

Physical Security

What is Physical security?

Physical security describes measures designed to ensure the physical protection of IT assets such as facilities, equipment, people, resources, and other property from damage and unauthorized physical access. Physical security measures are taken to protect these assets from physical threats including theft, vandalism, fire, and natural disasters.



What is the most important in physical security?

Security experts agree that the three most important components of a physical security plan are access control, surveillance, and security testing, which work together to make your space more secure.

Physical security systems for protected facilities generally aim to:

- **Deter potential intruders (e.g., warning signs and external border signs).**
- **Distinguishing authorized from unauthorized persons (e.g., use of key cards/access badges).**
- **Delay, thwart, and prevent intrusion attempts (e.g., strong walls, door locks, and safes).**
- **Intrusion detection and monitoring/recording of intruders (e.g., intruder alarms and CCTV systems).**
- **Launch appropriate reactions (e.g., by security guards and police).**



Components of physical security controls:

- **1. Deterrence** – These are the physical security measures that keep people out or away from space. Deterrent security components can be a physical barrier, such as a wall, door, or turn style.
- **2. Detection** –Detection components of your physical security system help identify a potential security event or intruder. Sensors, alarms, and automatic notifications are all examples of physical security detection.
- **3. Delay** –requiring a key card or mobile credential, is one method of delay. Smart physical security strategies have multiple ways to delay intruders, which makes it easier to mitigate a breach before too much damage is caused.
- **4. Response** –physical security response includes communication systems, building lockdowns, and contacting emergency services or first responders.



4 Tips for Implementing Physical Security

- Define Physical Assets:** Take an inventory list of the physical assets that need to be secured.
- Risk Assessment:** Once that list is complete, now it's time to assess all of those assets.
- Remove and Consolidate.**
- Secure Assets.**

How can a company improve physical security?

- Keep an inventory of devices. More businesses are using mobile devices in their transactions.**
- Limit access to areas with sensitive info or equipment.**
- Put together and document security policies.**
- Train employees.**
- Don't forget the smaller things.**