



Copyright



Trademark



Patent



Legal  
Obligations



Ethical  
Obligations

Legal factors cover the legal and ethical obligations of a designer, they govern their practice and in the design solutions.

# Legal Factors

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for further information

Legal Factors



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Patent

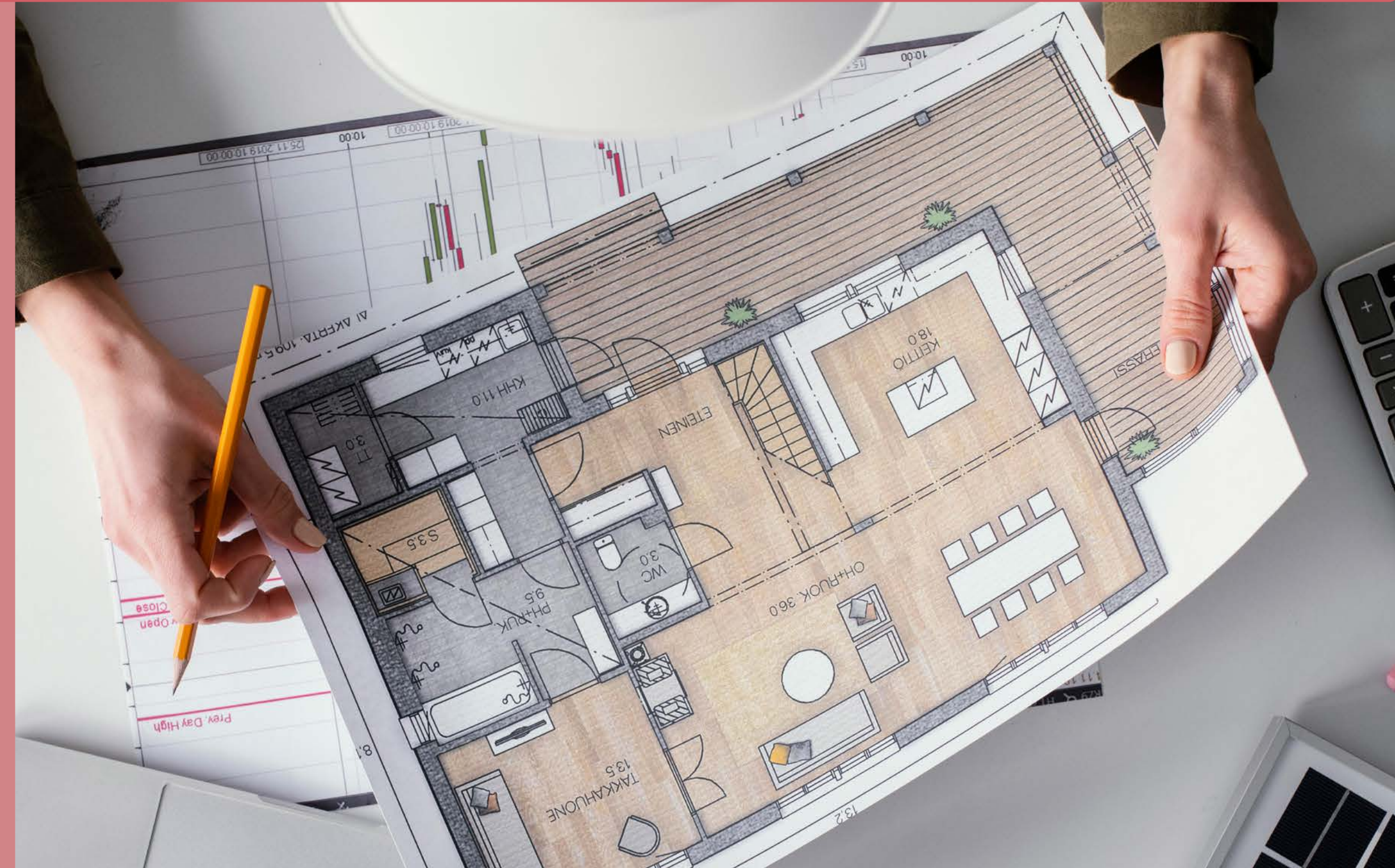


Legal  
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Copyright is automatically granted to any completed design. It protects the designer from having their design directly copied.



These architectural plans are automatically protected by copyright once they are created.



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Trademark



Patent

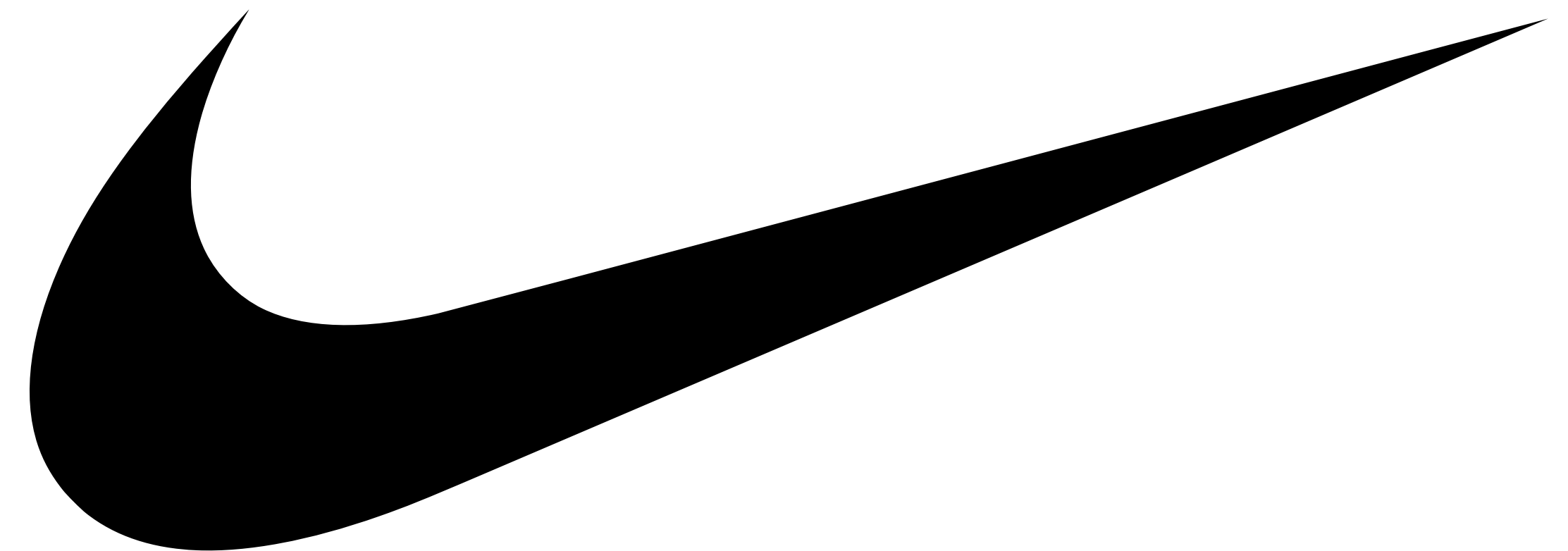


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Trademark is a form of Design Registration, it protects companies and brands from other brands emulating their product or impying a connection with and leveraging their brand identity.



The Nike Swoosh is protected by a trademark, which means only Nike is allowed to use the symbol to promote or sell its products.



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Patent

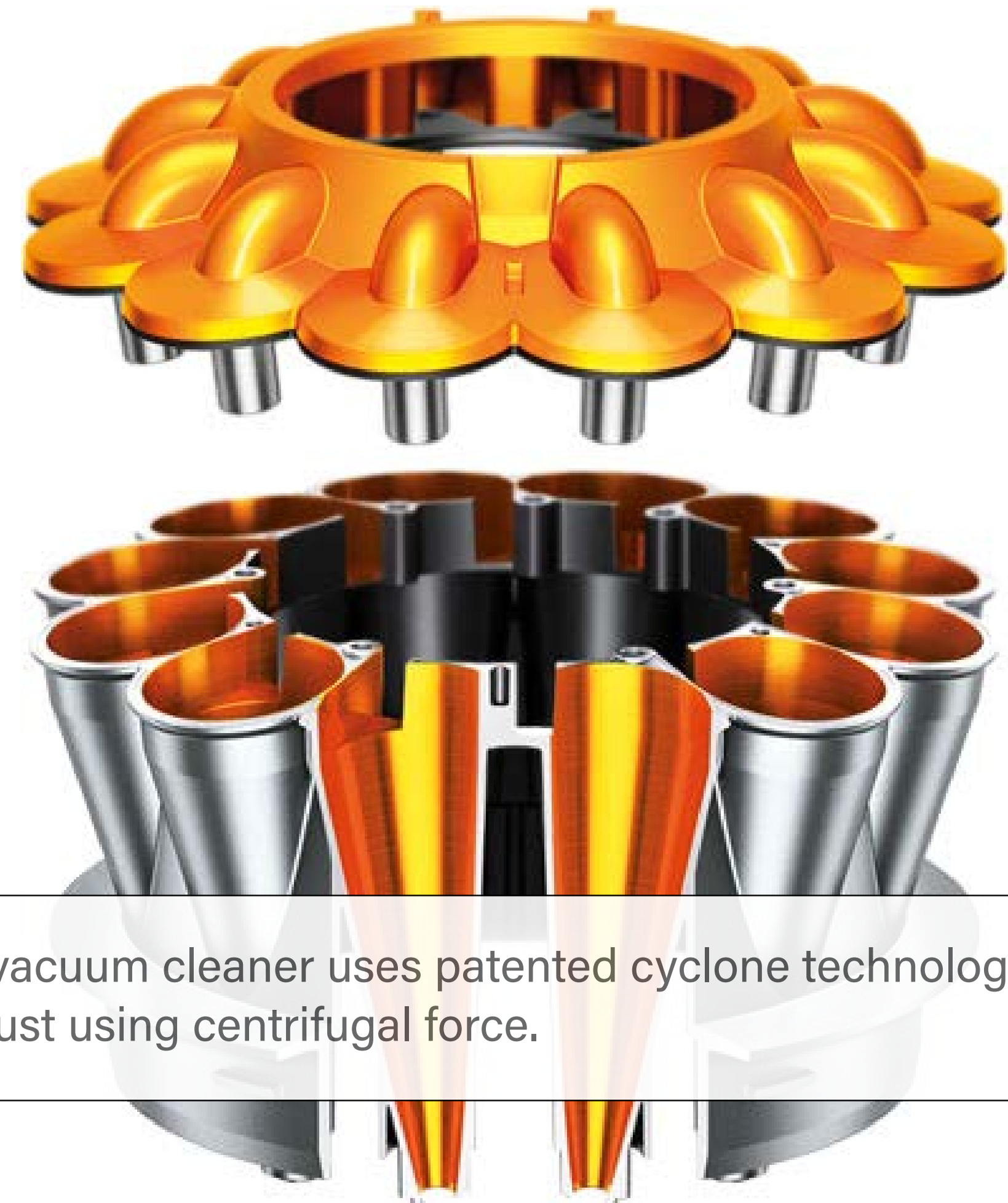


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Patents are another form of design registration. It protects Object Designers when they create a new and useful feature for an object.



The Dyson vacuum cleaner uses patented cyclone technology that separates dust using centrifugal force.



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Patent

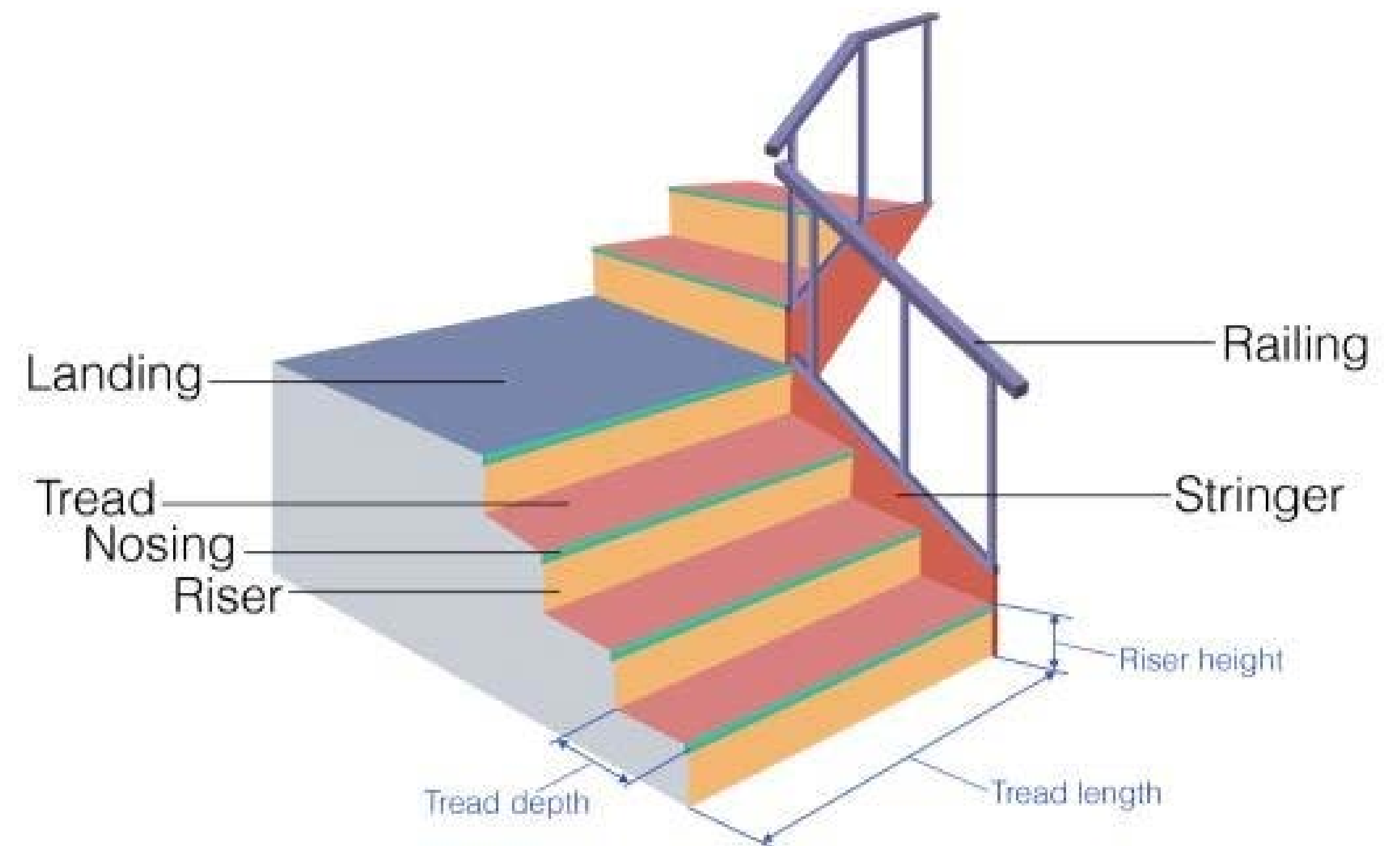


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Legal obligations refer to the laws that govern design practices and design solutions. These include safety, intellectual property and consumer rights.



Legal obligations dictate the design of stairs, including the size of the landing, the height of the railing and the dimensions of the steps.



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Ethical obligations refer to ensuring a designer does what they can to avoid negative implications of their design, such as ensuring a design is culturally sensitive and environmentally conscious.



Bottled water companies frequently act on an ethical responsibility to design bottles that are recyclable.