



# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines for Local Government

## Fencing

### Fact Sheet #1



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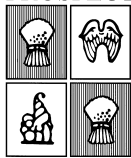


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#### RESIDENTIAL:

- Front fencing in suburban properties is usually the first barrier to prospective house breakers. To reduce the risk of house breaks the fencing should either be see-through (eg metal tube construction) or if opaque, lockable and difficult to scale. Lockable gates increase the level of difficulty entering and leaving the premises, particularly if offenders are carrying stolen property.
- See-through fencing which allows a clear view of the front and sides of a dwelling reduces the risk of breakins and forces the offender to focus on the rear of the building to ensure privacy.
- Plantings such as roses or other prickly vegetation will further deter unlawful entry. Such plantings can also be used against solid fencing to reduce the risk of graffiti.
- Side fencing should be of solid construction and not capped if clad with steel sheeting.
- Brush fences constitute a significant fire risk and provide cover for offenders once they have entered the property.

#### INDUSTRIAL:

- Businesses located in areas that are largely deserted after business hours, should ensure that fencing is robust and transparent with lockable gates.
- Barbed wire topping for such fences is an effective deterrent, as is "tiger" wire. Cyclone and other forms of wire mesh are easily cut to gain entry, therefore fences of a more substantial construction are recommended.
- In some applications electronic beams can be used to supplement physical barriers. Intrusion detection technology which is monitored off site is also recommended.

#### PUBLIC SPACE:

- Public space such as parks and sporting or recreational areas should be fenced with transparent materials to facilitate active and passive surveillance.
- Neighbours and authorities such as Police and security officers should be able to easily observe such areas from patrol vehicles and adjoining properties.
- Where public space is secured after hours, fencing should be difficult to climb or otherwise breach.



# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines for Local Government

## *Private Dwellings*

### Fact Sheet #2



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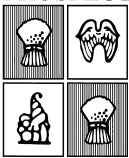


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### PERIMETER SECURITY

- (See Fencing Fact Sheet) Front fencing should be transparent to facilitate natural surveillance on the front and sides of the dwelling. Tubular steel or low masonry or sheet steel materials are effective. If high solid materials are used, the gates should be lockable when the building is unattended. Side and rear fencing should be uncapped to increase the difficulty of scaling the barrier.
- Side gates should be locked when the building is unattended and at night. Garages should be secured at all times.
- Movement or infra red sensor lights should be used to facilitate easy movement around the property by legitimate users and to increase the level of uncertainty experienced by offenders after dark.
- Valuables should not be left in vehicles parked in garages, car ports or in driveways.
- Sightlines into property from roadways should be kept open using see-through fencing and plantings no higher than one metre and with branches no lower than two metres.

### ACCESS CONTROL

- External doors should be of solid construction (not hollow core) and fitted with deadlocks or deadbolts that allow easy exit if an emergency such as fire should occur.
- Windows should be fitted with keyed-alike locks, particularly those at the rear of the dwelling. Such locks should be fitted to allow windows to be secured when partly open (eg 10cm) to facilitate ventilation and discourage illegitimate entry.
- Tools and other implements that could assist unlawful entry should be secured in locked sheds.
- Neighbours should be encouraged to observe adjacent properties and be informed when those next door are to be absent from their properties for significant periods of time or when deliveries or tradespeople are to occur on site.



## Fact Sheet #3



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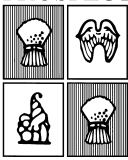


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# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines for Local Government

## *Business & Retail Premises*

### INTERIOR DESIGN:

- Cash registers should be situated close to the entry exit point and if possible elevated (raised) to facilitate a clear view of the display area.
- Where goods are displayed on shelving, the shelves should be arranged to permit a clear view between the rows if possible. Mirrors can be employed, both curved and flat to facilitate views into areas that would otherwise be obscured.
- Staff should be encouraged to walk around the store in order to observe and assist customers.
- Electronic alarms which indicate when tags attached to garments are a useful disincentive to shop theft in the clothing trade. Outside displays will always encourage theft.
- Valuable and highly portable goods should never be displayed close to exit/entry points to avoid or reduce the possibility of "grab and run" offences.

### SIGNAGE:

- Signage should be clear and where possible graphic. Signs indicating the presence of time delay safes, electronic security Closed circuit TV systems and the absence of large quantities of cash are effective when accompanied by illustrations and simple wording, for example, "These premises are constantly monitored by CCTV surveillance" is less effective that an illustration of a closed circuit TV camera accompanied by "you are on TV!"

### CASH HANDLING:

- Cash registers should be lockable and attached to counter tops to deter theft of the whole register. Where possible, cash drawers should be situated so that customers are unable to see their contents. When staff move away from the register to attend to customers or check stock, the cash drawer should be locked. Cash should never be counted in public view. Tills should be regularly skimmed and money deposited in a drop safe or similar device. Banking should be done unobtrusively (eg use backpacks rather than cash bags or brief cases) and at irregular times.

### WINDOWS, ETCHING AND GRAFFITI:

- Many businesses in prominent locations experience graffiti and vandalism problems, particularly if they are situated close to bus stops or other businesses which are attractive to such offenders. Sacrificial films are available to coat large window areas. Graffiti should be quickly removed. Adequate and effective lighting, both interior and exterior is a significant disincentive to such behaviour.
- Monitored intrusion alarms are also effective as police responses are more likely after hours.



# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines for Local Government

## Vehicle Security

### Fact Sheet #4



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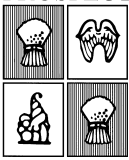


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#### INTRODUCTION:

Motor vehicles are a lucrative source of income for criminals as they are common place and readily accessible, often posing few problems as far as entry and removal are concerned.

Vehicles are stolen for five main reasons:

- For resale after a process called re- birthing
- For wrecking as a source of car parts
- As transport as a substitute for taxis or public transport
- As a means of experiencing a thrill and risk taking behaviour.
- For use in the commission of other crime such as ram raids, armed robberies and serious criminal trespass offences.

Number plates are also stolen to disguise vehicles in the commission of the above offences as well as service station "drive-offs" (see on street parking above)

Older vehicles are more at risk of being stolen, particularly those that pre-date effective built-in security systems such as engine immobilisers and locking systems. Older vehicles are also popular as a source of rare, hard to obtain parts and as such are often stolen to order. Often when such vehicles are recovered after being stolen they are damaged, incomplete or burnt out. Recent advances in DNA technology, and the prevalence of crime scene investigator type TV programmes often lead offenders to resort to arson in the belief that fire will destroy any DNA left in the vehicle.

Criminal acts involving theft of or from motor vehicles are most often committed in public car parks or when vehicles are parked 'on street' particularly after dark.

The most inexpensive and effective means of preventing car theft, particularly of older vehicles is the fitting of low cost engine immobilisers. These prevent the vehicle being started by all except the most resourceful and determined offenders.

They come in a variety of forms with many features:

- A single cut immobiliser shuts down the car's ignition system;
- A two cut immobiliser shuts down ignition and fuel systems;
- Some immobilisers have touch or proximity sensors that sound warnings and a siren or the car horn when approached or touched;
- Some feature window and door sensors that sound an alarm when entry by such means is attempted.

**Continued overleaf....**



Crime  
Prevention  
Program

# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines for Local Government

## *Vehicle Security Continued...*

### Fact Sheet #4



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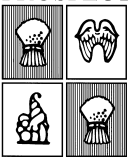


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Often such systems are activated and de-activated by a hidden pressure switch within the vehicle or by a remote key pad.

Cheaper one or two cut systems retail from \$150.00 including fitting. More sophisticated units can cost up to \$1000.00.

Highly visible and effective steering wheel locks can also act as a deterrent to car thieves.

Valuables such as cash, (even in small "parking meter" quantities) mobile phones, credit cards, laptop computers are all very attractive to opportunist car thieves and should never be left in unattended vehicles.

If parked on the street overnight vehicles should be fitted with an immobiliser, left free of valuables and either locked or left unlocked to avoid damage caused by illegal entry (see above) Audible alarms with proximity or touch sensors are a useful deterrent when fitted to vehicles parked on the street overnight.

When parked in car parks, vehicles are safest if close to areas of activity (eg pedestrian exits and entry points) and in well lit areas at night.

The National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council has an informative website at [www.carsafe.com.au](http://www.carsafe.com.au) and can be mailed at [info@carsafe.com.au](mailto:info@carsafe.com.au)



# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines for Local Government

## On Street Parking

### Fact Sheet #5



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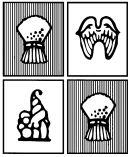


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### INTRODUCTION:

In many older suburbs it is necessary to park vehicles on the street at night due to a lack of parking space in driveways or garages. Such vehicles are vulnerable to break-ins and interference. Often these vehicles belong to younger family members and are therefore of older manufacture and more subject to theft or illegal interference.

### SECURING VEHICLES:

- Vehicles should be secured and free of valuables eg mobile phones, lap tops and cash (even in small quantities). If sound systems are fitted they should be security coded and fitted with removable faces to deter theft. Speakers should be installed with non-removable (non reversible) screws, similar to those used on number plates. Immobilisers should be fitted, especially to older vehicles lacking such standard equipment. Such simple immobilisers are now available for little more than \$100. As an extra precaution and at extra cost, an audible alarm with touch and proximity sensors can be fitted. Such fittings will alert sleeping residents of the presence of offenders before they break into or interfere with multiple vehicles.
- Non removable screws should be used to secure number plates to vehicles regularly parked on the street. These screws are available for SA Police Community Programmes units in each Local Service Area or from Local Watch SA groups. Stolen number plates are often used by offenders to disguise vehicles used in such criminal activities as armed robbery, housebreaks and petrol station drive-offs.
- \* Note: To prevent damage caused by illegal entry even when the vehicle contains no valuables, some owners elect to leave the vehicle unlocked having fitted it with an engine immobiliser to prevent its removal.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD VIGILANCE:

- Neighbours should be encouraged to report unusual activity to Police as soon as it is observed.

### LIGHTING:

- Effective lighting that is not obscured by tree branches and other street furniture is an important deterrent. If concerned about the level or effectiveness of street lighting, residents should contact their Local Council.