



CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED) OR DESIGNING OUT CRIME (DOC)

You can use the design of your business environment to help reduce crime. There are three fundamental ways you can apply environmental design:

Natural Access Control

Use vegetation, landscaping, levels and so on to restrict or deter access to specific areas.

For example:

- Plant bushes in front of a blank wall to make it hard to access the wall to graffiti.
- Use gates, doors and signage to separate “public” and “staff” areas in buildings.
- Use security guards to prevent access to staff areas.

Natural Surveillance

Structure space to allow natural sightlines across the area.

For example:

- Locate offices, lunchrooms etc where staff can observe public access areas.
- Improve visibility (e.g. trim vegetation, remove clutter) so that employees and passers-by can see suspicious activity.
- If building an external structure such as a wall or a shed, consider whether it blocks the view of key areas (e.g. the rear entrance to your business).

Territorial Reinforcement

- Clearly mark areas of your business to show ownership by using signs, colours and different surfaces.
- Make sure that entrances clearly show customers and others that they have moved from public to private space.
- Care for your business premises by undertaking regular maintenance and removing graffiti and rubbish.

See the “Locks, Lighting and Layout” fact sheet for strategies that you can use to secure your business (known as “target hardening”).

This factsheet contains general guidelines for increasing security of your business and/or workplace. No responsibility is accepted for any damage, injury or loss resulting from application of these guidelines.