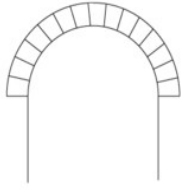
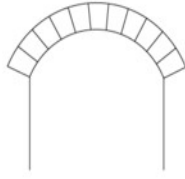


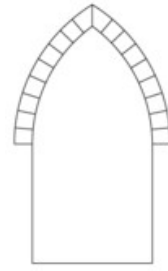
Arches and Columns



Round or semi-circular arch

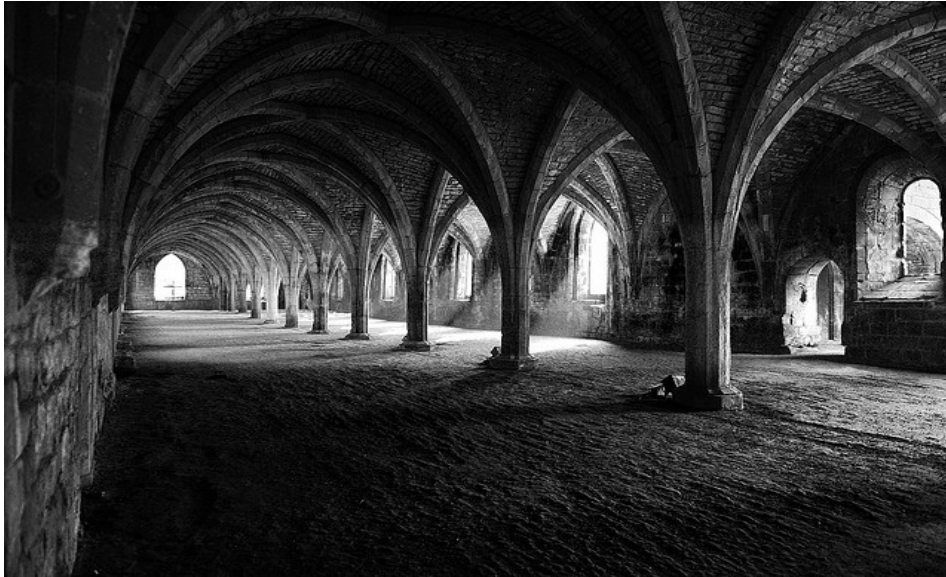


Segmental or arch that is less than a semicircle

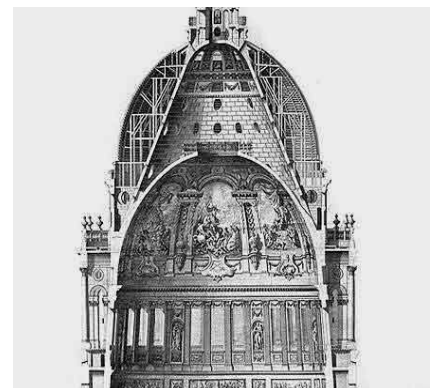


Lancet or pointed arch

There are many different types of arch but these are the ones most commonly found. The object, apart from just looking nice which they do, is to strengthen the masonry above.



A vaulted ceiling, the entire span supported by a series of columns and arches.



The dome. A semi-circular series of arches completes the finished dome, the cone-shaped interior on the right supports the structure on the top which would otherwise fall straight through.



The portico, found on either end of or at an entrance to a building. Usually sitting on a plinth, always with an even number columns never odd and with a pediment mounted on the top.



This frontage of this building takes on the same lines as a portico. An even number of columns with an odd number of bays allowing for a centrally positioned main door.

Talking about architecture in such precise detail may be seen by some as being overly critical to just plain stuffy. But by having a clearer understanding of just a few of the basics I've covered here, we can then begin to look at buildings in a different light, perhaps appreciate them more than we do, but more importantly it gives us a language of how we might criticise the junk that's being foisted upon us. Rather than saying we don't like it we can say why we don't like it. There's a great deal of good reading on the subject some of which I'll give at a later date.

