PRACTICAL GUIDE / SEPTEMBER 2026

Guide to construction drawings

From sketch and floor plan to structural detail.

Start with title and revision

Check the address, drawing number, stage and date. Read the legend and stated reference level. Drawings from different design stages may contradict each other.

Combine the views

A floor plan shows the horizontal layout, a section the heights and build-up, and an elevation the exterior. Details show individual connections at a larger scale.

Prepare for your project

[ ]	Address and drawing number
[ ]	Phase and revision
[ ]	Dimensions and level
[ ]	Legend and references to details

This guide helps you gather relevant information and questions. Assessment and design are tailored to your building and assignment.

YOUR PROJECT WORKSHEET

Turn understanding into agreements

Use this worksheet when speaking with your designer, structural engineer or contractor. Record unknown information as an open item.

Topic	Your note / agreement
Existing situation drawings	
Proposed new situation	
Revision and date	
Dimensions and level	
Missing details	
Agreed drawing scope	

Agree points of contact

A joint plan requires a clear point of contact per discipline. Record who collects design changes and how technical questions get to the right party.

Further reading and discussing your project

Read construction drawings

Coordinate architect, structural engineer and contractor