



Flexible Spaces: Optimizing Multi-Purpose Rooms with Smart Technology



Divisible multi-purpose spaces are a common feature in most modern office layouts, offering a flexible area to support a variety of meetings, trainings, and team activities. To fully capitalize on the benefits of these spaces, organizations must implement room designs and technologies that support a variety of meeting types. These solutions should enable smooth transitions between different layouts, allowing a single room to serve multiple purposes without sacrificing quality or performance.

Common Challenges with Large-Scale Spaces

Complex Furniture Placement



Furniture may need to be manually reconfigured to match various use cases. If done incorrectly, the layout may not align with certain AV system configurations, impacting camera system performance. Some applications can even require markups on the floor or ceiling to indicate proper furniture placement, which can cause confusion.

Limited View of Participants & Displays



Traditional meeting room AV often does not match certain applications such as a single camera that does not track the presenter, or may not work with certain layouts. Display placement is also a challenge with viewing angles easily impacted by new configurations.

Touch Panel & Connectivity Issues



Traditionally, HDMI connections and touch panels for meeting controls are placed on tabletops for easy and convenient access. In a space with flexible furniture, this can bring challenges. If the tables move and these parts are anchored to a table then each relocation can bring about a potential failure of the room system.



Design Considerations for Improved Experiences

With the right design and technology considerations, a divisible multi-purpose space can easily transition between different use cases. For the AV solution, a combination of properly selected and placed cameras, microphones, controls, and connection points can ensure that all potential configurations are able to fully function with the system. Some key areas to consider are:



Flexible Furniture & Automated Room Configurations

Modular furniture and movable partitions are a necessary part of reconfigurable spaces. [Crestron's Automate VX platform](#) provides illustrations of the correct furniture layout for various applications on the room's display, using cameras and overlays to show when the furniture is in exactly the right place.



Smart Acoustic Solutions

Incorporating soundproofing and acoustic treatments improves speech intelligibility and prevents sound bleed, ensuring clear communication without distraction and improving meeting quality.



Strategic AV Integration

Proper placement of microphones and cameras enhances audio clarity and participant visibility for all room layout options.



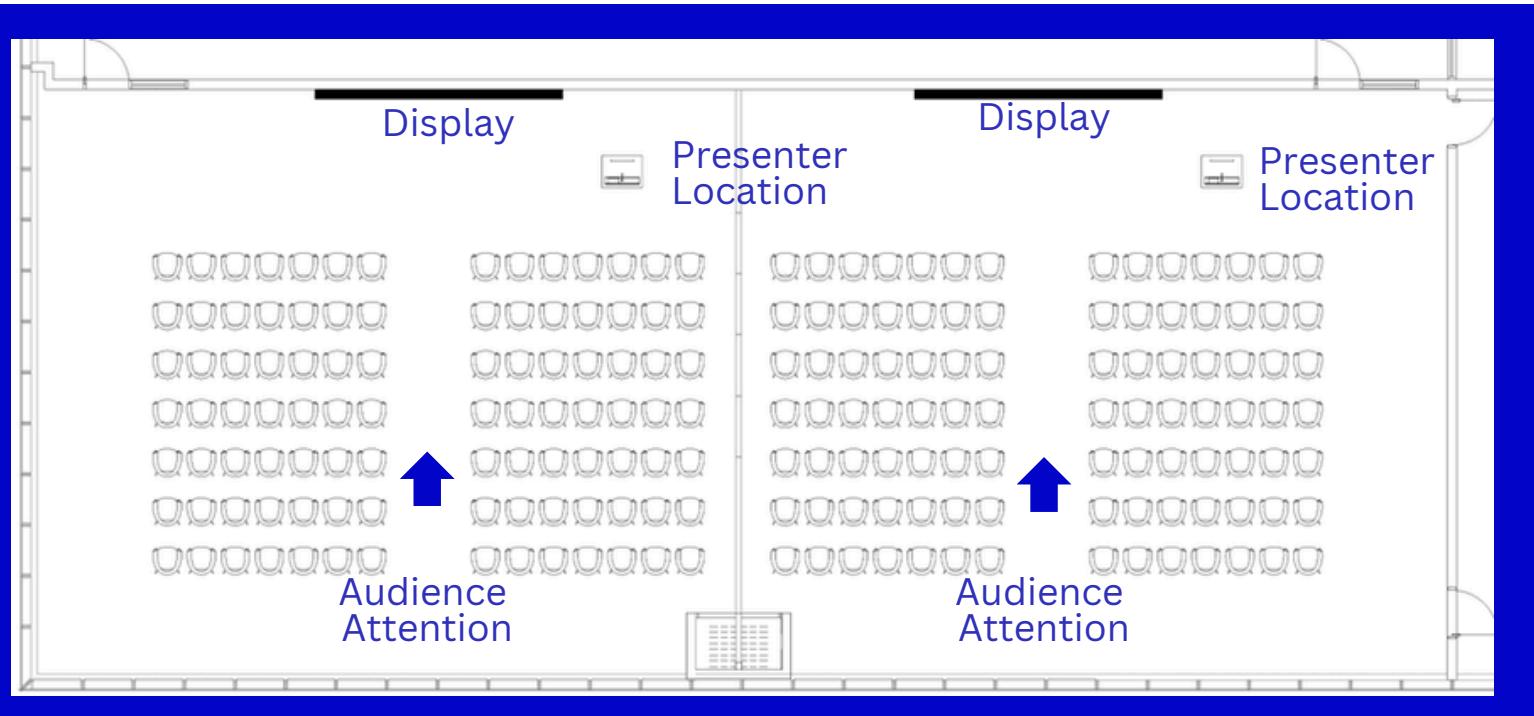
Right-sized Displays

Choosing the correct type and size of display based on room layout and types of activities can improve visibility and enhance engagement.

Space Layout Options

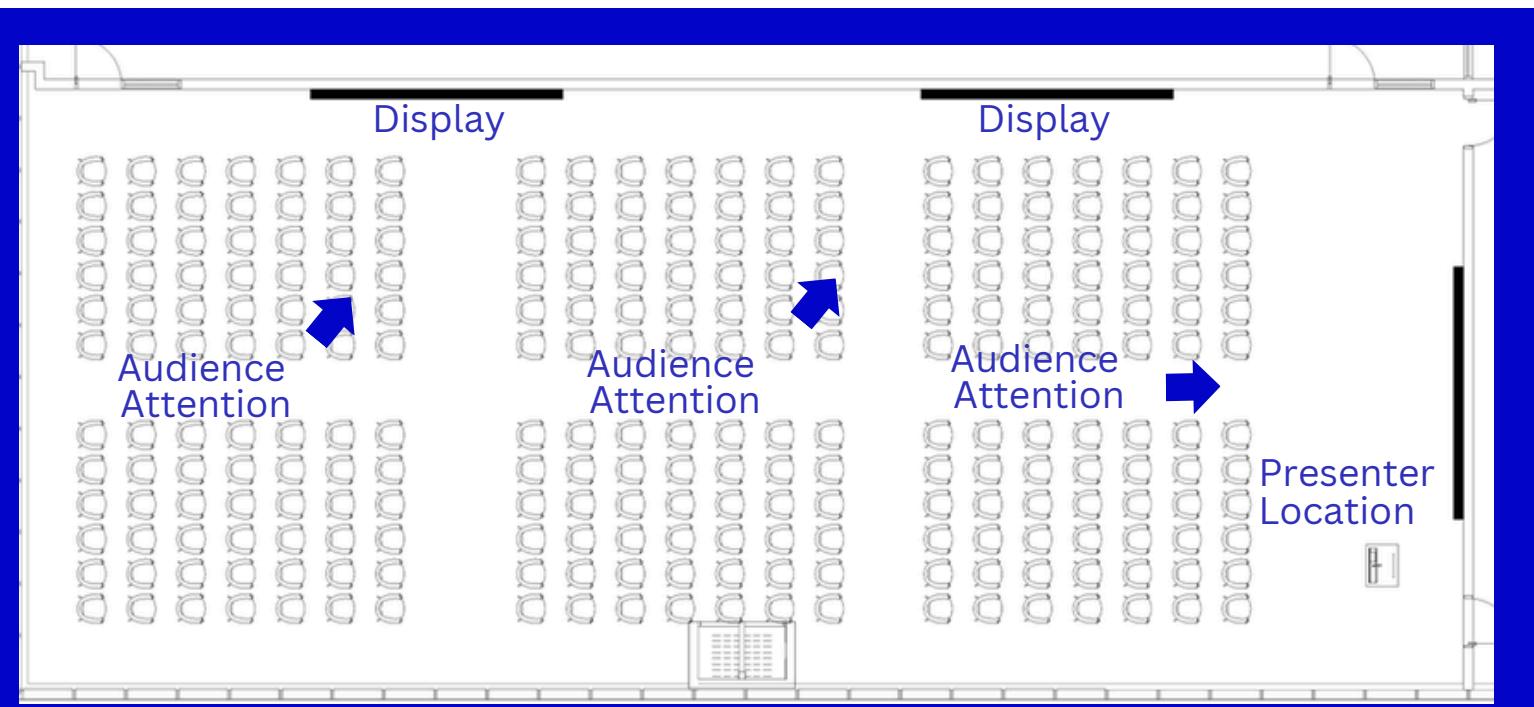
Many multi-purpose rooms are designed to support simultaneous use across divided sections. However, when these spaces are opened up for large-scale events, several challenges arise.

Typical Divisible Space



Often, when combining the space for one use, the room is set up in a long format, with everyone facing one side of the room, and one large display.

Long Orientation Layout



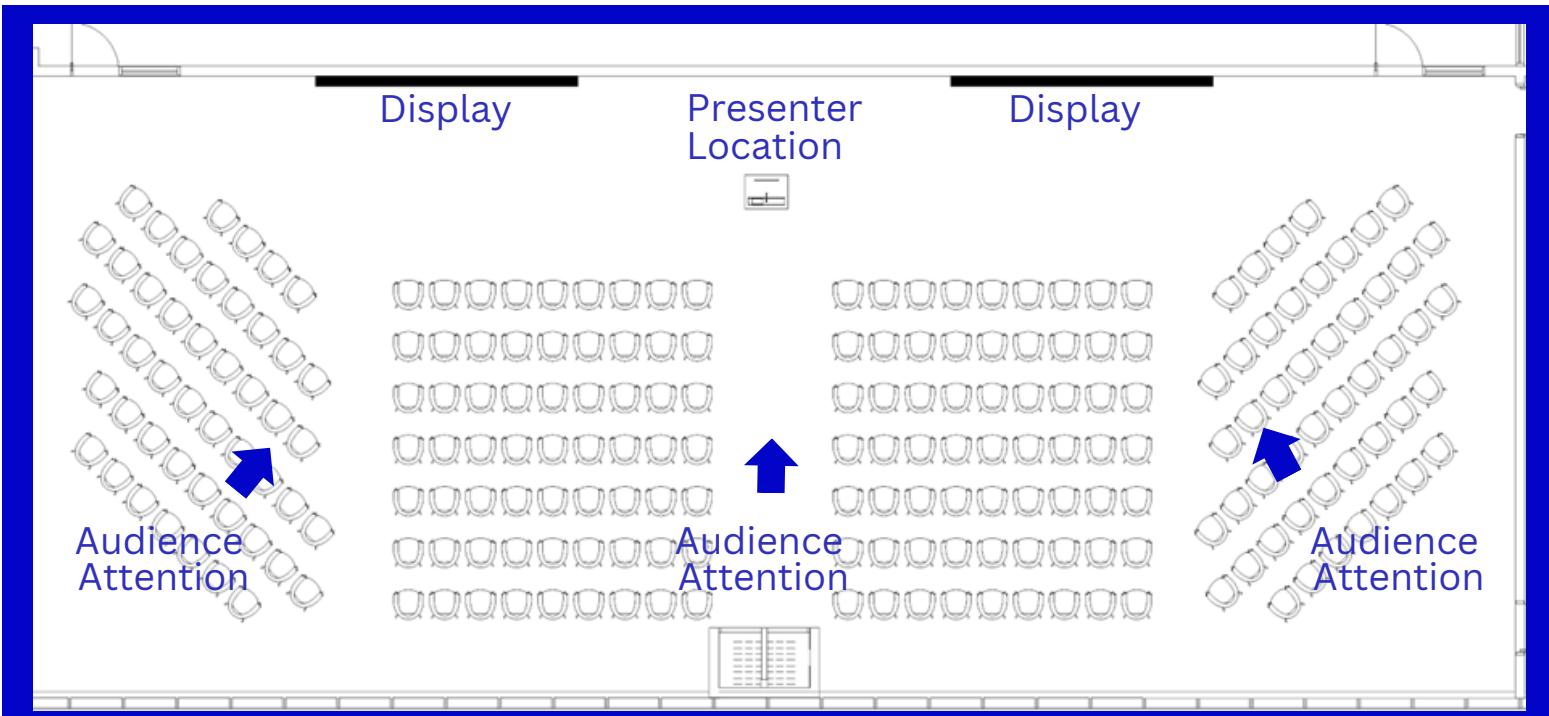
Space Layout Options

The long format layout creates many challenges, including:

- **Poor Visibility:** Participants at the back of the room are too far from the presenter and display, especially when ceiling height limits screen size, compromising sight lines and limiting engagement.
- **Inappropriate Display Placement:** Reinforcement displays divert audience attention away from the presenter and complicate the presentation.

By reorienting the room in a wide layout with the stage centered between both displays, visibility and audience focus are greatly improved.

Wide Orientation Layout



Adjusting the space for a wide format helps improve interactions, providing a more engaging environment:

- **Improved Visibility:** The distance between the furthest view and the presenter is reduced, improving interactions during meetings.
- **Unified Focus:** All eyes are directed to a central area, often eliminating the need for reinforcement displays, saving money and simplifying setup.

Transform Large-Scale Spaces with the Right Technology

When designing large-scale spaces, it is important to consider use cases and create flexible features that ensure seamless transitions between diverse event formats, optimizing the space so that it is easy to divide and combine effortlessly. Incorporating adaptable technology can greatly enhance room versatility, transforming rooms into dynamic environments that support multiple types of activities.

Cenero is well versed in multi-purpose spaces, the challenges they present, and how to mitigate those challenges. Reach out to the Cenero team for support and assistance with flexible meeting spaces.