CPTED Security Principles

1. Natural Surveillance
Create and maintain visually open spaces to keep potential intruders under observation and give potential witnesses a clear view of criminal activity. People and property are safer if they can be seen by potential witnesses.

2. Natural Access Control
The use of walkways, fencing, lighting, signage and landscape to clearly guide people and vehicles to proper entrances. The goal is not necessarily to keep intruders out, but to decrease the opportunity for intrusion and increase the perception of risk to offenders.

3. Territorial Reinforcement
Clearly distinguish public areas from private ones. Creating a “sphere of influence” through which the caretakers of a property develop a sense of responsibility over it. Potential trespassers perceive this control and are discouraged.

4. Maintenance
It is critical to maintain a “pride in ownership” image over a property. Sending the message that there are people responsible for the property. Those who take care of the property will challenge those who come onto it to commit crimes. This will deter undesirable behavior.

CPTED Security Consultants

We are a team of crime prevention specialists with decades of experience in crime prevention and asset protection. We work daily in the field of crime prevention and community outreach, giving us valuable insight into the most current crime trends and crime prevention strategies. We believe that crime prevention is a Community responsibility. Residents, business owners, law enforcement and other governmental agencies must share the burden of making communities safe.

Through our expertise in the area of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, we have trained hundreds of others on how to make communities safer through proper environmental design. Our training classes consist of informative lecture, valuable handouts, class interaction and hands on exercises. Some of our clients and past students have included Police Chiefs, Building and Planning Directors, Planning Commissioners, Architects, Security Professionals and Law Enforcement Personnel.

Contact us to discuss training for your crime prevention and design staff.

Crime Prevention
Through Environmental Design

Professional Training
Onsite Seminars

Professional training conducted at your facility, or attend one of our regularly scheduled one-day seminars. Specialized training tailored to your specific needs and schedule. Designed for law enforcement personnel, governmental employees, private security, property management firms and building and landscape design industry professionals.

Learn strategies to reduce crime and calls for police service through proper environmental design, assessment and modification, resulting in safer and more livable communities.

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Police officers are limited in what they can do to make communities safer and more livable. The demands our society places on police departments is ever increasing. Quite often, officers are asked to do more with less and the need for long term solution oriented strategies has become increasingly important.

“CPTED” or Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design is based on the belief that the crime rate can be directly related to the design of the physical environment. Poorly designed properties provide opportunity for criminals to operate. Properties which are poorly lit, or where landscape is allowed to become overgrown can increase the likelihood that a crime will occur there. Well designed properties which are designed with safety and security considerations, are not only are safer, but give “legitimate users” the feeling of safety, resulting in more livable communities and less need for police services.

The goal of CPTED is to reduce crime and the fear of crime through enhanced visual surveillance, clearly defined space, and giving “legitimate users” control over their property. Criminals are less comfortable at properties where they feel like they may be seen and challenged or turned in. CPTED provides for more long-term sustaining solutions and crime prevention measures, built into the environment.

More and more police departments are training crime prevention specialists to assess crime-ridden properties from a CPTED standpoint. A step-by-step analysis of the property is conducted and recommendations are made to the property owner. Quite often, it is as simple as trimming overgrown landscape. Additional lighting is another common recommendation to increase the feeling of safety and deter criminal activity.

Patrol officers who are trained in the principles of CPTED can take a few extra minutes to advise crime victims on how to better secure their property. This will likely result in the reduction in future incidents at their property.

There are a number of environmental factors which, if identified and corrected, can reduce the opportunity for crime. Whether it is a simple verbal suggestion or a formal report listing several items, the property owner must be made aware of what they can do to make their property safer.

CPTED Security training is designed to give students the ability to recognize potential environmental conditions which contribute to the incidence of crime, and to make recommendations on how to eliminate those conditions. Whether it is as simple as overgrown landscape, or more complicated measures necessary, CPTED Security training will enable you to formulate a strategy to combat crime and make the environment more user friendly.

Many cities are now requiring that the design of new commercial developments be reviewed and approved by CPTED Security trained personnel. Blueprints are reviewed and recommendations are made to the developer on what should be done to make the property safer. The goal is to reduce crime and calls for police service once the projects are completed and established. If the developers know in advance what is expected of them in the way of security and design, it is less costly than trying to fix the problems after the project is complete.

CPTED Security training has a “Building Plan Assessment” module which introduces class participants to blueprint reading and analysis from a CPTED standpoint. This training incorporates hands on exercises with using actual project blueprints, This helps participants gain an understanding of how to conduct an assessment and prepare a report and present their recommendations to builders.

Studies show that properties where CPTED has been implemented experience a decrease in crime and calls for police service. People say they feel safer on those properties as well.