

# TRENDS IN THE WORKPLACE

Do you know what your office's employees really want for the future of your workplace?

CORT and Work Design Magazine recently fielded a survey asking readers to tell us about their office. As you plan for your office's future, consider asking similar questions or otherwise soliciting feedback. Today's workplace has come a long way but as you'll see, your employees likely think there is still room for improvement.

## About the respondents' workplaces:



\*Mix of open/traditional or work from home.

Respondents in traditional offices cited outdated furnishings/design as the biggest challenge of their layout and expressed a desire for new office furniture and accessories. More collaborative space was the top request, with 63% selecting it as the thing they'd most like to change in an office redesign.

There is **little collaboration** happening in our offices because of lack of in-between space. ”

Respondents in open offices, on the other hand, were most challenged by noise levels. While appreciating the collaborative nature of their space, they expressed a desire for more “phone booths” and small breakout rooms as well as white noise or other noise management. Open office workers also made it clear that one size does not fit all. Their top office redesign request was for more diversity in the types of workstations they have access to, specifically calling out ergonomic options such as adjustable-height desks.

Although I like the open plan concept for collaboration, we **do not have enough private heads-down areas** for work that requires concentration or quiet. ”

No matter the type of office they were in, survey respondents also reiterated the importance of a few elements that can make a huge difference in their overall workplace satisfaction:

- Natural light and windows
- Workstations that accommodate their technology
- Easy access to pin-up space, whiteboards and other tools of collaboration

Whether you are managing a traditional or open office design, supporting employees' needs for both “me space” and “we space” is important. According to our survey respondents, finding the right balance may actually be the key to unlocking the workplace of the future.

## CORT

CORT offers rental solutions to help optimize your space, based on your business goals and balanced by your financial realities. Connect with us to learn how we can help create interactive spaces in your office. Call **1.888.360.2678** or visit **cort.com/workplace** for more information.

## WORK DESIGN MAGAZINE

Work Design Magazine focuses on the issues shaping the workplace. The magazine provides unbiased information on new ideas, products, and projects that influence the workplace and how people work. For articles about workplace culture, productivity, and design visit **workdesign.co**.