

The CPTED Concept

The recommendations made in this brochure are based on concepts and strategies of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). The CPTED concept is that the proper design & effective use of the built environment can lead to the reduction of crime & improvement in the quality of life. CPTED involves five overlapping strategies:

Natural Surveillance – a design concept intended to allow intruders & offenders to be easily viewable to people passing the property & those using the property.

Territorial Reinforcement – a strategy to create &/or extend the property's sphere of influence – the perception that someone is in control of the area. It distinguishes what is private space from public space by using landscaping, pavement designs, signage & fences.

Natural Access Control – a strategy intended to decrease the opportunity for offending by denying access to a crime target & increasing the perception of risk to the offender.

Maintenance – allows for the continued use of a space for its intended purpose. It also serves as an additional expression of ownership.

Target Hardening – enhancing the physical security of a crime target through the use of locks, door & window types, security alarms & other crime prevention methods.

For more information on CPTED concepts and ideas, visit the National Crime Prevention Council's website, www.ncpc.org

For crime prevention questions, or to find out about the Business Watch program, call the South Salt Lake Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at 801-412-3600, or email InformCPZ@southsaltlakecity.com.

For questions regarding landscaping or fencing and local ordinances, call the South Salt Lake Urban Livability Department at 801-464-6712.



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Crime Prevention For Your Business Using CPTED

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design



When properly used, CPTED tactics have been proven to reduce crimes of opportunity.

Security Cameras

Security cameras can deter criminals from your property, & capture criminal activity if it occurs. Make sure they are working properly.

Non Obstructed Windows

Avoid placing advertisements, signs, etc. in windows, that would obstruct view into, and out of, the business, and could conceal criminal activity.

Easily Readable Address

It's easier for emergency services to locate a business in a hurry if the address numbers are large and well-lit. Put numbers in back of your business too if there's an alley.

Entry/walkway Lights

High efficiency lights will help keep customers safe at night, and keep unwelcome guests from approaching your business after hours.

Parking Lot

Parking lots should be well-lit with defined spaces. Parking should be in view of the business entrance, and video surveillance (if available), to prevent theft and provide security.

Secure Air Conditioning Unit

Air conditioning units should be secured in a locked metal cage to prevent thieves from stealing copper coils.

Exterior Door Hinges

Hinges on exterior doors should be installed with the "pin" side facing inside the door frame or use hinges that have a security hinge pin.

Solid Core Exterior Doors

Use the right door for the right application. When the door is metal or solid wood, breaking it down becomes difficult. Glass next to the door should be protected with an unbreakable plastic material.

Building Maintenance

Good building maintenance lets everyone know that you are looking after your property, and paying attention to what's going on around your property. If something breaks or is damaged, fix it quickly. Delaying repairs implies to criminals that the owner doesn't care about the property.

Trimmed Hedges, Trees & Shrubs

Make it difficult for thieves to conceal themselves or stolen property.

Alarm Decals

Alarm decals can warn that the business is equipped with an alarm system.

Stiff Door Frame

Reinforce the door frame by filling empty spaces between the door jamb and 2x4 stud with a solid piece of wood and shims. This will prevent a thief from pushing or prying back the door frame.

Delivery Bay Door

When the delivery bay door is securely locked, thieves must resort to a more difficult means of entering a business. It also keeps them from stealing the property stored in the bay.

Secure Gate Hinges

Hinges should have non-removable pins that ruin a thief's chance at entering through the gate.

Side and Rear Access Doors

Ensure that any side and rear doors that aren't meant for public use are secured, and access is restricted to employees only. This prevents criminals from entering unnoticed.



Deadbolt Locks on Doors

Secure doors with all-metal deadbolt locks. Be sure that the deadbolt throw goes at least 1 inch into the door frame and that the strike plate is installed with at least 3-inch wood screws.

Interior Lights

A couple of lights left on at night will allow passers-by to see if someone is in the building afterhours.

Reception/Cashier Area

Place reception or cashier areas so the employee has a clear view of the front entrance, and can monitor access. Ensure the entrance isn't cluttered with signage.

Natural Surveillance

Avoid placing walls, signs, hedges or bushes, etc. near doors, windows or drop boxes, which would allow criminals a place to conceal themselves.