DAY 4 ORNAMENTATION
**ORNAMENTATION**

*Ornamentation* is another word for “decoration.” A building’s ornamentation does not help a building stand up but works to make the building more beautiful.

*Symmetry* is the pleasing arrangement of similar parts facing each other or around an axis.

A building that emphasizes its *verticality*, emphasizes its height.

A *façade* is the building’s “face,” the front it shows to the world.

The *built environment* refers to anything and everything around us that is human-made, and that facilitate human activities (learning, shopping, driving, etc.).
Architects and engineers use a variety of building materials with different properties and different functions. Here are a few of the most popular:

- **Steel** is a metal alloy of iron and carbon, with a carbon content of up to 2%!
- **Glass** has been around for a long time as a decorative material, but as a building material it’s used for its **luster** (shine), **transparency**, and **durability**.
- Concrete is made of cement, water, and **aggregate** (sand, gravel, etc.).
- **Concrete** is a strong material and it can be molded and cured into a specific shape.
- **Terra cotta** (Italian for “baked earth”) is a material made from moist clays that are baked at high temperatures. Like concrete, this flexible material can be molded into a variety of shapes and glazed different colors.
Today, you continue work on Step 4 of the Design Process, *Build a model*. On Day 3, you got a feel for *massing*, working to understand how 3D shapes can come together to make up a larger, less regular shape.

*Massing models* are important for getting a feel for the overall shape of the building, but they lack detail. You’ll fill in the details for your building’s *façade* today, but first it might be helpful to understand the materials that you can find in your *built environment*, which describes anything that we interact with that was designed and built for people.
Taking care to keep a safe distance from other people, look outside your window, look from your porch or balcony, or go for a walk around the block. Make a list of the materials you might see around you.

• Do you see glass? Where is it most common? What makes it important?
• Where would you find concrete? Is it a strong or weak material?
• Is there steel anywhere around you? Any other metal?
• What other materials do you see? Why might we use some materials over others?
Do you see any sort of ornamentation on the buildings around you?

What buildings do you like? Which ones would you change?

Take notes during your scavenger hunt, and keep them close as you continue your building challenge for Day 4.
STEP 4: BUILD A MODEL

Step 4 of the Design Process is build a model! You started building the overall shape of your design on Day 3, but today you will decide the materials and the design of any ornamentation on your residential building.

Refer to the building styles you saw on Day 2. Which of these might fit your building design the best?

- The symmetry of Beaux-Arts buildings?
- The verticality of Art Deco?
- The Modern building and its plain, regular façade?
STEP 4: BUILD A MODEL

Your massing model should be dry by Day 4.

On a piece of construction paper, trace each side of your model separately.

- These pieces of paper will form the building’s faces. After tracing each side, draw the windows, entrances, and any other opening on your building. Think about ways you would want to decorate your building and draw ornamentation you want for your building. This ornamentation will be important to forming your building’s identity and it will affect how people will perceive it.

Think hard about the buildings you’ve liked so far.

- What did you like about them?
- How about the buildings you didn’t like? What parts did you dislike?
STEP 4: BUILD A MODEL

Once you’ve thought about your building’s identity, take your time and draw the details for each face.

• Now it’s time to add these detailed exteriors to your model. Add glue or tape to your existing model and apply the building faces and ornamentation to it carefully. At this point, you’ve completed Step 4 of the Design Process and are ready to move on.

On Day 5, you will complete the last two steps of the Design Process, and have your completed design ready to show off!