

## Form and Function

Long Back Louis Sullivan said, 'form follows function.' This was in the context of 'Art Nouveau' background where every part of a building and anything built outside had curves! It was curves and curves! We only have to look at Antoni Gaudi's Casa Batllo building in Barcelona to see the manifestation.

When it comes to bamboo craft, I have been saying Function follows Form! A beautiful basket, makes you find a function! The word Function frequently used by engineers refers to utility or a physical purpose! Seen in the context of ever day life, function gets linked to a need! You are thirsty. You need to drink water. You use a glass to drink so the function of glass or tumbler becomes its function. The 'drinking glass' need not be in glass, it could be made out of steel or plastic. When a 'glass as a material' is linked in its semantics, to say 'it is an object to drink', has simple connection. We could even call it 'honest connection'. Now glasses can be in variety of contexts like wine glass, beer glass, ...etc. These glasses acquire a new function in addition to its basic function. This is where 'Engineering' which considers mere utility as function, falls short. Design comes into picture.

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