

## Media Release

Architects Atelier Red+Black are excited to announce their latest initiative to research the experiences and opinions of the general public with regards to the built environment.

Every day architects across Australia are designing the next generation of buildings for our cities, suburbs and towns. Whilst these buildings are being designed for everyone to use and hopefully love, a large question remains over what people like and dislike about their current buildings. Are they the right size? Are they functional? What functions do they perform well and how can they be improved?

Atelier Red + Black aim to answer those questions and more through a new dedicated website [RateMyBuilding.com.au](http://RateMyBuilding.com.au). The website invites people to rate their home or office by completing a five-minute online questionnaire. To begin with there are four different building types to be rated - House, Townhouse, Apartment and Office. It is hoped that as the project develops further surveys will be included on the site.

Whilst it is too early to draw specific conclusions about what the research will find, from the initial data received over half of the respondents found their house size to be either too big or small for their needs. In offices, a large percentage of the initial respondents are unsure about the availability of important Health and Safety equipment such as first aid kits and defibrillators. Further responses will be required to determine if this is statistically significant, however the examples highlight the value of undertaking such research.

“Architects are always concerned with how occupants will use their buildings. This research will shed further light on what is working and what isn’t. This can then enable us to design better performing buildings that actively respond to the end user requirements.”

Sonia Sarangi, Co-Director of Atelier Red + Black

Once sufficient responses are collected and the data analysed, Atelier Red+Black hope to share the insights of the project with architects across Australia in a bid to improve future buildings and make them more responsive to the needs of the end user.

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### **About Atelier Red + Black**

Atelier Red + Black is a small architecture practice with big ideas. Excellent architecture and design should be available for the wider community to enjoy. From the smallest of fit outs to the largest urban schemes, architecture and design are critical to enriching people's lives.

Based in Fitzroy, Atelier Red + Black undertakes a range of projects from the inner city to the outer fringes of Melbourne.

Architecture is for Everyone