11: Le Corbusier

Charles-Edouard Jeanneret-Gris, or better known as the Swiss-born French architect Le Corbusier, was a key figure in developing modern city plans, houses, and other architectural buildings that combined the use of steel, reinforced concrete, and geometrical forms. He devised a set of five key points, which he believed all structures and new modern developments should follow and include. His approach emphasized a clear expression of forms, linear planes, long horizontal windows, column-like supports known as pilotis, roof gardens, and blank facades. One of his most popular floor plans for modern housing during the period of World War I, was known as the Dom-Iso House plan — a simple prototype that used open-spaced platforms made from concrete slabs, and supported by reinforced columns to create multiple levels of the house, with stairs on one side. This plan became an important model for Le Corbusier, and later influenced those houses he built for patrons as well as the ways in which he designed and planned larger cities.

Examine It:
Various Architectural Designs, Houses, and Buildings

Re-create It:
Materials
- building supplies (use what you have available, such as: legos, lincoln logs, dominos, paper, sticks, rocks and stones, wood, etc.)

Procedure

1. Find and gather your desired building supplies.
2. Examine and look at a few of Le Corbusier’s plans, house models, and building designs.
3. Now build your own architectural structure and try to Mimic Le Corbusier’s style — flat and open levels connected by stairs and raised on columns; roof gardens; long ribbon-like windows; etc.
4. Save your model and display it for all to see!