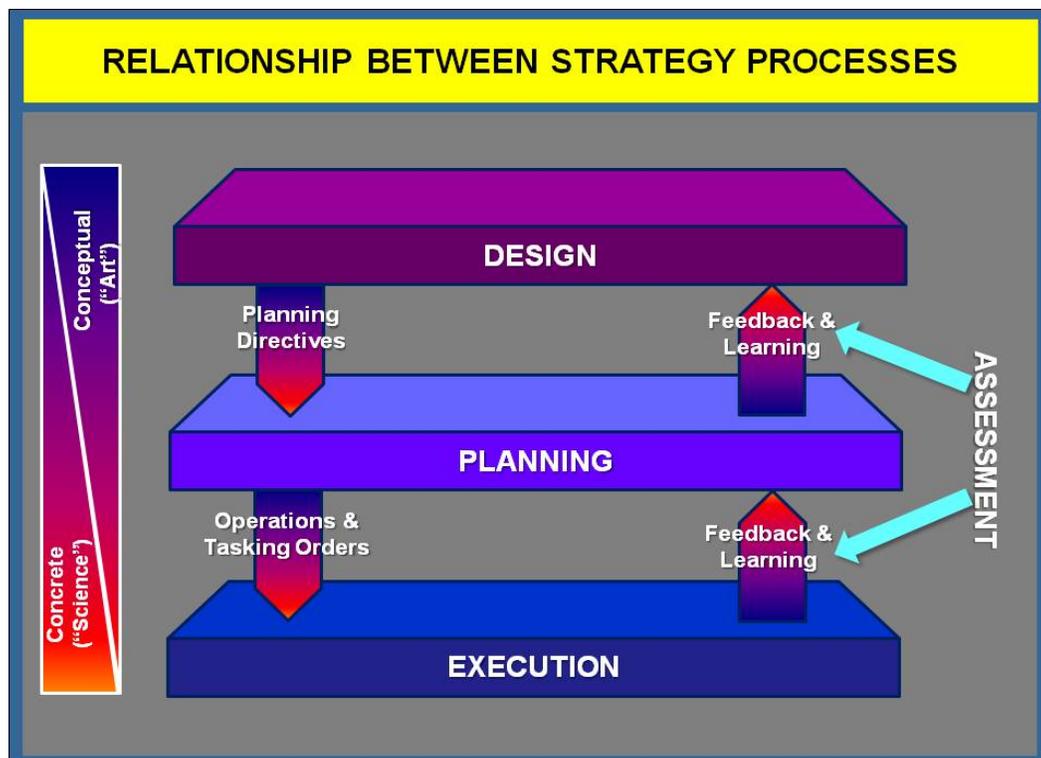




## PRACTICAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Last Updated: 5 Jun 2013

- Design can help formulate the commander's initial statements of mission and intent,
- These feed course of action (COA) analysis and selection, which in turn, feeds creation of detailed plans and assessment criteria.
- Plans are then executed through tasks at the tactical level.
- The results of task accomplishment are assessed and operations are adapted based on that assessment, providing input to strategy revision.
- Design is thus cyclic and iterative, like many other aspects of strategy creation, such as planning and assessment.
- Design, planning, execution, and assessment are closely interrelated, since planners take the commander's overarching design concept to create detailed COAs, plans, and orders for operations. Both are products of operational art. They make it possible to convert broad guidance from national leadership and senior commanders and turn it into discrete tasks at the tactical level. The following figure illustrates these relationships.



- Design requires close interaction between an organization's commander, staff, the commanders and staffs of higher and lower echelons, as well as supporting commanders and their staffs. Joint functional and Service components need to be involved at various levels in the initial planning stages of joint strategy development.
  - In some cases, however, the [joint force air component commander](#) (JFACC) and key [air operations center](#) (AOC) planners may need to volunteer to be included early in the JFC's design process. In such cases, **joint integration requires that a sufficient number of trained Airmen be included on the [joint force commander](#) (JFC) planning staff.**
    - ✦ The air component liaisons, if established, can help can help make the JFACC aware of pending or ongoing design and planning efforts, but it is also the JFC's responsibility to actively seek airpower expertise.
    - ✦ Each theater or [joint task force](#) (JTF) operation will likely be different, and prior coordination is required on how overall joint strategy development may occur and how airpower should be included in that effort. Theater-level design and planning exercises are vital to ensure proper integration when operations commence.
  - *For more complete discussion of this section, [click here](#).*
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