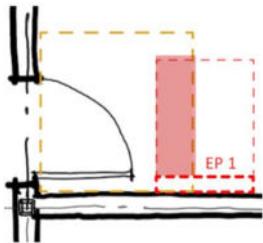


ENGLISH TIP

[link to video lesson](#)

Describing Spatial Conflicts in Design Coordination



Key Points

When elements on a plan don't **meet code requirements** or interfere with **required clearances**, you need to describe these problems clearly to your team. Understanding how to talk about **spatial conflicts** helps you coordinate changes efficiently.

Summary

Three Ways to Describe Spatial Conflicts

1. Impact (affects a space or layout)

Use **impact** when something affects or influences a required clearance or space.

Pattern: [Element] impacts [the clearance/space/layout]

"The location of EP1 impacts the clearance in front of the door"

"The column location impacts the corridor width"

2. Conflict (verb) with a requirement

Use **conflicts with** when an element violates or doesn't meet a requirement. This emphasizes that there's a problem that needs fixing.

Pattern: [Element] conflicts with [the required + noun]

"EP1 conflicts with the required door clearance"

"The beam depth conflicts with the ceiling height requirement"

**** Pronunciation note:** As a **verb**, stress the second syllable: **con-FLICT**



3. Conflict (noun) between two things

Use **conflict** as a noun when you want to state that a problem exists between two elements or requirements.

Pattern: There's a conflict between [element] and [requirement]

"There's a conflict between EP1 and the required door clearance"

"There's a conflict between the duct size and the ceiling height"

**** Pronunciation note:** As a **noun**, stress the first syllable: **CON-flict**

More expressions

Here are some related expressions professionals use when discussing spatial conflicts:

Encroach on/upon:

When something extends into a required space or clearance zone:

"The column encroaches on the accessible route"

"The ductwork encroaches upon the required ceiling height"

Overlap with:

When two clearances or spaces occupy the same area (sometimes acceptable, sometimes not):

"The door swing overlaps with the required wheelchair clearance"

"These two clearance zones can overlap without issues"

Reduce:

When something makes a dimension smaller than required:

"The wall offset reduces the corridor width"

"This change reduces the clearance to less than minimum"

Describing severity:

"This is a minor conflict" (small adjustment needed)

"This is a significant conflict" (major redesign needed)

"This violates the building code" (must be fixed)

Problem + solution language:

"The panel placement conflicts with door clearance, so we need to relocate it"

"There's a conflict between the beam and the ceiling, but we can raise the slab"



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PRACTICE ACTIVITY

PART 1: Dialogue Completion

Word bank

and

between

clearance

conflicts with

impact

relocate

required

Architect: Hi, Dana. I'm checking the basement plan and found a problem.

Engineer: What's wrong?

Architect: The pump room door _____ 1 the _____ 2 egress width.

Engineer: Understood. How badly does it _____ 3 the exit path?

Architect: Its actually a code violation. There's a conflict _____ 4 the door swing _____ 5 the emergency route.

Engineer: Okay—can we _____ 6 the door to the south wall?

Architect: Yes. That will restore the _____ 7 we need. I'll update the layout now.



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Answer Key – Dialogue Completion

1. conflicts with
2. required
3. impact
4. between
5. and
6. relocate
7. clearance