DESIRED CHARACTERISTICS
OF A COMPACT LIVING FROM
THE PERSPECTIVE OF
ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

SHAFIZAL MAAROF, ROSLINA SHARIF
AND ABD RAHIM MOHD ZIN
With the current economic situation, a compact living is beginning to be favourable to the low and middle income group which mostly comprises of young professionals, new couples or family. Designing a compact living can be very challenging especially in organizing the required basic spaces within the area and volume given. Getting new perspectives from the younger generation on the desired characteristics of a compact living are necessary in order to produce innovative designs. A project was assigned to the First Year Architecture students to design a compact living for a well-known personality. The designs produced were observed and analysed to determine the desired characteristics of the spaces provided by the designers for the compact living. From the observation and analysis, it can be concluded that in many cases, a closer attention was given by the designers to issue such as the design of multi-functional spaces, privacy and the interaction between the indoor and outdoor space. Interlocking spaces of spatial relationships were frequently utilized in the designs as the approach permits closer relationships from spaces to spaces either indoor to indoor or indoor to outdoor. This approach also allows flexibility in assigning the functions for the rooms. The exhibited works showcase the examples of the designs and a concept model based on the observation and analysis.