

Apse- semicircular or polygonal recess in a church, usually containing the altar

Barrel Vault- a vault forming a half cylinder

Basilica- rectangular building with a central open space, often with an apse opposite the entrance; often used as a courthouse in the Roman period

Capital- uppermost part of a column, the part of the column upon which the roof rests

Central Plan- building where sides are of equal length and the main space is symmetrical; can be square, circular, or polygonal

Coffer- a recessed panel in a ceiling

Column Shaft- cylinder that makes up the body of the column

Contrapposto- asymmetrical arrangement of the human figure in which the line of the arms and shoulders contrasts with, while balancing, those of the hips and legs

Drum- circular or polygonal wall supporting a dome

Fluting- grooves on a column shaft

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Frieze- broad horizontal band of sculpted or painted decoration, especially on a wall near the ceiling

Iconoclasm- destruction of images

Keystone- central stone at the summit of an arch that locks the structure in place

Kouros- an archaic Greek statue of a young man, standing and often nude

Longitudinal Plan- a structure designed with a rectangular shape

Metope- square space in between triglyphs in a frieze, often decorated with sculpture

Nave- the central part of a church building

Oculus- a round opening, esp. in a ceiling

Pediment- the triangular upper part of the front of a building in a classical style, typically surmounting a portico of columns

Pendentive- curved triangle of vaulting formed by the intersection of a dome with its supporting arches

Rotunda- round building or room, usually with a dome

Stylobate- continuous base supporting a row of columns in classical Greek architecture

Transept- in a cross-shaped church, either of the 2 parts forming the arms of the cross shape, projecting at right angles from the nave and separating the apse from the nave

Triglyph- part of a frieze of a building that alternates with metopes

Verism- extreme or strict, often exaggerated, naturalism

Vousoir- wedge-shaped or tapered stone used to construct an arch

Wet Drapery- exaggerated drapery of clothing that clings to the body and appears transparent