

What you can do to discourage crime in and around your business

Crime prevention agencies use a method called CPTED (Crime Prevention, Through, Environmental, Design)

There are four steps in CPTED that can be used to deter crime around your business and create a safe atmosphere for your staff and customers

1. Natural Surveillance

Consider designing the environment of your business to keep potential intruders under surveillance. Keep lines of vision available through windows; place employees wisely so they have visibility; you could even invest in a surveillance security system.

2. Natural Access Control

Create a perception of risk. If your business looks secure, criminals are less likely to take a risk. Even just putting up a Business Watch sign by your business will help with this.

3. Territorial Reinforcement

Take ownership of your territory. It seems primitive but clearly marking out what is yours, works. Brand your authority. You will be developing an identity that challenges criminals, creating further perceived risk for them.

4. Maintenance

Building on ownership, maintaining your property shows your continued use of a space. Taking active responsibility and care of your business, fosters behaviour that challenges criminal activity.

**For more information on CPTED and other resources:
Contact Neighbourhood Watch London at 519-661-4533**