skills by making larger spaces; palaces, temples, amphitheatres and

baths (Pile, 2009). However, when Roman Empire started to lose its domination, Middle Ages (1150-1550) were considered in different periods; Early Christian period, Byzantine period, Romanesque period and the Gothic period. Early Christian and Byzantine period was under the aspects of Roman traditions but the Romanesque and Gothic periods are the formation of a new tradition toward the modern world (Pile, 1995). New traditions were the usage of fabrics/textiles that played an important part in the decoration of rooms and furniture; illuminated manuscripts give evidence to their role. Examples include valances, luxurious cushions, bed hangings, cloths for chairs and surface covers for stools (Blakemore, 2006). Beds with canopies were designed in early medieval periods but, later periods, beds became an integral part of showing the usage of expensive fabrics/textiles; as revealed 15th century manuscripts (Blakemore, 2006). At that time, curtains were hung from the canopy of beds to provide the privacy of humans. Curtains were not used for the wall openings of windows. People were used simply panels of cloth so as to give some privacy and to provide some limited space division. At the Middle Ages, the real usage of soft furnishing in the historical survey of interior design was started to be used for enhancing the atmosphere of the interior space, creating a privacy and also for decorative purposes.

Italy, at the beginning of 15th century, was the springboard for the Renaissance in architecture and the visual arts. In Italian Renaissance interiors, more attention was given to comfort. In interiors, movable hangings; tapestry (wall hangings), velvets (kind of a fabric/textile, dense and heavy) and damasks (sateen figured fabric/textile) were used by hanging them on wall surfaces. Tapestries were mostly used by the upper class people. In the 16th century, entire room is started to cover with tapestry; some hang from ceiling to floor (Figure 9). It is mainly used for insulation from the weather conditions. Besides, it also has a decorative effect and enhancing the interior atmosphere of the space. Fabric/Textile hangings were started to be used appropriately to the weather conditions. Heavier fabrics/textiles;

velvets and tapestries were more suitable for winter hangings, however the linens and silk fabrics/textiles were more suitable for summer times (Blakemore, 2006). Because, the velvet and tapestry kind of fabrics/textiles thicker than the silk and linen kind of fabrics/textiles. That's why, for winter times, heavier fabrics/textiles are preferred by people. The frequent use of soft furnishings on wall surfaces showed an increase in interior spaces. It shows that, in Italian Renaissance, human beings also start to give importance to their comfort desires on the wall surfaces. They start to soften the interior spaces by using the soft furnishings at walls and it provides them to feel in a more comfort. Beforehand, comfort is taken into an account on the usage of furniture as a seating facility; by the usage of coverings and cushions. Seat furniture were continued to be fabricated; a cushion was used for seats (Figure 10). Fabrics/Textiles were used as treatment of beds and surround it (Figure 11). These were served to protect humans from cold weather and also for defining the sleeping area. Thus, the new thing among soft furnishings is the usage of fabrics/textiles densely at wall surfaces; also by considering the weather conditions at interior spaces.



Figure 9: Usage of tapestries at wall surfaces from ceiling to the floor (Blakemore, 2006)



Figure 10: Usage of cushion at seat furniture (Blakemore, 2006)



Figure 11: Fabrics/Textiles that were used as a treatment for beds (Blakemore, 2006)

Renaissance period of France shows nearly the same usage of soft furnishings. In the period of French Renaissance (1450-1600), the frequent use of fabrics/textiles were continued to take place in interior spaces. However, differently from other periods, a carpet was typically placed on table; coordinated together with other fabrics/textiles in interior spaces (Blakemore, 2006; p.124).

After Italian and French Renaissance periods, English Renaissance (1500-1660) took place. Wall treatments, usage of tapestries, were continued to be used in this period for decorative purposes. Window is counted as furniture in this period and the value attached to the windows that they could be designed as separate pieces of property (Blakemore, 2006).

This will affect the usage of soft furnishings on wall opening in order to cover the windows at later periods both for functional and decorative purposes. Upholstered chair was again in use and also the usage of fabric/textile hangings inside of the canopy was again used for beds. A canopied bed with the usage of fabric/textile is shown in figure 12. Up to those periods, the usage of soft furnishings included; silk, tapestry beds, wall hangings, cushions and coverings (Miller, 2000).



Figure 12: A canopied bed with the usage of soft furnishing (Blakemore, 2006)

The term Baroque was flourished in 17th century and originated in Italy. Italian Baroque interiors were monumental settings that created background for social events. Intimacy was not important for them. There was not a different development on the usage of soft furnishings in interior spaces. Italian fabrics/textiles were in demand and they were popular for walls as well as for covering the furnishings. Silks (kind of a fabric/textile) and velvets were used. However, at the French Baroque interiors (1600-1715), fabrics/textiles were vastly available than the Italian Baroque's period. Wall treatments were significant, especially the usage of tapestries, damasks and velvets. Chairs were become more comfortable in use due to the use of upholstery (Figure 13).

Upholstered seating first appeared in Europe in the 1620s (Miller, 2000). The usage of a wool (produced from a sheep and has a smooth surface) material makes the persons comfortable and also softens the appearance of the chair. Because, wool has a soften effect with its texture and also with its appearance. The emphasis on upholstery continued at beds. All parts of the beds were draped with fabrics/textiles (Figure 14). The interior spaces thus become more soften with the increase of the usage of soft furnishings in interior surfaces and on furniture. They enhance the value of an interior space by using the soft furnishings because the architectural elements of interior spaces start to have a function as well as decorative. At the English Baroque period (1660-1702), wall hangings were continued used; tapestry, silk, damask and velvet. However the usage of fabric/textile was seen for a window covering which was used on the frames of windows. It was mostly used for decorative effect to frame the window surroundings (Figure 15). Also, at floor surfaces, carpets were started to be used under the furniture (Figure 16). They are used for defining the spaces within a space. Carpets were nearly covered the overall interior space. They also help people to isolate the floor surfaces. Seats and backs of the seating furniture were covered with luxurious fabrics/textiles and their purposes were; (1) to cover the junction points of furniture and (2) to be served as adornment (Blakemore, 2006). People, then start to use soft furnishings for different purposes and needs in this period. Moreover, up to this period, soft furnishings are mostly used for their comfort desires however, in English Baroque period, they are mostly used for visual purposes; preserving the mistakes and also for decorative purposes. These are the purposes making people satisfy from their interior spaces.



Figure 13: Comfortable chairs at French Baroque period (Blakemore, 2006)



Figure 14: All parts of the bed was covered with soft furnishings at French Baroque period
(Blakemore, 2006)



Figure 15: Curtains, at English Baroque period, were used for framing the window surroundings (Blakemore, 2006)



Figure 16: Usage of carpets under the dining area at English Baroque period (Blakemore, 2006)

Rococo design was the period towards relaxation, pleasure and greater attention to comfort. The Rococo was a style mainly for the court, aristocracy and for rich people (Blakemore, 2006). Window coverings were started to use increasingly common with trimmings (like a window drapes) and tassels (used for decorative purposes for the draperies). Trimmings and tassels are used for decorating the window coverings. Also the coverings for wall surfaces were used with silks and brocades (a heavy, rich, damask based fabrics/textiles and made of silk) arranged with trimmings (Pile, 2009). Carpets were used in a limited way. In addition, different functional needs require different types of chairs in interior spaces. Forms of chairs were changed to provide the peoples comfort. For example, bergere and canapé type of chairs were designed. The Bergere type of chair was a larger armchair and its seat cushion was separate (Figure 17). All parts of the chairs were covered as a separate unit to make them more comfortable for human body. It shows the increase on comfort level and the opportunities of soft furnishings that start making peoples' lives easier. Because, soft furnishings start to be a functional beside to their comfort desires. Thus, it makes people

performing ease. Moreover, its separable cushion provides an opportunity to be easily changed.

The Canape was another type of chair which was used as an upholstered sofa (Pile, 2009) (Figure 18). The usages of fabric/textile hangings from the canopies of beds were again in use. Rolled cushions were placed at each end. Hence, in general, a rising level of comfort and luxury increase the usage of soft furnishings.

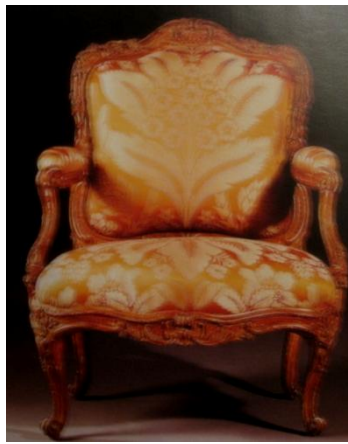


Figure 17: Bergere type of a chair belongs to Rococo design (Pile, 2009)



Figure 18: Canape type of a chair belongs to Rococo design (Pile, 2009)

Moreover, early Georgian style (1715-1760) was shown an improvement on the usage of soft furnishings. For the floor covering materials, carpets were started to commonly use at interior spaces as a soft floor coverings. Tapestries and fabrics/textiles were used for window

coverings. Window draperies started to be part of an interior space rather than weather condition purposes (Figure 19). They are used depending on people choices'. They mostly have a decorative effect. Beds were not fashionable same as Rococo style. They were not heavily draped with fabrics/textiles.



Figure 19: Window drapery example (Blakemore, 2006)

Second half of the 18th century, Neo-classical style was reacted. It was a style that shows direct observations of Roman and Greek designs. Neo-classical interiors were characterized by an elegance and lightness of style. Woods were used as a material for furniture. In Neo-classical period, also the usages of exaggerated soft furnishings are decreased at wall surfaces and on furnishings (Figure 20). Swaged and tailed drapes were common window treatments (Figure 21). The most striking characteristics of soft furnishings of the period were the non use of heavy fabrics/textiles such as tapestries and velvets; increase on the usage of silks and cottons (mostly preferred fiber because of its durability and versatility) (Miller, 2000).



Figure 20: Usage of soft furnishing types at 18th century (Miller, 2000)



Figure 21: Swagged and tailed drapes usages at window openings (Miller, 2000)

During early 19th century, interior decoration was still essentially Neo-classical. However, as a key element of 19th century Neo-classical styles included an increase on the usage of soft furnishings. Carpets were commonly used in interior spaces. Swagged and tailed draperies were also popular. A new development was on the arrangement of chairs and tables. They were arranged to facilitate conversation by the order of the furnishings. They start to be grouped with each other. It means that people start to give more attention to their interior spaces. They were used furnishings to facilitate different activities in interior spaces (Miller, 2000). Also, an increase was seen at the usage of curtains. The heavy fabrics/textiles were

developed and extended to be more elaborate. Layered window treatments were used; damasks and velvets were much in evidence and topped by large pelmets (Figure 22).



Figure 22: Layered window covering examples (Miller, 2000)

During late 19th century, artists and designers such as William Morris and Charles Eastlake, wished not only to reintroduce a more decorative style, to re-establish the hand crafted furnishings. Arts and Crafts movement or in other terms Aesthetic movements had their beginning in the second half of the nineteenth century. These developments generated the Craftsman movement in the United States. John Ruskin and William Morris were the best known and influential names for the arts and crafts figures. The characteristics of the Arts and Crafts movement soft furnishings' were affected from the Medieval and Renaissance periods (Pile, 2009). Soft furnishings were mainly used at wall surfaces and on furnishings to providing the comfort as a first consideration and also for their privacy.

The late nineteenth century was a period of Art Nouveau movement. Generally the flowing and curving forms of nature gave rise to the usage of S-curves which were regarded as the most visible Art Nouveau design. (Art nouveau first appeared in France and Belgium) (Pile, 2009). Curvilinear forms were used at furniture. The usages of soft furnishings at window coverings were not used in an exaggerated way.

Modern interior design in America in 1930s and 1940s was blocked by the lack of available modern furnishing. However in 1950, modernism was taken its place and accepted from all major American designers (Pile, 2009). Modernism became the norm of professional design work. In Modern period, minimal soft furnishing usages are seen (Figure 23). They are mostly selected based on a comfortable usage.



Figure 23: Soft furnishing examples at 20th century (Miller, 2000)

To sum up, historical analysis show that the usages of soft furnishings were belongs to 6500 B.C. It is evolved and developed parallel to human needs and requirements and shaped according to the conditions, possibilities and technological developments. Soft furnishings give shape to the architectural elements (walls, windows and floors) of interior spaces and they are differed in periods. Therefore, changes in the usage of soft furnishings are analyzed in different historical periods to see the developments.

Soft furnishings were mainly used for people vital needs; providing a comfort, protecting people from weather conditions, creating privacy and also for decorative purposes. Firstly, the usage of soft furnishing is discovered by the used materials. Cloths help to give a clue about the first usage of soft furnishing. Human shelters also give an idea about the used materials for peoples' habitations. Used materials are come out because of the human needs

and requirements. Thus, the usage soft furnishing is discovered and they are shaped and differed according to the different historical periods. Interior space will continue to establish the settings for human civilization and also continuing influence from the life in the future. Soft furnishing is the part of the cycle that is changed and is developed until the existence of life.

Some Specific Fabric/Textile Types

Mentioned fabric/textile types in the history of soft furnishing part are defined below in a more detailed way.

Leather: ‘Leather is a natural fabric constructed of protein fibers’ (Larsen and Weeks, 1975; p.46). It is flexible and durable from the external factors. Leathers are used in furniture as well as on wall and floor coverings to create comfort for people. It is also used as upholstery. Leather does not give any sense of softness in interior spaces because it has a different texture comparing with other fabrics/textiles (Coles, 2007).

Tapestry: Tapestry usages were belonging to very ancient times. Tapestries were represented the everyday life and they have been called the ‘mirror of civilization’. The first tapestry to be woven in the West and belongs to the 11th century (Paine, 1990). They are generally composed from the materials of linen, cotton and wool. They are mainly used at wall hangings for domestic interiors (Figure 24). However, sometimes they were also covered the furniture and chair backs thus tapestries have covered the entire room.

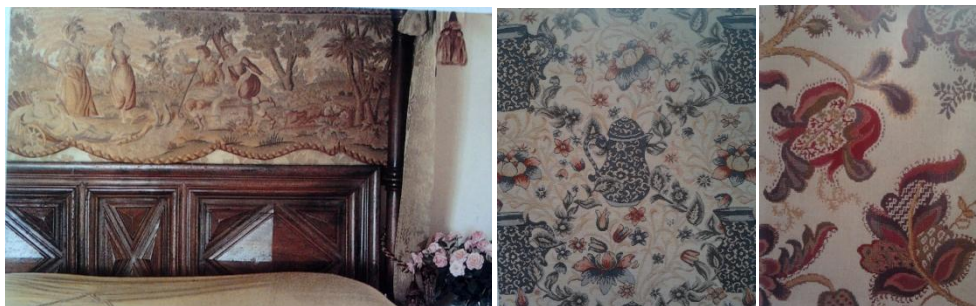


Figure 24: Tapestry usages at wall hangings (Miller, 2000)

Velvets: Velvets were produced from any of the fibers (Larsen and Weeks, 1975). They are characterized by a short, plushy and dense pile. It is usually used for formal rooms (Wissinger, 1995). Velvets make the interior space to seem rich and luxury (Larsen and Weeks, 1975).

Damasks: Damasks can be made of cotton, linen or wool. The richly figured design is woven into the cloth. Damasks are counted as a formal fabric/textile (Wissinger, 1995). ‘A true damask is a monochrome figured fabric/textile in which the shiny surface of the satin weave ground contrasts with the lusterless sateen weave figure’ (Paine, 1990: p.46) (Figure 25). Damask is a classic fabric/textile which has existed unchanged for many hundreds of years. It was first produced in the Syrian during the 4th century AD. The first European damasks were made in Italy during the 15th century (Miller, 2000).



Figure 25: Damasks examples (Miller, 2000)

Brocades: It is a damask based fabric/textile that is woven in one or more colors. An additional color is the thing that separates the brocades from regular damasks (Figure 26). A heavy, rich fabric/textile decorated with a raised design of metallic thread. It is traditionally made of silk. Brocades are very formal fabric/textile and usually used in period interiors for elaborate draperies (Wissinger, 1995).



Figure 26: Brocades examples (Miller, 2000)

Linen: ‘Domestic flax provides the fiber that known as linen’ (Barber, 1990; p.11). It is the most often used fabrics/textiles. Linen is smooth and highly absorbent, it seems cool. It is not counted as a luxurious fiber. Linens are mostly used for interior spaces such as; table linen and bed linen (Larsen and Weeks, 1975).

Silks: It was the Chinese, as long as 4,500 years ago, who was discovered a silk cocoon. After the researches, they managed to domesticate the silkworm and also, after very long times, they maintained to be a monopoly on silk production. It is used in upholsteries and at wall coverings; curtains. Silk is still a luxury fabric/textile (Paine, 1990).

Cotton: It is the preferred fiber, and one of the more versatile ones. It grows on bushes and is produced in a variety of countries where there is plenty of sun and moisture (Paine, 1990). It is very durable and absorbent, also very comfortable even for wearing.

Wool: It is produced from the fleece of a sheep. In the past, it was used in walling cloths, curtains and upholstery (Paine, 1990). Wools are very durable; this quality makes wool as desirable for drapery and upholstery (Larsen and Weeks, 1975). Their usages provide a smooth surface (Barber, 1990).

Trims: As window drapes, trimmings became common in the houses during the 17th century (Miller, 2000). They are simple and effective way to add interest to window coverings

(Figure 27). Trims can also use for freshen up an existing arrangement of curtains (Wissinger, 1995).



Figure 27: Usage of trimming examples around a curtain and cushion (Miller, 2000)

Tassels and Tie-backs: They are used for the draperies as decorative purposes since the Renaissance periods. Tassels were applied to bed hangings, window drapes and upholstery (Figure 28). They are more elaborate up to the 20th century. During the Modernist periods, tassels became smaller and simpler than before (Miller, 2000).



Figure 28: Tassels and tie-backs examples (Miller, 2000)

Chapter 4

LIVING ENVIRONMENT AS THE MAIN USAGE AREA OF SOFT FURNISHING

4.1 Private Environment

Major portion of people time is spent inside of the spaces. People live in houses or apartments, work in offices, shops or factories, study in schools, eat in restaurants, stay in hotels, travel inside of automobiles, buses, trains, ships and airplanes. Being at outside is most often a temporary situation (Pile, 2009). So, people carry out most of their activities in interiors. Interior living environment are more than the physical spaces that people inhabit. Peoples' routines and habits are embedded in all aspects of life and are the main activities that carry out at interior environments. Interior environments are the places where people organize their lives (Wahl, Scheidt and Windley, 2004). It is shaped by the users and people lifestyles affect the formation of an interior environment. Type of a function and depending on a functional characteristic the relationship and requirements of an interior environment are the main considerations.

Identification of users is one of the important factors for the private environments. It is important to analyze who will use the space directly or indirectly (Nielson and Taylor, 1994). Different user groups have different needs. They are all affected in different ways by the quality of environment. Users can have different age groups such as children, youth and elderly. Besides, different age groups, background, culture, values, personality, personal

habits and the need of privacy is different in every person (Nielsen and Taylor, 1994). All of these factors are affecting the usage of interior environment in order to identify users.

User profile helps to identify the lifestyle of the principal users. It is a term that used mainly in residential spaces. 'It represents the constantly changing way a person or group of people live and how they use their time' (Nielsen and Taylor 1994; p.11). It includes such things that whether people like to read, write, use computer; whether people have special hobbies; or the way people choose to entertain, enjoy and use their leisure time by using instruments. All of these are the examples of a lifestyle consideration to spend time at interior environments. Different lifestyles create different functional uses at interior environments. 'Function is the use of an environment where the activities will take place there' (Nielsen and Taylor, 1994; p.134). The term lifestyle describes the way of user group lives and functions in an interior environment. Examining a lifestyle will help to select the functions. Moreover, as the composition of a user groups changed or people grow older, their interests, needs and lifestyles also get changed. Mentioned changes bring alterations in functions. For example, as children become teenager or young adult, the playroom can be changed to music or an entertainment room to facilitate the user needs more properly. Thus, every lifestyle will require different kind of functions.

The relationships of each function should be determined. The need of proximity must be identified for the related functions. For example the laundry needs to be close to the kitchen or it could be near to the bedrooms or bathrooms. Bedrooms should be planned near to the bathrooms. Relationships between spaces should be considered to make people life easier. Otherwise it causes a disorder at interior environments.

In addition to the different user groups, lifestyles, functions and relationships between spaces, also the amount of space for specific function should be determined. While

determining the required space for specific functions, the needed furnishings and special requirements that belong to the users are important. Lifestyle profiles will also help to estimate the required space (Nielson and Taylor, 1994). All of these factors affect the creation of an interior environment.

Home is the part of an interior environment counted as a private space for people. Other spaces like offices, shops, factories and even school place and workplace of people are also the part of an interior environment but as a difference, they are shared with other people. These spaces are organized according to requirements of group of people, customers and users; they are not personal spaces of the owner or users. However, home environment is only the private space among other interior environments which is also used as a personal space. It is only the place where people organized their lives according to the user's (family member's) lifestyle, identity and habits.

4.1.1 Home Environment

A person is in a need of their own territory. The desire of possession and the ownership of interior spaces cause a need for special spaces to live in (Ardrey, 1966). Home environment is the place where people experience a sense of ownership and control (Rutman and Freedman, 1988). 'The interior space of home, in particular, may become a place of territorial centering, which we venture forth and to which we return (Buttimer, 1980; Rubinstein, 1989). Home environments are the places where people can take full control of their surroundings (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998).

Through the centuries, humans experienced many forms of the homes. But, home has a meaning of more than a shelter. It is a container for personal possessions, a reflection of self and a mirror of social conditions and values (Crisp, 1998).

Home is a place of refreshment and support, and it is important for people where the finest values can be espoused and reinforced. It is the place where people purified from the everyday life pressure. Children are growing at home environment. Working and cleaning activities take place at homes. People also host their relatives and friends. Somehow, homes are turned to a place for entertainment and relaxation (Nielson and Taylor, 1994). Homes should reflect relaxation within a comfortable environment. So, every people should arrange their own comfortable spaces by considering their needs together with their own taste, character and lifestyle. Comfortable home will improve the quality of people lives and promote a sense of well being (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998).

People character, lifestyle and who shares your home have an effect while organizing the activities at home environment. Homes can share with other participants such as with parents, children and pets. All of these affect the organization of home environment (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998).

Homes environment gives a clue about inhabitants` characteristics. It is organized depending on user choices and likes. For many people, the interior of the home environment has a meaning as a mirror of the self (Marcus, 1995). It may not only reflect personal preferences, but also reflect personal traits, such as extraversion or introversion, which are emerged in the home environment (Gosling, Ko, Mannarelli and Morris, 2002; p.173).

4.1.1.1 Living Environment

‘Environment is an integrally organized, structured and patterned relationship between people and people, people and things and things and things’ (Boğaç, 2005). These relations are analyzed at people’s everyday routines and definition of features of these routines is how people live in and pass through different spaces. Depending on people particular circumstances they feel and behave differently at spaces. From the private space of the home

to the semi-private space of the school or workplace and the public space of the busy city streets; people are located in different environments almost every moment (Madanipour, 2003).

Public spaces are the arenas where the common life takes place. It is the place where all people gather and come into contact with others. Public spaces are the places where all people are equal (Dorathlı and Paşaoğulları, 2004).

Semi-public spaces are reserved for those who live or shared their own spaces for legitimate purposes (Dorathlı and Paşaoğulları, 2004). For example, the street which belongs to a house is connected with the house users, so it becomes a semi-public space for them. Semi-public space is a transition between public and private spaces. Same for the semi-private space, it belongs to particular dwelling or building. It is the place assigned to a person; it can be a workplace or a school. These spaces are the transitions between public and private spaces.

Private space is more secluded and individualistic than public space (Madanipour, 2003). It is under the control of an individual and a space of freedom of choice for individuals. Private space is a part of a space that belongs to, or is controlled by an individual (Madanipour, 2003).

The relation between public and private space is the relationship between individual and the society. The boundary between public and private spaces is separated by what people reveal and what people do not want and control over the boundaries. Hierarchies between the spaces are shown in figure 29. It shows the relations between public and private spaces. Generally their relations are supported with the semi-public and semi-private spaces. However, it can also be an exceptional condition that private space is directly opened to a public space.

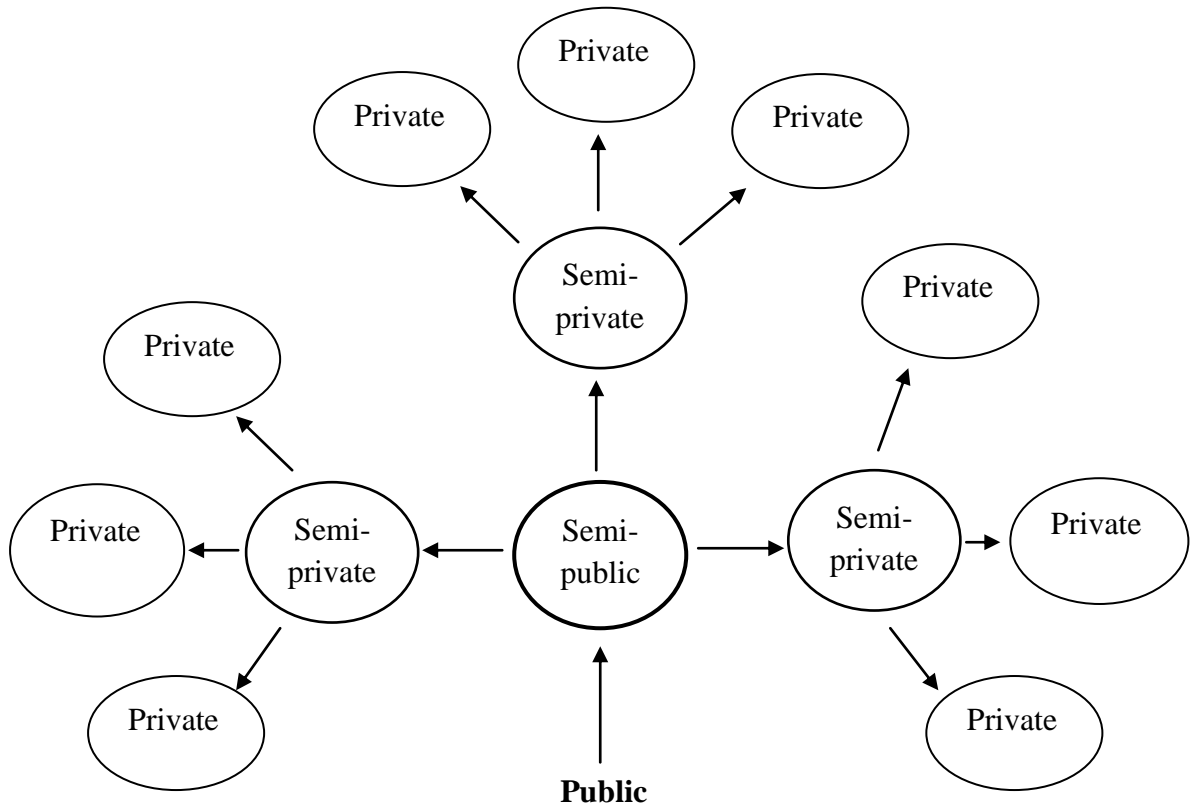


Figure 29: Hierarchy between spaces (Doratlı and Paşaoğulları, 2004)

When soft furnishing is considered through public and private relationship understandings, it shows that soft furnishings are also the reflection of people reveals, wants and controls. Thus, the usage of soft furnishings in public spaces shows the same attitude of using public spaces. They are the places where all people are gathered and get into contact. That being said, the selection of soft furnishings should be suitable for communal uses. They are mainly selected by considering health, safety and well-being of the public. Thus, main considerations are the flammability, physical and aesthetic durability of the fabrics/textiles (Nielson, 2007). The goal is both to select the least flammable and the most durable fabrics/textiles where people traffic is dense (Nielson, 2007). Cleaning activity is frequent in public spaces; hence used fabric/textile should be durable for frequent use. These are the

main considerations for the usage of soft furnishings in public spaces. The functionality is, therefore, the first consideration to use soft furnishings at public spaces. Therefore, for the usage of soft furnishings in private spaces is not much different than public spaces as said spaces are also shared with other people. Private space is part of a space where individuals enclose to control their exclusive use (Madanipour, 2003). It is the enclosed spaces that get a contact with other people. It can be an office, workplace or a school therefore; health, safety and well-being issues become main considerations again.

Home is considered to be the symbol and materialization of private realm (Madanipour, 2003). Therefore, it is the place of private spaces which is separated and protects its users from the public spaces. It provides a personal space and offers the individual an ability to communicate with others by expressing their identity and power. Home is part of a larger context and gives a sense of belongingness to an individual (Klassen, 2001). 'Home means having choice and control over one's personal environment. It gives a sense of identity and a sense of place' (Wekerle, 1991). Home is the smallest scale of an urban space. It is the private space for people and shows the people identity and lifestyle depending on their choices. So, it is the place where people identity, lifestyle and interests are reflected and is possible by looking through the inside of home environment. People way of organizing their home environments; the use of furnishings and the materials they use show both the character of interior space and the user character.

Furnishings have an important role especially for the home environments. They are selected and used by users wants and reflected in a various way in interior spaces. However, because of home environments are the private spaces for people, also the soft furnishings have an important usage for interior spaces. Because, they have an ability to personalize the interior spaces and homes are the most suitable interior spaces for using the soft furnishings. Home environments are organized directly with the user's wants; not for other people wants, reveals

and controls (Nielson, 2007). Thus, soft furnishings are shaped and reflected to a home environment by the user identity.

Homes include a variety of rooms to living in it. They are mainly consisted the entry hall, living space, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. Every room has different needs and requirements in terms of their functions (Nielson, 2007). Different functions are provided by the usage of different materials and the used furnishings at home environments. Furnishings have a role to humanize with the needs and requirements of different functions. Generally, the functional needs are provided by the use of furnishings and also together with the soft furnishings. The usages of soft furnishings help to confront people requirements that what they want to see at their interior spaces of home environment.

4.1.1.1.1 Entry Hall

Entry hall of the house is like a semi private space. It is the space that shared also with other people; who are accepted by the owner of the house. Entry hall is the first introduction to a home for guests and also the last space that people pass through before leave the home. It is also a buffer between the home and the outside world (Sudjic, 1984). It plays an important role for home environment. Entry hall reflects the first impression of the general layout of the home environment. It reflects the users taste and lifestyles (Wissinger, 1995). The main desire in decorating the entry hall is to make it welcoming. Generally, upholstered chairs and benches are used generally at entry halls. Small area rugs are used that they can be easily moved and cleaned (Wissinger, 1995). As in functionally, the entry hall is coordinated together with the living space which is also acted as a social space. It should be harmonize together with rest of home. Entry hall should be designed welcoming while creating the home environment. If the home environment is two storey, staircases are generally occurred at entry hall and it should be clearly identified.

4.1.1.1.2 Living Space

Living space is a place where peoples' family and guests generally spend a lot of time there. It is a space that must be on show with its behavior (Wissinger, 1995). The living space is often the largest space in the home environment and also the most public space (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998). The living space usually contains more than one purpose; it can be used as a family room, for entertaining purposes, for relaxing, reading, watching television and for listening to music (Taylor and Blake, 1998) (Figure 30). It is a social area for chatting with friends or family and sometimes it is a play space for children. Most importantly, the living space should reflect people needs and interests with the chosen furnishings accordingly (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998) (Figure 31).

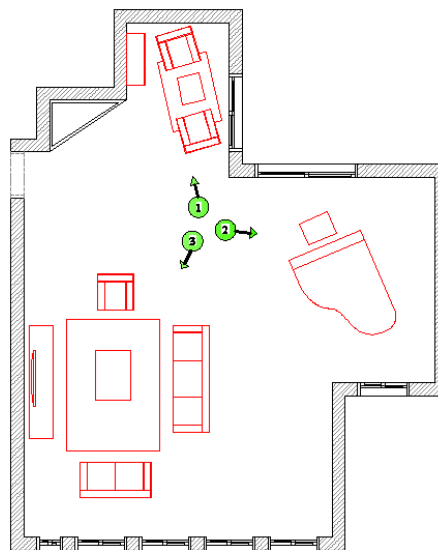


Figure 30: An example of a plan of living space (Gaventa and Weiss, 1998)



Figure 31: General view of the living space from the plan

Creating a living space that can adapt to all the requirements in a comfortable and convenient matter, careful planning is required. The first consideration is function (Sorrell, 2000). Living space should be adaptable and designed according to the different functions. For example, for the entertaining and socializing purposes, living space should reflect informal appearances. Careful planning is also needed for living spaces to ensure that different activities do not conflict. Other considerations should be the main users and way of spending their times at living spaces (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998). Many living spaces are open plan and they are generally designed as dual purpose spaces. They are mainly created together with linked spaces with different functions especially designed with dining space. Their required functions are different so they should design not to seem conflict at living spaces.

Furnishings are important for the organization of living spaces. Many different furnishings are used in a various way. Carefully selected seating is a key factor in achieving a relaxed and comfortable living space. It is the most important part of the house. Every piece of furnishing should be compatible with each other to achieving a comfort at living spaces. It is coordinated in different ways; for gathering place where family and friends talk, focus on the television or gather around a fireplace (Sudjic, 1984) (Figure 32) (Figure 33). In most of

the living spaces, seating groups are organized around a television or a fireplace. They need a focal point to be grouped more effectively. The usage of sofas brings an informal and intimate feel to living spaces. The usage of chairs makes an effective use inside of a space. The cushions that used on chairs and sofas give shape easily (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998).



Figure 32: Seating group is organized around a fireplace



Figure 33: Seating group is organized around a television

Relaxation includes the application of hobbies and games for children and adults. Cds and books help people to relax so they can also occur at living spaces. The entertainment can mainly offer by television and sound systems at living spaces. The entertainment is provided by the musical instruments (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998) (Figure 34).



Figure 34: The entertainment is offered by the piano in the living spaces

The living space is the obvious setting for displaying collections and art. It can be a pictures, clocks, different art works and small accessories. These are also enhancing the living spaces and provide a decorative look (Sudjic, 1984).

The living space is not only the place to relax and sit in comfort; it is like an exhibition space in the home where people can show their designs. The usages of furnishings are organized according to the interior design of a space. They should be well furnished to create a comfortable environment in living spaces. Furnishings should also have a connection with the users' needs and requirements. Also, the usages of soft furnishings help to put forward the peoples' living spaces to the front and have an important effect for the overall look of the space. Soft furnishings at living spaces are used at the architectural elements of interior spaces together with the compatibility of a space. They can apply either at vertical planar element or at horizontal planar element. This is mainly valid for the elements which have right angled composition between each other however, depending on a designer/people, soft furnishings are also applied at different planes in interior spaces. Soft furnishings can apply at wall surfaces as a vertical planar element, at floor surfaces and on furnishings as a horizontal planar element. They are applied on the architectural elements that make the space of people choice. Walls and floors are the largest areas of the space to be decorated so the decisions on

soft furnishings are important (Taylor and Blake, 1998). They are easy to maintain and give an attractive look to a living space.

Soft furnishings are the things that give meaning to a home environment especially at living spaces. The upholstery, cushions, covers and window coverings will give chance to an owner to imprint their personality on the scheme of the space (Taylor and Blake, 1998; p.62).

Upholstered chairs and sofas should be used at living spaces to make the space more comfortable who is going to sit and relax. For the window coverings, fabrics/textiles are wise choice for curtains with functional and decorative headings (Taylor and Blake, 1998). Window coverings are mainly in three groups as soft, hard and top window coverings. Soft window coverings mainly include which are generally made of soft fabrics/textiles. Hard window coverings are constructed from rigid materials and include shutters and blinds. Top treatments are applied to the top of either soft or hard window coverings (URL7). Generally, for living space windows, options are starting from the blinds to hanged curtains on a cornice and decorated with tassels (Taylor and Blake, 1998). Window coverings are used both for decorative and functional purposes. They are selected depending on a user choice for covering the openings. For the formal type of living spaces, blinds and shutters are used to provide the privacy and fabrics/textiles are applied on them such as silk and brocade are used to give a formal effect. If the window does not have a role to provide privacy, fabric/textile is only preferred to be used to soften the living space (Taylor and Blake, 1998). They have a role to isolate the living spaces from weather conditions. Also, window coverings use to complete the design of interior spaces.

Floor coverings are in two groups; hard and soft floor coverings. (Hard floor covering materials are the brick, concrete, travertine, ceramic tile, marble, granite and parquet...etc). Rugs and carpets are the soft floor coverings (Nielson and Taylor, 1994). For the floor

coverings, carpets are used both in a dining area and in front of a sofa. Instead of using hard flooring, rugs and carpets are used to soften the seating area (Taylor and Blake, 1998). They also help to create a boundary within an interior space. Moreover, soft floor coverings are used to isolate the effects of hard floor coverings. People prefer to use soft floor coverings mainly around the living spaces.

4.1.1.1.3 Kitchen

Kitchen is the most used room in the house. It is the place where people prepare food and where dining or visiting activities take place with friends (Nielson and Taylor, 1994). The kitchen attracts people not only for food, it also a place for adults to congregate (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998). Kitchens are mostly used for cooking purposes but beside to this, it also contains informal dining area where adults can entertain and children can spent their times by studying. They also request a soft area with a carpet for children to play on, a sofa and television for relaxation (Sorrell, 2000). If the kitchen is designed together with small seating area, chairs and sofas are used with cushions in order to obtaining the relax and comfortable environment (Sudjic, 1984). But it is important to pay attention to the use of any soft furnishings and upholstery covers that can be easy to remove and clean (Sudjic, 1984). Also, for the window coverings curtains are used as a soft window covering but even blinds and roller shades are used at kitchen windows (Sudjic, 1984).

4.1.1.1.4 Bedroom

The bedroom is the first room that people face with it in the morning and also the last room at night. It should give pleasure to a people. In a bedroom, most of the time spent by rest purposes. Unlike other communal areas, the bedroom is not on general view of visitors. Its furnishings should select to addresses people themselves. It is considered a personal domain in which the highest standards of comfort and privacy are demanded (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998). A bed is the essential furnishing for every bedroom and people make them

softer by using together with blankets, bed linen and soft pillows. Carpets are preferred for floor coverings both for functional and decorative purposes (Sudjic, 1984). Also for children bedrooms, carpets are used to give softness to a room and also creating a space for playing (Sorrell, 2000).

4.1.1.1.5 Bathroom

The Bathroom is the most personal and private room in the house. It is also the most frequently used room. It is a place for cleaning and relaxing. When designing the bathroom, its atmosphere should suit with people lifestyles; consider the demands that will made on space, how much time will be spent in it and who will use it. Nowadays, bathrooms are designed with additional facilities such as parents' bathroom is designed together with the dressing room (Katz, Gaventa and Weiss, 1998). Mainly for bathrooms, soft furnishings are not suitable for using them. It is the place where walls and floors need to be waterproof and safety considerations are important. Used materials should be water resistant. In general, hard window coverings and hard floor coverings are preferable for bathrooms (Sudjic, 1984).

Consequentially, living spaces are the most public spaces apart from others. They are the places where all family members, relatives, friends and guests are being hosted. They are the face of the house. Living spaces mainly possesses the largest area inside of the home so it is the most suitable place for displaying people lifestyles and interests by their choice of different materials, furnishings and soft furnishings. It is only the place where people preferences are on the show to the public. Preferences should also suit with the living space.

Chapter 5

THE SOFT FURNISHING USAGE IN LIVING SPACES

5.1 Importance of Living Spaces in the Home Environment

Living spaces are the most used public spaces among others in home environment. It is the space where family members spend much of their time. Living spaces have various purposes; entertaining, socializing, relaxing, watching television and chatting with friends and relatives.

Besides these activities, living spaces are the places where users display and share anything they want with others. It is turned to an exhibition spaces. Living spaces are the overdone space for people comparing to other spaces thus making them more attentive. Living spaces become individual by users choices. Selected furnishings, materials and used soft furnishings help to reflect peoples' personality. Soft furnishings have an effect on the selected furnishings by strengthen their level of comfort. They also have an effect by enhancing the personalization in living spaces.

The usage of soft furnishing is going to be analyzed especially in living spaces as the most used public space in the home environment. It is the only space where people reflect their choices and share with other people. In this study, different living space orders are analyzed in terms of soft furnishing usages. It is believed that by analyzing different living spaces, the importance of soft furnishings is going to be determined.

5.2 Method of Analysis

5.2.1 Selection of Pilot Study Area- Living Spaces

Pilot study area is determined by houses construction date. Their date of construction starts from 2001 date. They are newly developed areas and even improved day by day. Pilot study areas are selected from Ortaköy (Figure 35), Yenikent (Figure 36 and 37) and Gönyeli (Figure 38) districts. Selected pilot studies from Ortaköy districts are constructed in 2001. Others that occur in Yenikent district are constructed in 2009 and selected examples from Gönyeli district are constructed in 2008. Five of the examples are from Ortaköy district, ten of the examples are from Yenikent district and five of the examples are from the Gönyeli districts.

Ten of the pilot studies are two storey houses and other ten are the apartments. Two different types of two storey houses and two different types of apartments are analyzed; all of them have the same plan and façade organization characteristics in themselves. Selected pilot studies from newly developed districts show differences by their construction companies. The aim of selecting pilot studies in this way is to analyze the usage of soft furnishings in different living spaces where each space reflects different user's identity.

As stated before, all of the examples are selected from newly developed areas and their construction dates are up to date. All of them have the same plan and facade characteristics among them. However, how people reflect the usage of soft furnishings in interior spaces is the main question that makes living spaces to be analyzed as a pilot study. Certainly, all living spaces have their own identities according to user's lifestyles and habits. It is believed that living spaces give the best results while analyzing the interior spaces for the usage of soft furnishings.



Figure 35: Levent houses in Ortaköy district (Author, 2011)



Figure 36: Hacı Ali houses in Yenikent district (Author, 2011)



Figure 37: Hacı Ali apartments in Yenikent district (Author, 2011)



Figure 38: Levent Apartments in Gönyeli district (Author, 2011)

5.2.2 Development of Questionnaire

Questionnaire is developed for the analysis and evaluations of living spaces to the users. It contains 30 questions. Questions are determined by considering the subjects from the chapters. The first 17 questions are the general questions that are related with the user's lifestyle and habits. Other 13 questions are related with used soft furnishings in the living spaces. Last 13 questions are organized to get information about people's choices and priorities from soft furnishings.

Questionnaires are filled for each person so as to identify used soft furnishings in their living spaces. Photos are taken from peoples' living spaces and their plans are drawn as the last part of the questionnaire. A total of 20 questionnaires are filled for the assessment (See Appendix A).

5.3 Analysis of Pilot Study

As mentioned before, living spaces are taken as the pilot study area to find out used soft furnishings by different users. Selected living spaces have same plan and façade organization characteristics in themselves. They are selected from 20 houses - four different plans each consisting of five living spaces. They are analyzed by the help of questionnaire being filled by every person. Mentioned questionnaires are shown deeply in appendix A.

5.4 Evaluation of the Soft Furnishings through Examples

20 different living spaces are analyzed for the evaluation of used soft furnishings. Plans of the living spaces are drawn to show the density of used soft furnishings in living spaces. People's choices and priorities of using soft furnishings in living spaces are going to be revealed.

Table 5: Used soft furnishings in Levent houses

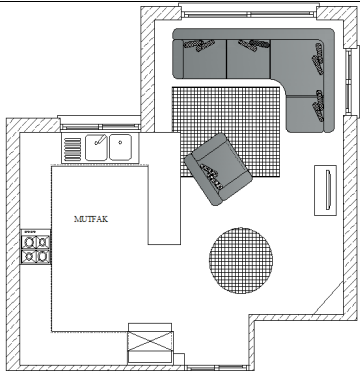
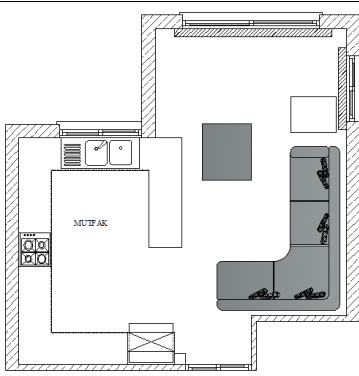
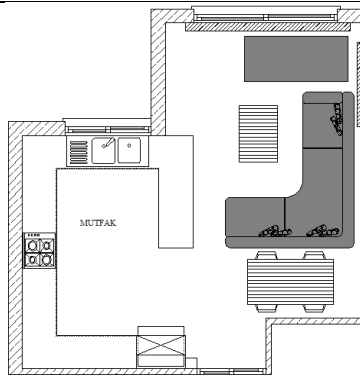
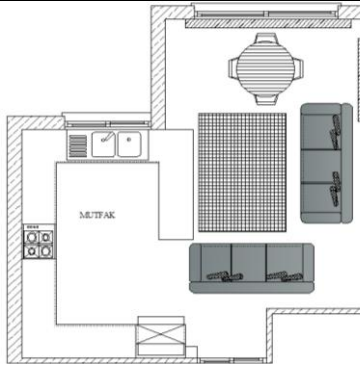
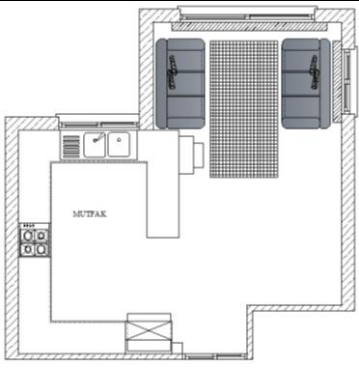





Used Soft Furnishings are illustrated on plans of Living Spaces		
Levent Houses (Original plans are shown in Appendix B)		
 <p>[1] 63% covered with soft furnishings</p>	 <p>[2] 30 %</p>	 <p>[3] 47 %</p>
 <p>[4] 47 %</p>	 <p>[5] 55 %</p>	<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Window Coverings  Floor Coverings  Upholstery  Cushion  Table Linen

Table 6: Used soft furnishings in Hacı Ali houses

Used Soft Furnishings are illustrated on plans of Living Spaces		
Hacı Ali Houses (Original plans are shown in Appendix B)		
<p>[6] 36% covered with soft furnishings</p>	<p>[7] 69 %</p>	<p>[8] 50 %</p>
		<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Window Coverings Floor Coverings Upholstery Cushion Table Linen
<p>[9] 57 %</p>	<p>[10] 51 %</p>	

Table 7: Used soft furnishings in Hacı Ali apartments

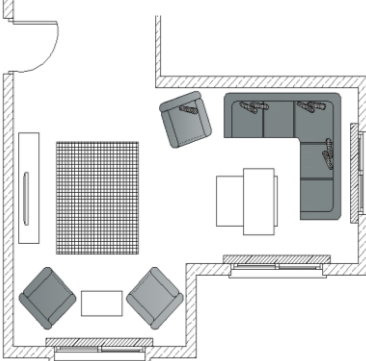
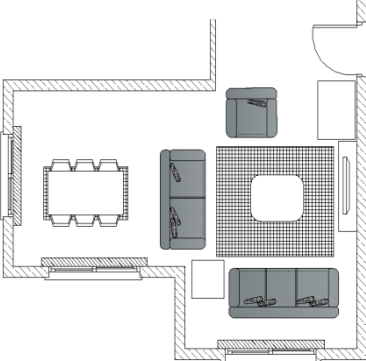
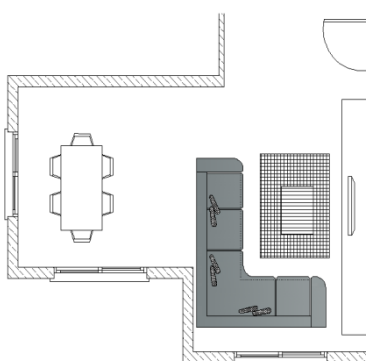
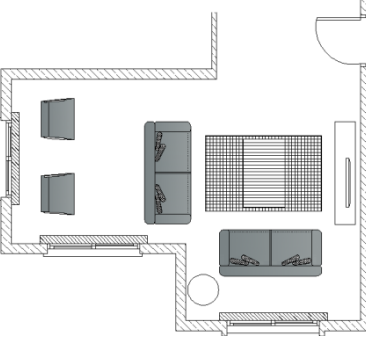
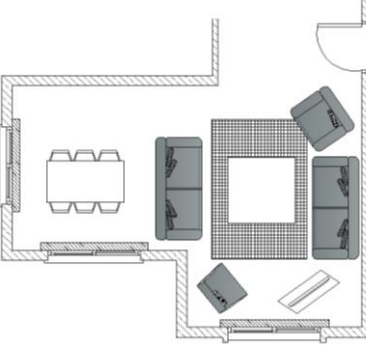





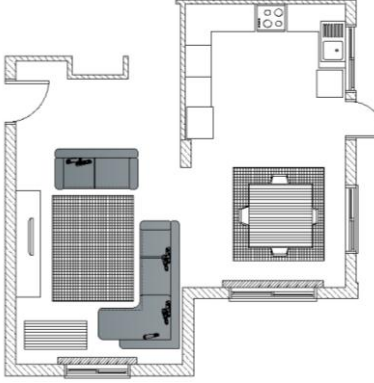
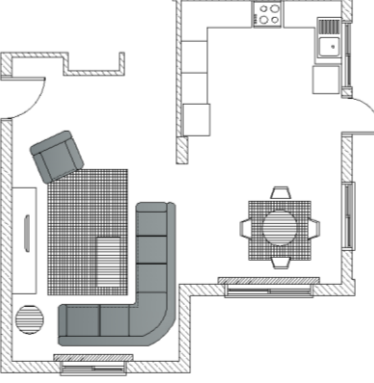
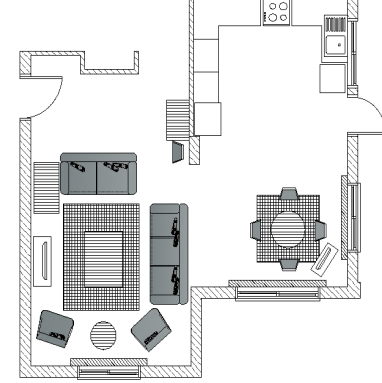
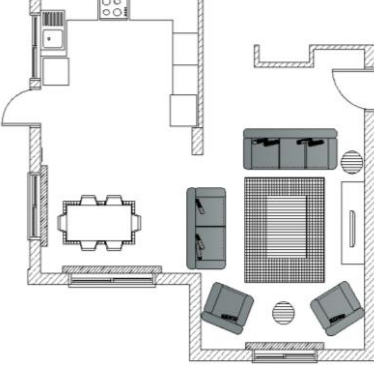
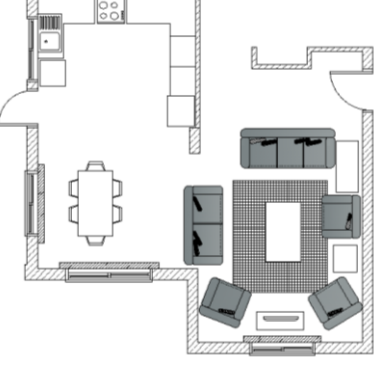





Used Soft Furnishings are illustrated on plans of Living Spaces		
Hacı Ali Apartments (Original plans are shown in Appendix B)		
 <p>[11] 65% covered with soft furnishings</p>	 <p>[12] 74 %</p>	 <p>[13] 33 %</p>
 <p>[14] 63 %</p>	 <p>[15] 65 %</p>	<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Window Coverings  Floor Coverings  Upholstery  Cushion  Table Linen

Table 8: Used soft furnishings in Levent Apartments

Used Soft Furnishings are illustrated on plans of Living Spaces		
Levent Apartments (Original plans are shown in Appendix B)		
 <p>[16] 71% covered with soft furnishings</p>	 <p>[17] 73 %</p>	 <p>[18] 82 %</p>
 <p>[19] 71 %</p>	 <p>[20] 63 %</p>	<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Window Coverings  Floor Coverings  Upholstery  Cushion  Table Linen

Answers given to the questionnaire part and the observations from different living spaces help to give clue about the usage of soft furnishings in home environment. Majority of the people (14 people) consider home environment as the public space that accept their relatives and friends under their control. Occasionally, they gather with their friends and relatives at homes. However, living spaces are the most preferred spaces by family members among others. It is the common gathering space for family members with each other. Living spaces are accepted as the social space by people (11 people) that carry out most of their activities in living spaces. Majority of people consider living spaces as a comfortable place; also conservation and relaxing activities take place. Their way of organizing the furnishings also reflect the function of the living space. Furnishings of the selected living space examples are mainly organized around the television to show the conservation activity as the first consideration. People rarely gather in living spaces for entertaining and socializing purposes. In general, taking comfort into consideration affect the usage of soft furnishings in living spaces.

Soft furnishings are equally distributed to architectural elements of interior spaces; at the openings of wall surfaces, at floor surfaces and on the furnishings. Soft furnishings are selected mainly for family member's likes and wishes. Every living space thus has its own identity as they reflect user's lifestyles, habits and character.

Thirteen of the living spaces' window openings are completely covered with soft furnishings. However, they are shaped according to the user wishes and likes. Soft furnishings at wall openings are used for many purposes. It can be either functional or decorative purposes. Curtains are used for soft window coverings at wall openings in the living space. Curtains have the priority for people while selecting the soft furnishings for interior spaces. While selecting curtains for window openings, people also pay attention to harmony with

other soft furnishings. It also acts as a complementary element. Used soft furnishings at window openings are shown in figure 39.



Figure 39: Used soft furnishing examples at window openings (Author, 2011)

Eighteen of the living spaces have soft furnishings at floor surfaces. Mainly, rugs are used as a soft floor covering in living spaces. They are not used to cover the overall area of the living space. Rugs are used in the middle of the conservation area and occasionally under the dining area. They are used for defining the space within a space. Rugs are also used for functional purposes; isolation. People prefer to get a contact with soft materials in their living spaces and it is obtained by the usage of soft floor coverings. Usages of rugs also have a decorative effect and also soften the hard image of floor covering in living spaces. Used soft furnishings at floor surfaces are shown in figure 40.



Figure 40: Used soft furnishing examples at floor surfaces (Author, 2011)

All of the living spaces have seating groups that are completely covered with soft furnishings. Mainly the bergere and canapé type of furnishings are used in living spaces and are covered with different upholsteries, cushions and covering types of soft furnishings. It is selected in a way to perform their comfortable space organization desires. The usage of soft furnishings at seating groups, cushions and coverings are used for increasing their level of comfort and also adding a decorative look to interior spaces. They are selected and shaped by user's wants and choices. Cushions and upholstery of the furnishings are the secondly preferred soft furnishings to be altered in living spaces. Used soft furnishings on furnishings are shown in figure 41.



Figure 41: Used soft furnishing examples on furnishings (Author, 2011)

Furthermore, analysis among examples shows different soft furnishing usages at their living spaces. The usages of soft furnishings are not well defined in Levent Houses (Table 1 and 5) (Figure 42). They are not equally distributed at the architectural elements of interior spaces. People in Levent houses give importance to their comfort and it is reflected to their choices. The usages of soft furnishings are seen intensively on the furniture that covered completely with upholstery. Cushions and coverings are also used at furniture. Soft furnishings at window openings and at floor coverings are used more inattentive compared with upholstered seating usages. Usages of soft furnishings at window coverings are used like a compulsory element. They are used mostly for enclosing the window itself; they do not reflect the whole atmosphere of the living spaces. People in Levent houses do not use soft

furnishing to support its usage and significance in their living spaces. It makes living spaces to seem empty. Only the one living space, third house of the Levent Houses, show the usage of soft furnishings have a complementary effect with each other. They reflect the harmonious relations with each other (Table 1). People also give shape differently according to their lifestyles and wants to the usage of soft furnishings however they are not enough for identifying the living spaces.



Figure 42: Pictures from the Living Spaces of Levent Houses (Author, 2011)

The usages of soft furnishings in Hacı Ali Houses are well defined by the used soft furnishings (Table 2 and 6) (Figure 43). They are equally distributed at the architectural elements of interior spaces. Their living spaces have dual purposes. They are combined together with the dining space except from one house. The usages of soft furnishings also help to define different functions with each other. All houses have soft window coverings, soft floor coverings and upholstered seating. They are used in balance. Soft furnishings make living spaces to be read as positive because they all helped to define the interior spaces. People way of giving an importance to the usage of soft furnishings in Hacı Ali houses is nearly same. They use soft furnishings to add something from themselves in their living spaces. Thus, the living spaces have their own identity according to different users.



Figure 43: Pictures from the Living Spaces of Hac1 Ali Houses (Author, 2011)

The usages of soft furnishings help to define the living spaces of Hac1 Ali apartments in a positive way (Table 3 and 7) (Figure 44). They are all equally distributed to the every parts of a living spaces. Different functions are created by the users. Seating area, conservation area and the dining area are created depending on people choices. Hence, different identities are given by the users. By this way, soft furnishings reflect different personality in living spaces. Used soft furnishings both at vertical and horizontal planar elements of an interior space also provide the unity in living spaces.



Figure 44: Pictures from the Living Spaces of Hac1 Ali Apartments (Author, 2011)

The usages of soft furnishings in living spaces of Levent Apartments are the most densely used examples comparing with others (Table 4 and 8) (Figure 45). Their living spaces all combined together with dining spaces. Separations between spaces are created by the usage of soft furnishings. Mainly the usage of soft floor coverings and the upholstered seating are emphasized soft furnishings in their living spaces. Thus, it makes their living spaces to seem

dense comparing to other groups of living spaces. Either the usage of soft furnishings makes their living spaces defined or not, people in Levent apartments use soft furnishings by reflecting their lifestyles and habits. Eighteenth house of the Levent apartments show the intensively usage of soft furnishings in every parts of the living space; at window coverings, at floor coverings, on furniture as cushions, coverings and table linen (Table 4).



Figure 45: Pictures from the Living Spaces of Levent Apartments (Author, 2011)

As a result of the pilot study research, this thesis clarifies the importance of soft furnishing in interior spaces, especially in living spaces. Living spaces are the most preferred space for people to show their personal characteristics to other people. They are the social spaces for people to pass their most of the time. According to the given answers and analysis of the pilot studies, it is clear that people cannot imagine a living space without using soft furnishings. The usages of soft furnishings are intensively appeared in most of the living spaces.

Chapter 6

CONCLUSION

In this study, the importance of soft furnishing usages at interior spaces is emphasized in general terms. The usage of soft furnishings mainly used for living spaces to show user's likes and wishes to other people and also for their desires of comfort.

This study concluded and emphasizes the usage of furnishings in interior spaces by the selected living space examples. By evaluating the used soft furnishings for every living space emphasized the importance of soft furnishings once again. Result of the pilot study research shows that, approximately, 58% of the area is covered with soft furnishings. It means that more than half of the living spaces are covered with soft furnishings. 18,6% covered with soft furnishings at vertical planar elements as soft window coverings and 39,4% covered with soft furnishings at horizontal planar elements including both floor coverings and furniture coverings in selected living space examples. In addition, intensively used soft furnishing in one of the living spaces is at the Levent apartments covering the 82% of space (Table 8). These percentages help to show the soft furnishings frequency of occurrence in living spaces.

Results show that, the soft furnishings become must element for people comfort and satisfaction for the interior spaces, especially for living spaces. Every user personalizes their living spaces by using soft furnishings. They make spaces to be seemed soft, comfortable and humane. Soft furnishings also make interior spaces to belong a person by creating an identity. Results show the reason of selecting soft furnishings in interior spaces, every person possesses soft furnishings easily as it is the most economic product among other furnishings

types. More than half of the area is covered with soft furnishings in 15 living spaces. Other 5 living spaces are covered with soft furnishings in a limited way. It shows the underlying reason and also the easiness of possessing soft furnishings in interior spaces. Soft furnishings also create a character difference between living spaces; in 5 living spaces where the usage of soft furnishing is rarely used.

Generated 20 different living spaces from the same plan layouts show that the usages of soft furnishings cover the broad range of living spaces, thus it affects the interior spaces strong. Therefore, the effects of making the interior spaces personal by the usage of soft furnishings become an incontrovertible truth. Thus, soft furnishing addresses to person feelings and the reflection of people choices. They are one of the most suitable elements for people to reflect their wishes and likes to other people. They are like a supplementary element for interior spaces. In 3 living space examples, within the 20 living spaces, the used soft furnishings covered approximately the 30% of the overall area (Table 5, 6 and 7). It means that, beside to other factors, soft furnishings are one of the important things that are preferred by people to be used densely in interior spaces to respond the human needs and requirements. In this pilot study, evaluations are done through the selected examples and the results show that soft furnishings are used for people to reflect their lifestyles; whether they make living spaces defined or not, it is clear that people prefer to use soft furnishings densely in their living spaces.

As a conclusion, the asserted issue from the beginning of the study is proved by analyzing the pilot studies. Different living space analysis from the same plan layouts helps to make evident the importance of the usage of soft furnishings in interior spaces, specifically in living spaces. Three groups of pilot studies (15 living spaces) show densely the usage of soft furnishings in living spaces. However, only the one group, Levent Houses (date of construction is 2001), starts to decreases the usage of soft furnishings in their living spaces.

Hence, the question, ‘does the usage of soft furnishing is getting neglected parallel with the passing years?’ arises.

This thesis is a good reference and guideline for those who concerned with exploring issues about the soft furnishings in interior spaces. It helps interior designers and people who are interested with the subject of soft furnishings to see the importance of the usage of soft furnishings in interior spaces. This study also provides a basis for future studies.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A

Name: Mehtap	Name: Mehmet	
Surname: Tümkan	Surname: Tümkan	
Occupation: Civil Servant	Occupation: Retired Sergeant	
Address: Levent Houses, Özgürlük Street		No: 39
District: Ortaköy, Nicosia		
Date of Construction: 2001		Surface Area: 145m²
Pictures from the Exterior Environment		
		
Pictures from the Living Space		
		

<p>1. How many people live in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than 4</p>	<p>4. What type of spaces does your house have and what are their numbers?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entry Hall.... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living Space... (2)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen..... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bedroom..... (3)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bathroom..... (2)</p>
<p>2. List the title of those living in the house?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mother</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Father</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children (2)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adult</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Care worker</p>	<p>5. What home explanation is the most suitable for you? /What kind of home addresses to your family mostly?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A public place for family users</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A private place for family users</p>
<p>3. How many hours do you spent in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 5</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5- 10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 hours</p>	<p>6. How frequent do you gather with your friends or relatives in your home?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Never</p>

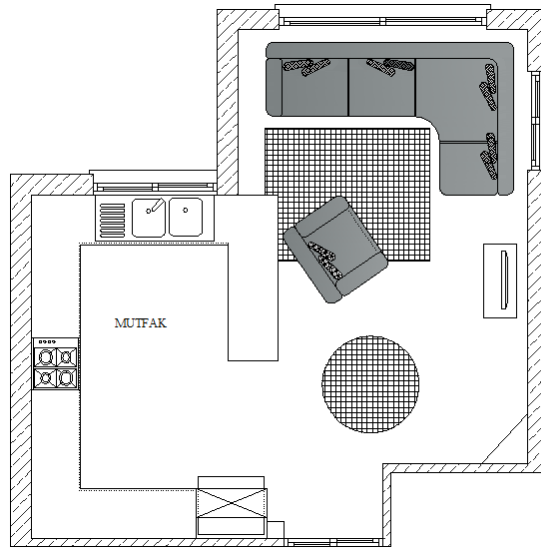
<p>7. Who takes decisions whilst decorating the interior of the house?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend <input type="checkbox"/> Him/Herself 	<p>9. Which space is in more frequent use by the family members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio
<p>8. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio 	<p>10. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in summer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patio

<p>11. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in winter?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Balcony/Patio</p>	<p>14. What is the main function of the living space?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A comfortable place for family members</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An entertaining place</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A place for conservation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A place for displaying art</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A place for relaxing</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A place for socializing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All of them</p>
<p>12. Which terms would you prefer to use while identifying the living space?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Intimate space- most private</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Personal space- allow their friends</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social space- all social contacts</p>	<p>15. Are pet(s) allowed in the living space?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>13. Which room integrates the living space?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dining room</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen room</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p>	<p>16. Is there any object defining a cultural relationship with the family members?</p> <p>If yes, what it is?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

<p>17. What types of items are included in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Television <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fireplace <input type="checkbox"/> Piano or other musical instruments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Books / Cds <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>20. What do you consider the most while opting for a soft furnishing for your living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Privacy and Interaction level with other people <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Security issues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainly the likes and wishes of the family members <input type="checkbox"/> Others
<p>18. Where is soft furnishing elements used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> At windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On floors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>21. What type of window covering is used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hard Covering
<p>19. Where has been soft furnishing elements used mainly in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> At windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On floors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>22. What is the type of floor covering used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rugs

<p>23. What are the soft furnishings used on furniture?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Table Linen <input type="checkbox"/> Accessories <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>26. Which elements convey cultural value in the living space for the users?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others...(Accessories) <input type="checkbox"/> None
<p>24. Which soft furnishing element has the most priority in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>27. Can you imagine your living space being furnished without the use of soft furnishings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>25. Which soft furnishings are mostly preferred to be altered by the family members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen 	<p>28. How is interior space affected by using soft furnishings in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> It affects the living space in a positive and good way <p>29. How is interior space affected without using soft furnishings in interior spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The space seem lifeless and dull

30. Layout soft furnishings in the living space



For window coverings (Curtains)



For floor coverings (Carpets, Rugs)



Upholstery



Cushion



Table Linen

Name: Cüferiye	
Surname: Cüfer	
Occupation: Retired	
Address: Hacı Ali Houses, Nal Street	No: 19
District: Yenikent, Nicosia	
Date of Construction: 2009	Surface Area: 170m²
Pictures from the Exterior Environment	
	
Pictures from the Living Space	
	

<p>1. How many people live in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than 4</p>	<p>4. What type of spaces does your house have and what are their numbers?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entry Hall.... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living Space... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen..... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bedroom..... (3)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bathroom..... (3)</p>
<p>2. List the title of those living in the house?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mother</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Father</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adult</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Care worker</p>	<p>5. What home explanation is the most suitable for you? /What kind of home addresses to your family mostly?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A public place for family users</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A private place for family users</p>
<p>3. How many hours do you spent in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5- 10</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> More than 10 hours</p>	<p>6. How frequent do you gather with your friends or relatives in your home?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Frequently</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never</p>

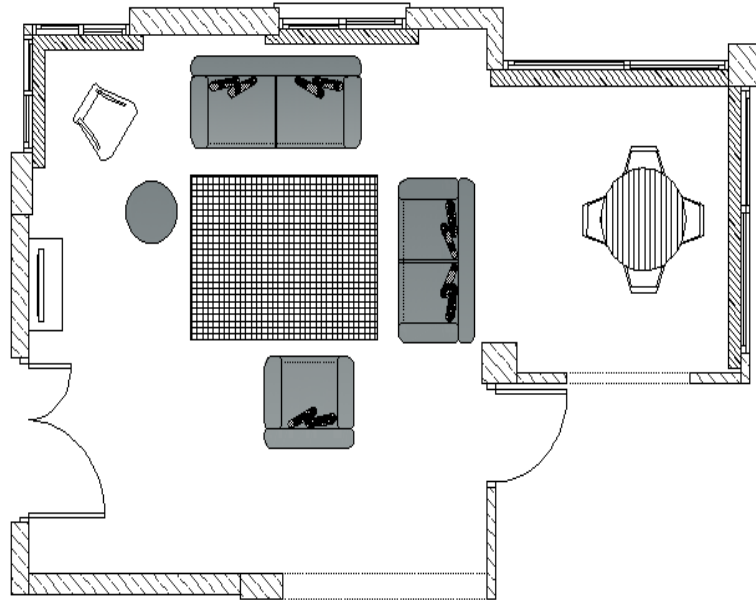
<p>7. Who takes decisions whilst decorating the interior of the house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mother</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Father</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Him/Herself</p>	<p>9. Which space is in more frequent use by the family members?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared with everyone</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared mainly with family members</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Balcony</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Patio</p>
<p>8. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared with everyone</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared mainly with family members</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Balcony</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Patio</p>	<p>10. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in summer?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Balcony</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Patio</p>

<p>11. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in winter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony/Patio 	<p>14. What is the main function of the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A comfortable place for family members <input type="checkbox"/> An entertaining place <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A place for conservation <input type="checkbox"/> A place for displaying art <input type="checkbox"/> A place for relaxing <input type="checkbox"/> A place for socializing <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> All of them
<p>12. Which terms would you prefer to use while identifying the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intimate space- most private <input type="checkbox"/> Personal space- allow their friends <input type="checkbox"/> Social space- all social contacts 	<p>15. Are pet(s) allowed in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>13. Which room integrates the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dining room <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen room <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> None 	<p>16. Is there any object defining a cultural relationship with the family members?</p> <p>If yes, what it is?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No

<p>17. What types of items are included in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Television <input type="checkbox"/> Fireplace <input type="checkbox"/> Musical instruments <input type="checkbox"/> Books / Cds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others...(Toys) 	<p>20. What do you consider the most while opting for a soft furnishing for your living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Privacy and Interaction level with other people <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Security issues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainly the likes and wishes of the family members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others...(Aesthetic)
<p>18. Where is soft furnishing elements used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On floors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>21. What type of window covering is used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Covering
<p>19. Where has been soft furnishing elements used mainly in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At windows <input type="checkbox"/> On floors <input type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>22. What is the type of floor covering used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rug

<p>23. What are the soft furnishings used on furniture?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Table Linen <input type="checkbox"/> Accessories <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others...(Coverings) 	<p>26. Which elements convey cultural value in the living space for the users?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None
<p>24. Which soft furnishing element has the most priority in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>27. Can you imagine your living space being furnished without the use of soft furnishings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>25. Which soft furnishings are mostly preferred to be altered by the family members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen 	<p>28. How is interior space affected by using soft furnishings in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Soft furnishings give a warmth to a living environment <p>29. How is interior space affected without using soft furnishings in interior spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The interior space lose its meaning

30. Layout soft furnishings in the living space



For window coverings (Curtains)



For floor coverings (Carpets, Rugs)



Upholstery



Cushion



Table Linen

Name: Helin	
Surname: Akhan	
Occupation: Housewife	
Address: Hacı Ali Apartments, Fidan Street	No: Apt.34- Flat 1
District: Yenikent, Nicosia	
Date of Construction: 2009	Surface Area: 130m²
Pictures from the Exterior Environment	



Pictures from the Living Space



<p>1. How many people live in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than 4</p>	<p>4. What type of spaces does your house have and what are their numbers?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entry Hall.... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living Space... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen..... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bedroom..... (3)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bathroom..... (2)</p>
<p>2. List the title of those living in the house?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mother</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Father</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Children</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adult</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Care worker</p>	<p>5. What home explanation is the most suitable for you? /What kind of home addresses to your family mostly?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A public place for family users</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A private place for family users</p>
<p>3. How many hours do you spent in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5- 10</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> More than 10 hours</p>	<p>6. How frequent do you gather with your friends or relatives in your home?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Never</p>

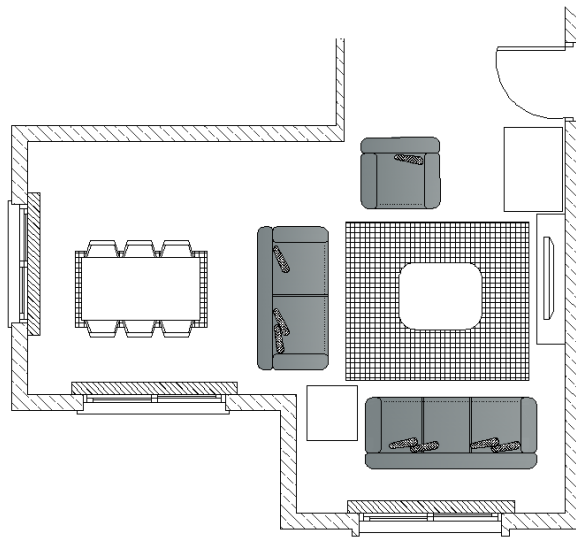
<p>7. Who takes decisions whilst decorating the interior of the house?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend <input type="checkbox"/> Him/Herself 	<p>9. Which space is in more frequent use by the family members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio
<p>8. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio 	<p>10. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in summer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio

<p>11. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in winter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony/Patio 	<p>14. What is the main function of the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A comfortable place for family members <input type="checkbox"/> An entertaining place <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A place for conservation <input type="checkbox"/> A place for displaying art <input type="checkbox"/> A place for relaxing <input type="checkbox"/> A place for socializing <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> All of them
<p>12. Which terms would you prefer to use while identifying the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Intimate space- most private <input type="checkbox"/> Personal space- allow their friends <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social space- all social contacts 	<p>15. Are pet(s) allowed in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>13. Which room integrates the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dining room <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen room <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> None 	<p>16. Is there any object defining a cultural relationship with the family members?</p> <p>If yes, what it is?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No

<p>17. What types of items are included in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Television <input type="checkbox"/> Fireplace <input type="checkbox"/> Musical instrument(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Books / Cds <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>20. What do you consider the most while opting for a soft furnishing for your living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Privacy and Interaction level with other people <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Security issues <input type="checkbox"/> Mainly the likes and wishes of the family members <input type="checkbox"/> Others
<p>18. Where is soft furnishing elements used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On floors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>21. What type of window covering is used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Covering
<p>19. Where has been soft furnishing elements used mainly in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On floors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>22. What is the type of floor covering used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rug

<p>23. What are the soft furnishings used on furniture?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Table Linen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessories <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>26. Which elements convey cultural value in the living space for the users?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None
<p>24. Which soft furnishing element has the most priority in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>27. Can you imagine your living space being furnished without the use of soft furnishings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>25. Which soft furnishings are mostly preferred to be altered by the family members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen 	<p>28. How is interior space affected by using soft furnishings in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Soft furnishings give meaning to an interior space <p>29. How is interior space affected without using soft furnishings in interior spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The space seem empty and furniture become useless

30. Layout soft furnishings in the living space



For window coverings (Curtains)



For floor coverings (Carpets, Rugs)



Upholstery



Cushion



Table Linen

Name: Özer	
Surname: Mustafa	
Occupation: Retired	
Address: Kayıp Street, Levent Apartments	No: Apt.2- Flat 2
District: Gönyeli, Nicosia	
Date of Construction: 2008	Surface Area: 127.5m²

Pictures from the Exterior Environment



Pictures from the Living Space



<p>1. How many people live in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than 4</p>	<p>4. What type of spaces does your house have and what are their numbers?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entry Hall.... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living Space... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen..... (1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bedroom..... (3)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bathroom..... (2)</p>
<p>2. List the title of those living in the house?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mother</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Father</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Children</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adult</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Care worker</p>	<p>5. What home explanation is the most suitable for you? /What kind of home addresses to your family mostly?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A public place for family users</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A private place for family users</p>
<p>3. How many hours do you spent in your house?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5- 10</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> More than 10 hours</p>	<p>6. How frequent do you gather with your friends or relatives in your home?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Never</p>

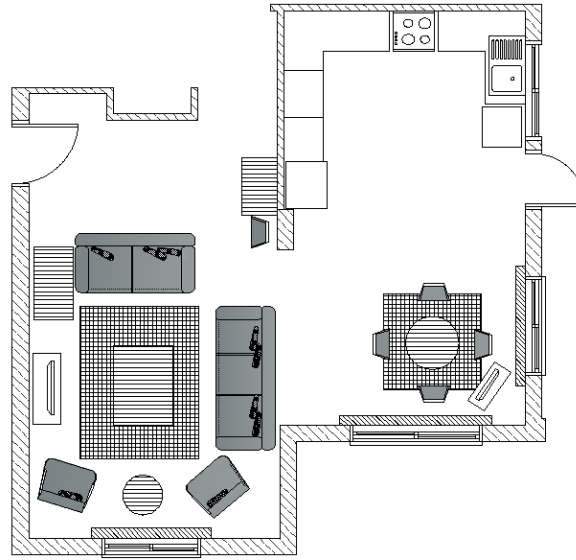
<p>7. Who takes decisions whilst decorating the interior of the house?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Girlfriend <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend <input type="checkbox"/> Him/Herself 	<p>9. Which space is in more frequent use by the family members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space that shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio
<p>8. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio 	<p>10. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in summer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> Patio

<p>11. Which space do you prefer the most to pass your time in winter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Living space shared with everyone <input type="checkbox"/> Living space shared mainly with family members <input type="checkbox"/> Bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Balcony/Patio 	<p>14. What is the main function of the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A comfortable place for family members <input type="checkbox"/> An entertaining place <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A place for conservation <input type="checkbox"/> A place for displaying art <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A place for relaxing <input type="checkbox"/> A place for socializing <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> All of them
<p>12. Which terms would you prefer to use while identifying the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Intimate space- most private <input type="checkbox"/> Personal space- allow their friends <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social space- all social contacts 	<p>15. Are pet(s) allowed in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>13. Which room integrates the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dining room <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen room <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> None 	<p>16. Is there any object defining a cultural relationship with the family members? If yes, what it is?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Accessories)

<p>17. What types of items are included in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Television <input type="checkbox"/> Fireplace <input type="checkbox"/> Musical instrument(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Books / Cds <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>20. What do you consider the most while opting for a soft furnishing for your living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Privacy and Interaction level with other people <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Security issues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainly the likes and wishes of the family members <input type="checkbox"/> Others
<p>18. Where is soft furnishing elements used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On floors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>21. What type of window covering is used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Covering
<p>19. Where has been soft furnishing elements used mainly in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On floors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On furniture 	<p>22. What is the type of floor covering used in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rug

<p>23. What are the soft furnishings used on furniture?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Table Linen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessories <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>26. Which elements convey cultural value in the living space for the users?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> None
<p>24. Which soft furnishing element has the most priority in the living space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen <input type="checkbox"/> Others 	<p>27. Can you imagine your living space being furnished without the use of soft furnishings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>25. Which soft furnishings are mostly preferred to be altered by the family members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cushions <input type="checkbox"/> Upholstery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft Window Coverings (Curtains) <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Floor Coverings (Carpets, Rugs) <input type="checkbox"/> Table linen 	<p>28. How is interior space affected by using soft furnishings in living spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> They addresses to a person feelings and reflected by used soft furnishings <p>29. How is interior space affected without using soft furnishings in interior spaces?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The space is not going to be a living space

30. Layout soft furnishings in the living space



For window coverings (Curtains)



For floor coverings (Carpets, Rugs)



Upholstery



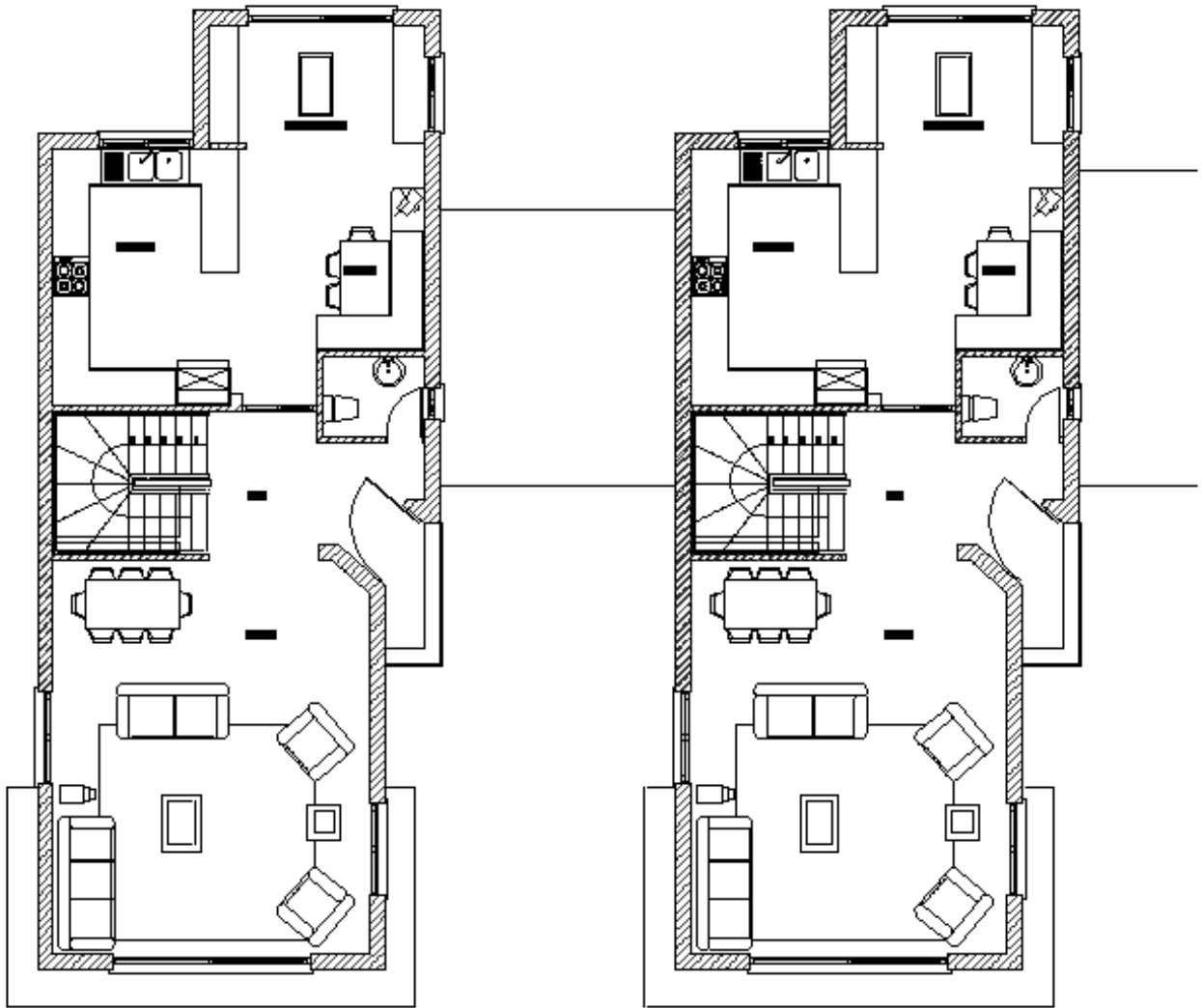
Cushion



Table Linen

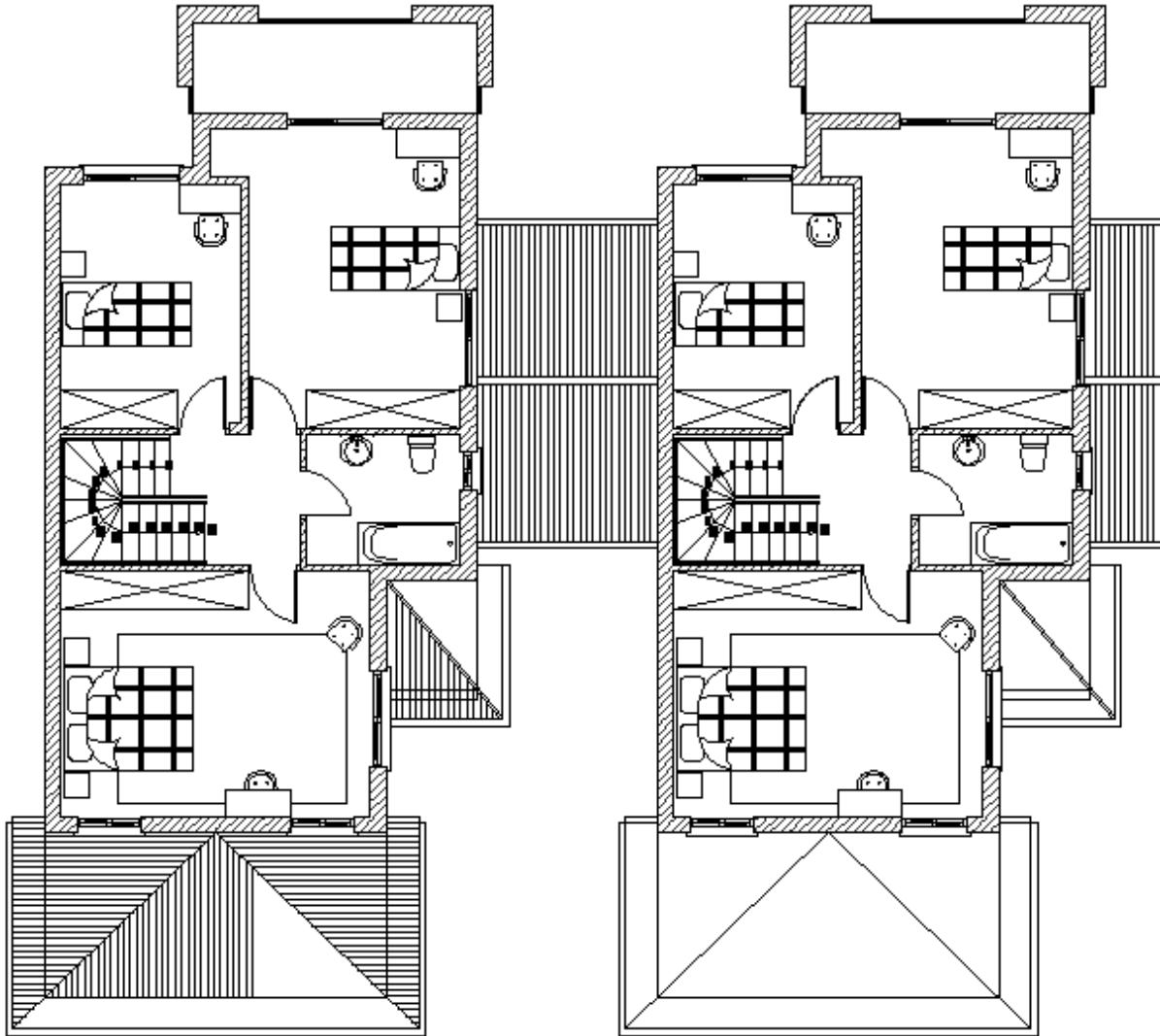
Appendix B

Levent Houses



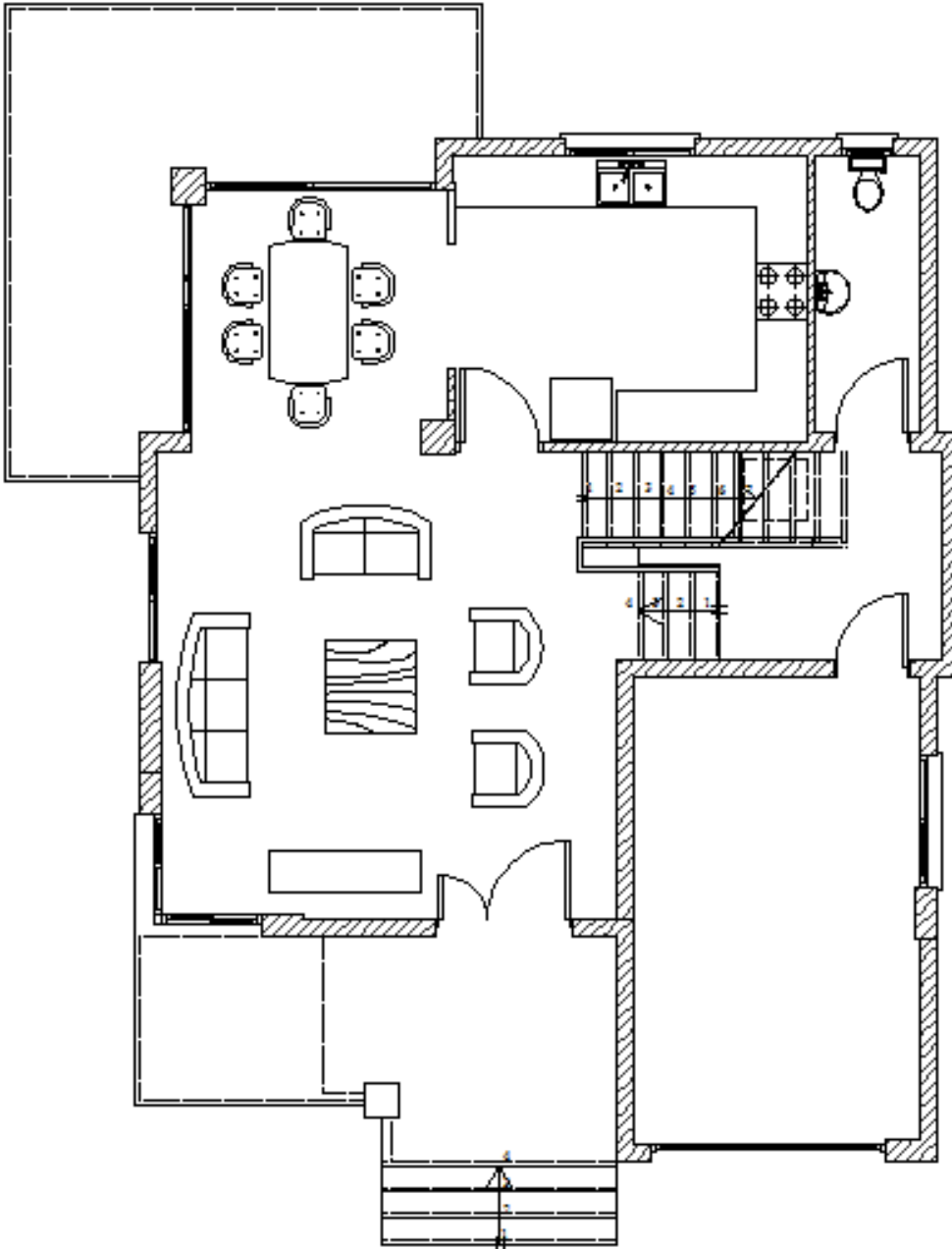
Ground Level Plan

Levent Houses



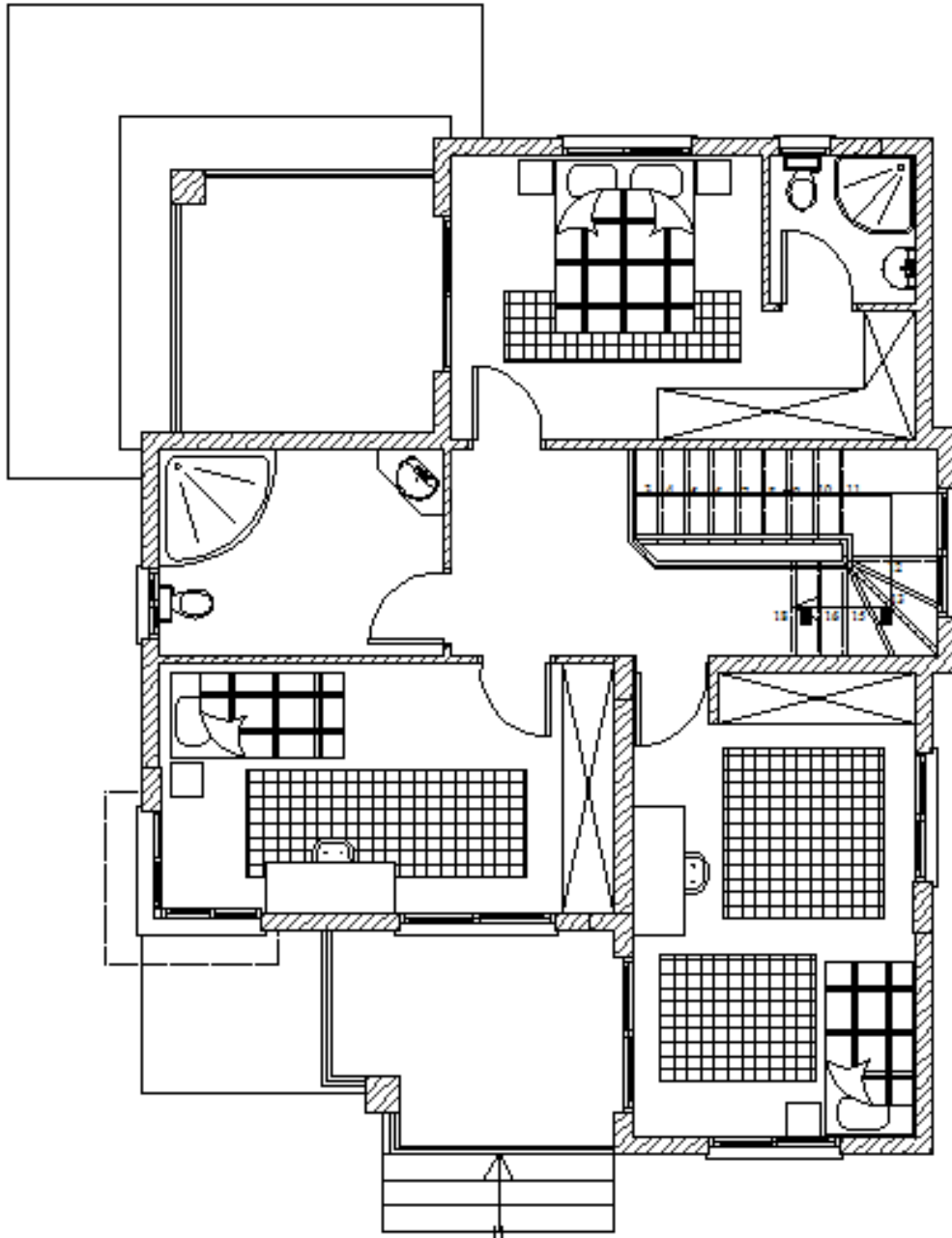
First Level Plan

Hacı Ali House



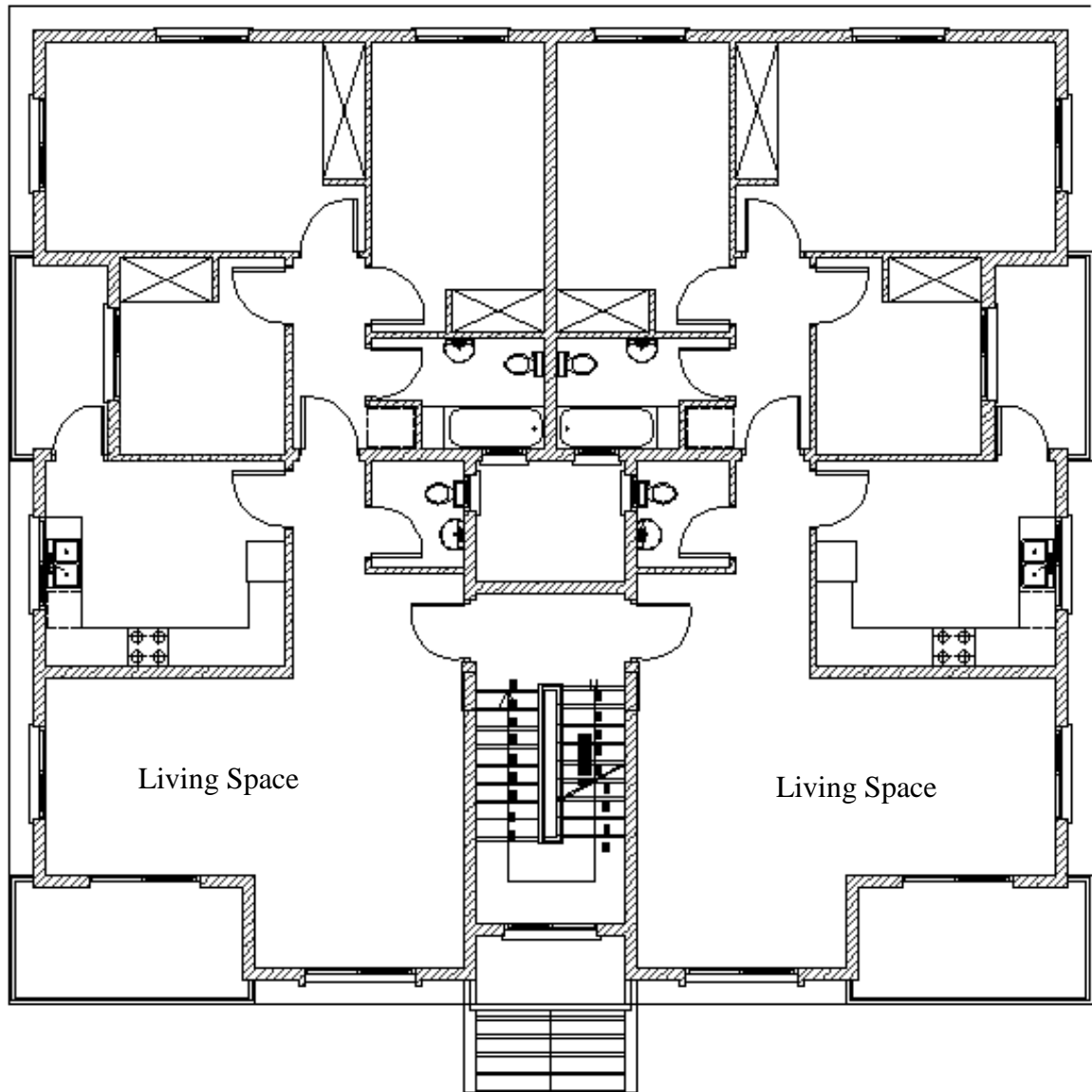
Ground Level Plan

Hacı Ali House



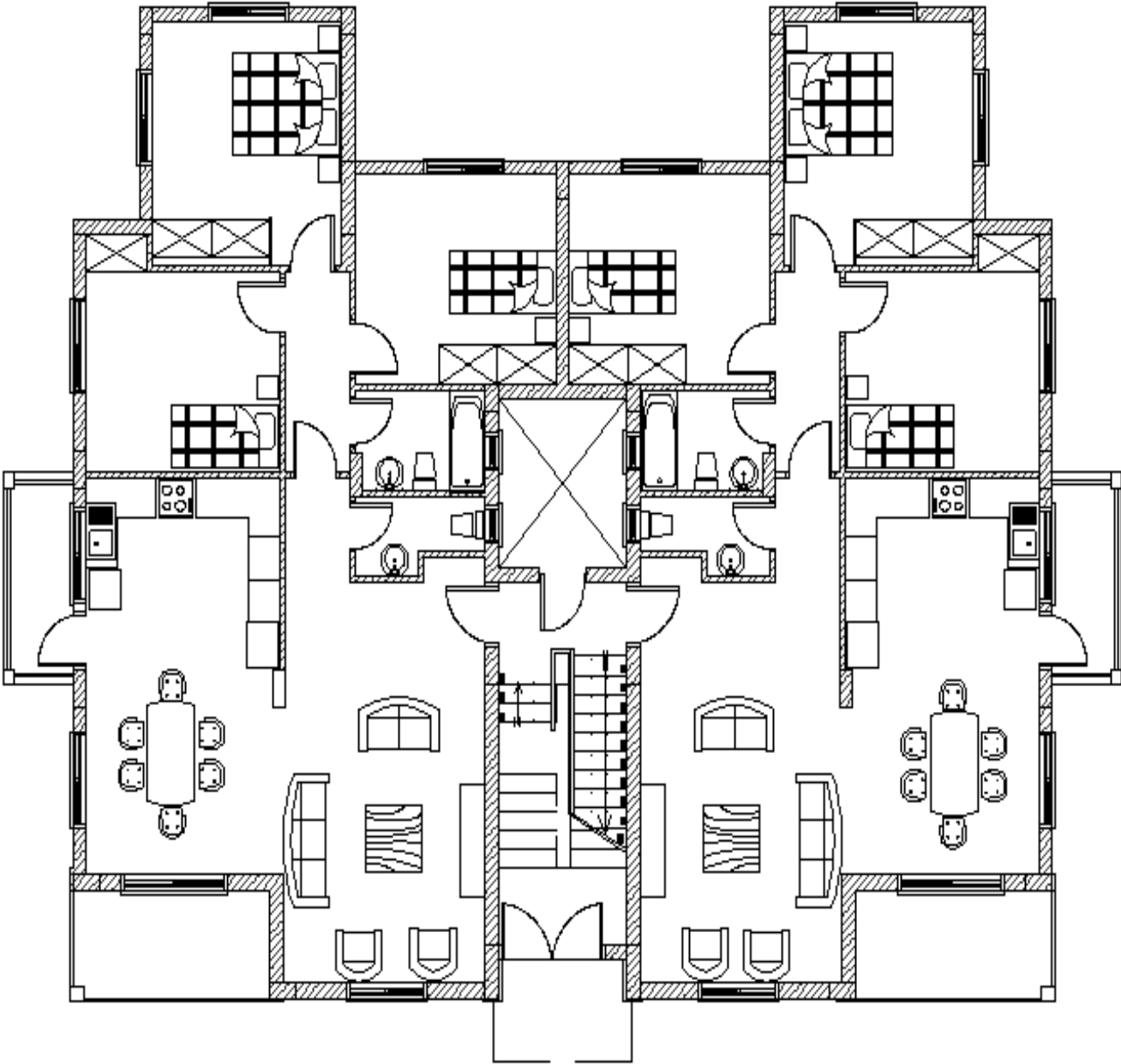
First Level Plan

Hacı Ali Apartment



Ground Level Plan

Levent Apartment



Ground Level Plan