would make hospitals more accessible to the elderly and those with disabilities. This design philosophy doesn’t have to be limited to the hospital, however. Autonomous cars will likely need road signs that are different from the ones we’ve grown accustomed to. Current road signs are easily read by humans, but they could be vandalized so as to trick autonomous vehicles into interpreting them incorrectly. Delivery drones will need markers to navigate as well as places to land, if Amazon wants to get serious about delivering packages this way.

Google has already developed one solution. Back in 2014, the company invented plus codes. These are short codes for places that don’t traditionally have street names and numbers, such as a residence in a São Paulo favela or a point along an oil pipeline. These codes are readable by humans and machines, thus making the world a little more bot friendly.

Augmented reality (AR) also stands to benefit from this new design philosophy. Mark Rolston is the founder and chief creative officer of ArgoDesign, a company that helps tech companies design their products. Rolston has found that bringing AR—such as Magic Leap’s head-mounted virtual retinal display—into offices and homes can be tough, depending on the environment. For example, the Magic Leap reads glass walls as blank space, which results in AR images that are too faint to show up on the surface.

AR also struggles with white or dark walls. Rolston says the ideal wall is painted a light gray and has curved edges rather than sharp corners. While he doesn’t expect every room in an office or home to follow these guidelines, he does think we’ll start seeing a shift in design to accommodate AR needs.

In other words, we’ll still see the occasional cobblestone street and white wall, but more and more we’ll see our physical structures accommodate our tech-focused society.