



*“Details are the soul of a building.” (Mario Cucinella)*

## **1. Promoter and Purpose of the DETAIL Construction Award 2025**

Next year, DETAIL celebrates its 65th anniversary. Over the years, the magazine has evolved into a leading international platform for architecture and building construction. DETAIL’s digital and printed media provide first-hand technical knowledge and expertise.

To mark the occasion, we are launching a new, internationally distinctive award. The **DETAIL Construction Award 2025** highlights excellence in detailed architectural design and honours collaboration between architects, tradespeople, and building product manufacturers. It recognises pioneering detail solutions jointly developed and distinguished by their design quality, materiality, and resource efficiency.

Companies committed to strengthening building culture support the DETAIL Construction Award both in principle and financially.

## **2. Award Categories**

The DETAIL Construction Award 2025 is presented in **the following categories**:

- Facade
- Roof
- Adaptive Reuse
- Structural Systems
- Interiors

## **Student’s Award**

We are looking for Bachelor's and Master's theses in architecture and interior design. These can be conceptual or visionary projects that were not necessarily intended for construction. Submissions from both national and international universities are welcome. The projects do not need to be conform to the above-mentioned categories. However, they must focus on a detailed design solution.

## **Special Awards**

The organiser reserves the right to confer additional theme-related Special Awards. The winners of these awards will be selected by the competition jury or the DETAIL editorial team.



### 3. Competition Procedure

Submissions are accepted online from **1 September 2025 to 30 November 2025** at [www.detail.de/constructionaward-2025](http://www.detail.de/constructionaward-2025)

The DETAIL editorial team will review all submissions for completeness and compliance with competition rules. If submissions exceed expected capacity, the organiser may shortlist at least 10 projects from each category. This shortlist will form the basis for assessment by the expert jury and for online reader voting.

In the second step, a renowned expert jury will select the winning projects for the five main award categories and any additional awards or Special Awards in **January 2026**.

At the same time, DETAIL readers will determine one Readers' Award per competition category on detail.de through online voting. The editorial team will nominate at least 10 projects per category, provided submissions allow. Nominated entries may use the reference "Nominated for the DETAIL Construction Award 2025" in promotional communications (badge created and provided by DETAIL).

The award winners and their projects will be celebrated at the award ceremony in Munich in March 2026, attended by guests from the fields of architecture, civil engineering, industry, politics, and business.

The competition is organised by DETAIL Architecture GmbH. Legal recourse is excluded.

### 4. Conditions of Participation

Construction details from projects of all building types worldwide completed after **1 January 2022** are eligible for submission to the DETAIL Construction Award 2025, including new builds, refurbishments, conversions, and extensions.

Industrial companies may participate with the agreement of the planning architectural practice. Architects may name one (or more) industry partners with whom the detail solution was developed. All participants must be listed in the submission documents. In joint ventures, all designers must be named.

Each firm may submit up to three projects. Authors must hold unrestricted copyright for all designs submitted. Jury members, their practices, and partner firms are excluded from participation.

All application documents must be submitted online by **30 November 2025, 23:59** (CET, Munich local time) at [detailconstructionaward-2025.alpha-awards.com](http://detailconstructionaward-2025.alpha-awards.com). They must be complete and meet all specified formal criteria. Entries not meeting these conditions may be rejected. Legal recourse is excluded.

If a submitted detail receives an award, a representative of the submitting firm is expected to attend the award ceremony on **12 March 2026** and present the award-winning detail to the public in a guest lecture. DETAIL, as organiser, will cover hotel and travel costs (economy class to Munich) up to € 300 for one person.

## **5. Submission Requirements**

### **5.1 Languages and Submission**

Entries may be submitted in German or English exclusively via the online portal:

[detailconstructionaward-2025.alpha-awards.com](https://detailconstructionaward-2025.alpha-awards.com)

### **5.2 Registration, Submission, Fees**

A processing fee is due upon complete submission. By registering, entrants accept the data protection and copyright declarations for the DETAIL Construction Award. The submission system allows up to three projects to be uploaded individually. Project data must be entered step by step and can be edited until final submission via the link sent by email. Once data is sent, the submission form cannot be changed or amended. Subsequent changes to submitted documents are not possible. Image and file uploads are automatically checked for size and resolution (see 5.3 Project Sheet and Photos). The processing fee is payable via the DETAIL Shop when documents have been submitted in full.

The processing fee is € 250 for one project; € 320 for two projects; and € 390 for three projects. University entries: € 130.

Registration is complete only upon receipt of the processing fee.

### **5.3 Project Sheet and Photos**

The scope of required documents is prescribed.

The project sheet may be freely designed within specifications: one DIN A1 page in landscape format (300 dpi; file size max. 6 MB, .jpg or PDF) including plan drawings, text, photos, etc. It should convey a clear impression of the submitted construction detail in the context of the overall building. The DIN A1 landscape format is mandatory for consistent jury presentation.

The project sheet must contain the following information at the top right: project name, location, author.

Recommended project sheet contents:

- Drawing of the detail solution (scale between 1:1 and 1:50, depending on complexity and context)
- Photos of the executed detail solution
- Photos of the building as a whole for contextual reference
- Floor plan(s) and/or section(s) to locate the solution within the building (ideally indicating the specific installation location)
- Short project description



Additionally, authors submit the following for the online project presentation:

- Four representative photos as digital files (.jpg format, min. 10 x 15 cm, 300 dpi, max. 4 MB). Renderings are not permitted.
- Detail drawing of the selected construction (vectorised PDF file)

For each submitted project, the competition category must be specified. The editorial pre-jury and the expert jury may reassign projects to other categories they consider more appropriate.

#### **5.4 Explanatory Report**

A separate explanatory report of max. 2,500 characters is required as both DOC and PDF files when submitting via upload portal. It comprises two sections:

- Description of the overall building (urban context, architecture, spatial programme, sustainability requirements, and material language)
- Description of the submitted solution (innovative aspects, resource conservation/energy efficiency, design quality, and integration into the overall context)

#### **5.5 Declaration of Consent**

Entrants agree to the participation conditions upon online registration and must secure consent from the owner/client and photographer.

- Entrants must acknowledge the award conditions and confirm they authored the submitted work. Through the declaration of consent, authors assign publication, use, and exploitation rights of the submitted project and planning material to the organiser, royalty-free, for the award procedure and communications surrounding the DETAIL Construction Award, ensuring no violation of third-party rights.
- Entrants declare that all co-authors are correctly and completely named in submitted documents and have consented to competition participation.
- Entrants confirm that the client/owner authorises them to submit the project and the organiser to publish it worldwide with corresponding photographic and plan material as part of the DETAIL Construction Award.
- Entrants confirm they possess the necessary rights to use all submitted photos and illustrations for participation.

- Upon award or nomination for online voting, they undertake to transfer submitted images to the organiser for royalty-free, unlimited worldwide use in editorial publications related to the DETAIL Construction Award. Under this agreement, the organiser may use image material in their own media (print, digital, social media) and share it with third parties for editorial reporting on the award and promoting future awards and competitions until 2028.
- Entrants agree to bear all arising costs and declare that illustrations and photos do not infringe third-party rights. The organiser shall ensure proper photographer attribution in its media.

Through this declaration of consent, entrants indemnify the organiser against all third-party legal claims, particularly from co-authors, clients, and photographers.

#### 5.6 Requirements Checklist

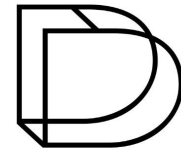
- Complete registration and online forms (mandatory fields)
- Project sheet labelled top right: project name, location, author
- Project sheet (DIN A1 landscape format, 300 dpi, max. 6 MB, .jpg or PDF) with project images:
  - Detail drawing, building floor plans, and sections for orientation
  - Short project description with key facts 1000-3000 characters
  - Representative photos (no renderings)
- Photos: 4 representative photos (.jpg, min. 10 x 15 cm, 300 dpi, max. 4 MB)
- Explanatory report (max. 2,500 characters including spaces)
- Competition category indication
- The consent of the author's declaration of consent is displayed and requested via pop-up when uploading the documents
- Without both this declaration and the assignment of a project number, nominations may be revoked.

#### 6. Award Money and Recognition

A total of € 5,000 in award money and additional non-cash prizes will be allocated at the jury's discretion. Additional commendations may be issued for outstanding quality. Jury and Readers' Award results will be communicated to all entrants [www.detail.de/constructionaward-2025](http://www.detail.de/constructionaward-2025).

#### 7. Dates

Submission deadline	30 November 2025
Readers' Award	January 2026
Jury meeting	January 2026
Award ceremony in Munich	12 March 2026



**DETAIL**  
Construction  
Award

## 8. Queries/FAQ

Questions about the award may be sent to [constructionaward@detail.de](mailto:constructionaward@detail.de) from **1 September 2025 to 28 November 2025, 14:00 (CET, Munich local time)**. No colloquium will be held.

## 9. Exclusion Criteria

Submissions must comply with all award criteria regarding content and form. Works contradicting competition conditions may be excluded. All entries must be submitted in full by the deadline of **30 November 2025, 23:59 CET, Munich local time**. No extensions or late submissions are possible. Data cannot be changed once submitted. Processing fees must be paid via the DETAIL Shop/Stripe portal.

Jury members and their employees, as well as employees of the organiser, are excluded from participation.

## 10. Data Protection

DETAIL processes submissions, including specified personal data, under Art. 6 (1)(f) GDPR. This processing is necessary for proper award administration. Data will only be shared with third parties with the author's explicit consent, which may be withdrawn at any time via [datenschutz@detail.de](mailto:datenschutz@detail.de). Further information, including contact details of the data protection officer and author rights, is available at [www.detail.de/datenschutz/](http://www.detail.de/datenschutz/).

## 11. Information, Downloads, Uploads, Contact, Address

From 15 August 2025, the full competition brief and author's declaration (DE/EN) can be downloaded from the "Competition" section of the DETAIL Construction Award 2025 page. Entries are uploaded via the "Submission" button.

Nominees must return the signed declaration form by 30 January 2026 upon request by the DETAIL editorial team; otherwise, the nomination may be revoked. Entrants may submit queries from 1 September 2025 to 28 November 2025, 14:00 (CET, Munich local time) to [constructionaward@detail.de](mailto:constructionaward@detail.de).

### Contact:

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