

# Path, theme and narrative in open plan exhibition settings

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## Abstract

Three arguments are made based on the analysis of science exhibitions. First, sufficiently refined techniques of spatial analysis allow us to model the impact of layout upon visitors' paths, even in moderately sized open plans which allow almost random patterns of movement and relatively unobstructed visibility. Second, newly developed or adapted techniques of analysis allow us to make a transition from modeling the mechanics of spatial movement (the way in which movement is affected by the distribution of obstacles and boundaries), to modeling the manner in which movement might register additional aspects of visual information. Third, the advantages of such purely spatial modes of analysis extend into providing us with a sharper understanding of some of the pragmatic constraints within which exhibition content is conceived and designed.

## Keywords

museum exhibition,  
spatial layout, path,  
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