

Reduce Criminal Activity Using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), is a crime prevention philosophy based on the theory that the proper design and effective use of the built environment, can lead to a reduction in the fear of crime as well as an improvement in the quality of life.

CPTED works by decreasing a criminal's ability to commit a crime and increasing the chances that the crime will be seen and reported by legitimate citizens. CPTED goes beyond traditional security methods by naturally integrating security measures into the community. **The goal of all CPTED applications is to increase the quality of life, decrease the fear of crime and decrease crime.**

The use of CPTED will allow you to decrease actual crime on the property. **Target hardening** will allow reinforcement of those areas of the property that need to be secured. CPTED and target hardening will make criminals feel uncomfortable while also making residents, visitors and those who work on the property feel welcome and safe. CPTED accomplishes this through the use of four overlapping strategies.

Natural Surveillance: The placement of physical features, activities and people in ways that maximize the ability to see what is occurring in a given space.

Territorial Reinforcement: The use of buildings, fences, signs, and pavement to express ownership.

Access Control: The physical guidance of people coming and going from a space by the placement of entrances, exits, fencing, landscaping, locks and other barriers.

Maintenance: The maintenance and the "image" of an area can have a major impact on whether it will become victimized because it indicates that someone cares and is watching.



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