

Shared Ground: Scales & Tempo

How we BE together, what we DO together

This document describes the cycles of meetings and their purpose. It also will outline the different scales of people and groups within our community.

Scales: Being Together



Self

Our first step on the story of scale is you, **the self**, the individual, the multitude. That indescribable state of being that we all directly experience.

Each individual in our community has certain freedoms here:

- the freedom to move
- the freedom to disobey
- the freedom to create or transform social relationships



Relationship

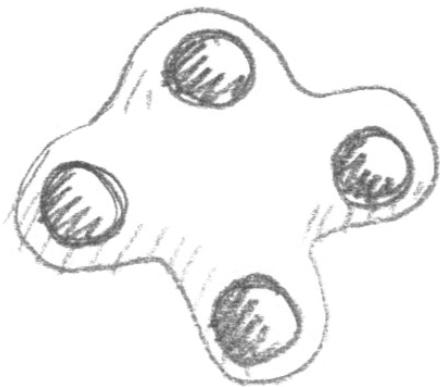
Then there is me (or anyone for that matter), another self. Together we create a **relationship**.

This can be an acquaintance, a business partner, or romantic relationship. We value **relationship first**, no matter what they look like.

Every relationship participating in our community agrees to respect our basic norms:

- mutual respect
- {agreement}
- The collective decisions of the **community care circle**

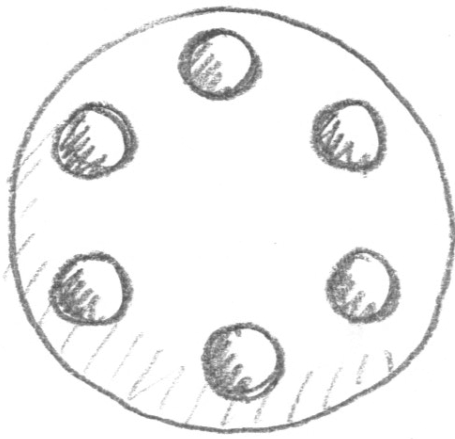
If someone (or you) is continually not respecting these norms anyone can request support from our **culture committee**.



Pod

Next we have the small group of relationships, the **pod**. The size of a pod is about the size of a dinner party that can hold a conversation, around 6 people. The pod is a central scale for us, it can have any purpose, from a group of friends to a book club to singing group. These formal or informal groups can be open to anyone to join or just for a select few.

Around each solstice we create, renew, and compost pods. See Tempo for more information.



Circle

When we need groups that are a little more complex we form a **circle**. Circles might be made up of a number of pods, they might be special committees, projects, or ventures within the community.

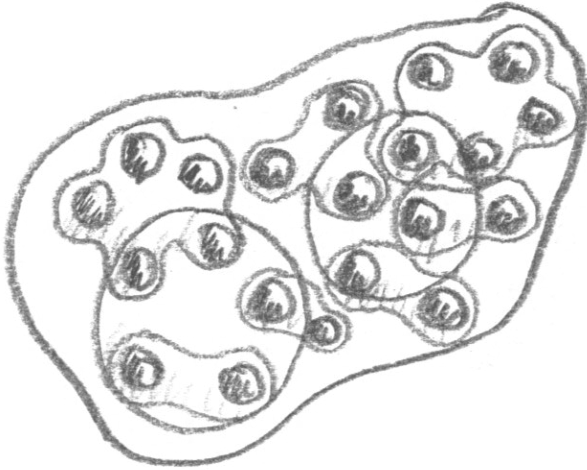
Current Circles

- **Steering Committee** – the decision making body for the project, defacto self-appointed leadership.

Proposed Circles

- **Community Care Circle** – members who agree to support cultural development, make decisions about cultural affairs, and support conflict transformation processes.

- **Programming Circle** – manages the space through scheduling, event/programming development, and coordination.
- **Coworking Circle** – The management of the coworking venture.
- **Space Circle** – keeps the space lively, habitable, and beautiful.



Congregation

A bunch of people, relationships, pods, and circles form a **congregation**. This is our community, it might grow up and need to split off, there might be schisms or fractures. All things grow and change, we'll see where we go!

Neighborhood

How we relate to the people immediately around us.

City

How we relate to the urban center we are within, Denver

Bioregion

How we relate to the living soil system, watershed, and land kin. How we relate to the history of the land we are on.

World

Where we situate ourselves in the world, history, and the future.

Cosmos

Where we know ourselves to be within the whole of creation.

Tempo: What we Do Together

Our tempo creates a rhythm that helps us be together through cycles of intention setting, work, reflection, and connection. The events described here are our base tempo, many other events and activities will fill the in-between time.

Like the baseline in a song, these set our space's monthly and yearly tempo.

A Note on Time: We believe in drawing inspiration from the cycles of nature but recognize that our tick-tock colonized clock time is prevalent. So we use months and weeks of the [Gregorian calendar](#), starting on Monday.

We will begin with a monthly [Moon Cycle](#) and [Yearly Cycle](#) based on the seasonal equinox and solstice.

Moon Cycle

Each month we host events around these four rhythms:

1. Working – performing or planning short term tasks, the work of running our community, and focused coworking time.
2. Dreaming – long term visioning, strategizing, thinking about the deep future.
3. Reflection – looking backwards, learning what worked and what wants to change.
4. Connection – time for intentionally BEing together

Here's an outline of the monthly Moon Cycle, [see an example calendar here](#)

week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1st	Work				SBox		
2nd	Work			Dream			Service
3rd	Work						SBox

4th	Work			Retro			Dinner
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Work Rhythm

Community Work Day

we host community work days. Anyone is invited to come and work on community projects (or your own).

The first Tuesday of each month is the planning meeting when we set out the tasks for the next cycle.

Dream Rhythm

Community Dream Space

This is a time to gather as a community and vision the future of this space. Identify opportunities and threats so we can face them together.

Steering Meeting

Each week the **Steering Committee** meets to discuss and decide on governance issues.

Reflection Rhythm

Community Reflection

Time for the community to look back at the last cycle and reflect on what went well (gratitude) what didn't work (delta ▲) and what we want to change.

Connection Rhythms

Sacred Soap Box

An open mic for sermons, spell casting, meditation, and any other offerings that connect us to spirit. Sign up there for up to a 10 minute slot.

Services

Our main service with a different leader each time! Stay for lunch.

Sunday Dinner

Share food with your community at our monthly dinner

Yearly Cycle

We follow a seasonal cycle that mirrors our work, dream, reflect, and connect patterns.

Spring Vernal Equinox

Day of dreaming, we look to the future and dream about where we will go over the next year(s). This is the place where we reaffirm our values and norms and larger strategy.

This is a fundraising and membership drive campaign time. Could be an open enrollment period.

Summer Solstice

Summer Camp! We have a multi-day retreat to celebrate and connect with each other.

Fall Autumnal Equinox

Coworking Week, every year we invite all our friends to come together for a free week of coworking, workshops, and celebration of our projects.

This is a fundraising and membership drive campaign time. Could be an open enrollment period.

Winter Solstice

Day of reflection, we celebrate our last trip around the sun by having an all day event of reflection. What worked well, what didn't work, and what do we want to change in the next year.

Pod Renewal Cycle

Twice a year at the Spring and Fall Equinox we have events centered around developing pods. This is when many of our closed pods renew and open to new members. It is also when we reflect on any pods that are closing.