Key principles of defense

To summarise the **key principles of defense**, a company must:

1. Understand its environment so that it can identify potential attackers.

2. Deter potential attackers with credible defensive capabilities.

3. Monitor signs that attackers are preparing to strike.

4. Try to avoid the attack by effective deterrence, negotiation or by other means.

5. Detect attacks as they begin and monitor them as they progress.
   The following must be resolved before an attack occurs:
   - Who is responsible for noticing that something has happened or that something has changed?
   - Whom do they tell?
   - How quickly?
   - Then who decides to have other people take what kind of action?
   - How quickly must all of those conversations happen so that the company can adapt fast enough when the risk happens, prevent or contain damage, and take the right steps to get back to normal?

6. Deflect or delay attacks where and when possible.

7. Degrade an attacker's capabilities by wearing them down (attrition), stalling them (obstacles), or destroying their attack force.

8. Defeat the attack by sufficiently degrading, deflecting or destroying the attacking force's capabilities.

Task 1 — Understand its environment

Task 2 — Deter potential attackers

Task 3 — Monitor signs

Task 4 — Try to avoid attacks

Task 5 — Detect attacks asap

Task 6 — Deflect or delay attacks

Task 7 — Degrade an attacker's capabilities

Task 8 — Defeat the attack