

Karsten Pålsson

**Urban Block Cities** 10 Design Principles for Contemporary Planning

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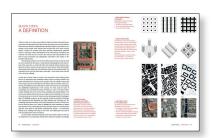
## **Urban Block Cities**

## 10 Design Principles for Contemporary Planning

Dense, organic cities with interconnected building structures and easily accessed common urban spaces. Cities that offer variety, vibrancy and architectural qualities that tempt people to go exploring on foot or by bike. Cities that have a sense of openness, make people feel safe and create opportunities for conversations in public spaces. Cities that are rooted in tradition and a respect for cultural heritage.

This book points to urban blocks as the structure best suited to promoting sustainable building developments and cities. Its first part presents some urban qualities that have evolved from the urban block as a fundamental, flexible element. These examples have been selected from European block cities as well as from old and new urban districts in Copenhagen. The second part outlines the elements of the urban block city and its potential, proposing 10 principles that underpin an action-oriented platform for transforming older urban districts or planning new ones.

Karsten Pålsson, an architect for 40 years, began his career in regional, local and neighborhood-based planning. For the past 35 years, he has run his own architectural firm, which specializes in urban renewal, infill construction, maintenance planning and the transformation of residential blocks and other buildings. Pålsson has advised the Danish Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on urban renewal projects and the Danish Ministry for the Environment on the conservation of historic buildings and holistic solutions.









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