



International CPTED Association

ICA CPTED Certification Program (ICCP)

ICCP Preparatory Exam Questions

In preparation for your ICA CPTED certification (ICCP), there are important topics you should know and themes you should be able to describe with confidence. Those topics and themes are related to the competency requirements for the ICCP certification program. Here are some questions of general knowledge about CPTED that you should know. There are also references that provide background and history for more information.

1. What is CPTED?

- Crime Prevention Through Environmental design – now known as 1st Generation CPTED.
- CPTED was the title for the first book on the topic by Professor C. Ray Jeffery in 1971.
- Based partly on architectural journalist Jane Jacobs and her 1961 book *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*.
- Modern 1st Generation CPTED is mostly based on architect Oscar Newman's 1972 book *Defensible Space: Crime Prevention Through Urban Design*.

2. How does 1st Generation CPTED work?

- Territorial control and the control of the public realm by dividing areas into a hierarchy of public to private spaces. Also established by architectural, urban design, and urban planning methods.
- Access control of properties and neighborhoods for clear demarcation of areas where local residents can symbolically “defend” their place.
- Natural surveillance so that public areas have “eyes on the street”.
- Image and maintenance to improve the conditions of places, such as cleaning graffiti, removing litter, and enhancing the physical environment.

3. How has CPTED evolved in subsequent years?

- Researchers and practitioners added to a growing list of strategies including:
 - Place activation, also known as activity generators,
 - Target hardening which makes it more difficult to victimize vulnerable places,
 - Controlled movement predictors, such as walkways and stairwells.

4. What was the original 1960s and 1970s work that led to CPTED?

- Books by architectural journalist and activist Jane Jacobs, criminologist C. Ray Jeffery, architect Oscar Newman, housing advocate Elisabeth Wood and an PhD Thesis in 1968 by Schlomo Angel at University of California, Berkeley.
- Experiments by the Westinghouse Corporation to test CPTED in Portland, OR, Miami, FL and Minneapolis, MN, as well as a follow-up study in Hartford, CT.
- University of Louisville's CPTED course for professionals, launched in 1974 by Tim Crowe.

5. What is subsequent CPTED related work?

- Books by Alice Coleman (1985) "Utopia on Trial" (1983), "Designing Out Crime" (1980) by Ron Clarke and Patricia Mayhew, "Environmental Criminology" (1981) by Patricia & Paul Brantingham and Barry Poyner's "Design Against Crime: Beyond Defensible Space" (1983).
- Formation of the International CPTED Association (1996) in Calgary, Canada.
- 2nd Generation CPTED launched by Cleveland and Saville (1997), including community-building concepts to enhance social cohesion.
- Formation of the UK Design Out Crime Association (DOCA), European Design Out Crime Association (E-DOCA), Design Out Crime Research Centre (Australia 2005), Design Out Crime Research Center (UK), and Latin American chapters of ICA.

6. What does a CPTED practitioner need to know before making competent CPTED recommendations?

- Thorough physical, economic, and social context and background history of the area under consideration.
- Scoping of the problem including problem identification, problem impact and client feedback.
- Field research – crime statistics, crime analysis/mapping, site visits, field interviews, meeting with stakeholders.
- Literature/online review of other CPTED case studies of similar problems.

7. What analysis and practical skills should a CPTED practitioner master in order to conduct CPTED analysis?

- CPTED knowledge and experience
- Conducting meetings
- Managing multi-disciplinary teams
- Interpersonal and communication skills
- Analysis and research skills
- Writing skills
- Knowledge of local regulations, laws and urban design practice

8. What are the most common kinds of problems and crimes that apply to CPTED practice?

- Personal and property crime and disorder problems affecting public places such as theft, burglary, assault, robbery, sexual assault and murder.
- Fear of crime and disorder.
- Less serious problems such as street harassment, noise complaints, and vandalism.
- Crimes against private property such as trespassing, theft, burglary, and personal crime.

9. In what kinds of physical or social environments do CPTED practitioners typically deploy CPTED?

- Public spaces such as streets, parks, residential areas, commercial corridors, parking lots, schools, and entertainment districts.
- Private spaces such as interior courtyards and foyers of apartments, underground parking lots, interior areas of shopping malls.

10. What is the difference between target hardening, security tactics, situational crime prevention and CPTED?

- Security tactics include improving locks, CCTV cameras, patrol guards, and mechanical access controls. While not intended in the original writing of CPTED, today they are often included into the target hardening tactics of 1st Generation CPTED.
- Target hardening is often considered a strategy within CPTED. It includes tactics to make vulnerable items or areas more difficult to victimize, such as bullet proof glass protecting bank tellers or graffiti-resistant paint.
- Situational crime prevention is a list of a range of tactics to reduce crime opportunities. It includes, but is not limited to, CPTED.

11. Who can use CPTED strategies?

- There are few formal or legal regulations required of CPTED practitioners. Usually, if a CPTED practitioner has a professional urban design background, that professional needs to be qualified by the relevant professional organization, such as architects, engineers or urban planners.
- CPTED strategies have been used by architects, planners, community residents, consultants, security professionals, community associations, police officers among others.
- The International CPTED Association hosts an expansive CPTED practitioner certification system (ICCP). It is the first certification system developed for CPTED and is the most widely accepted and extensive CPTED certification system today.

12. What are the most common methods for deploying CPTED strategies?

- CPTED can apply to areas and places at the small scale (such as a foyer to a building), medium scale (such as a community park), or large scale (such as an entire shopping mall).
- CPTED has been formally implemented in a variety of ways such as:
 - Building regulations and codes,
 - Municipal by-laws and ordinances,
 - Urban design checklists,
 - Urban design guidelines, and
 - Collaborative design and development committees.

13. What are the main ethical concerns with CPTED practice?

- Crime displacement to other areas,
- Practicing CPTED without proper skills or training,
- Failing to consult with clients and community members,
- Failing to report a conflict of interest with clients,
- Failing to conduct proper research and record the finding to support CPTED recommendations.