Principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED):

**Natural Surveillance:** is the concept of putting "eyes on the street", making a place unattractive for potential illegitimate behaviour. Street design, landscaping, lighting and site design (i.e. neighbourhood layout) all influence the potential for natural surveillance.

**Access Control:** is controlling who goes in and out of a neighbourhood, park, building, etc. Access control includes creating a sense of "turf", for legitimate users, while focusing on formal and informal entry and exit points.

**Image:** is the appearance of a place and how this is instrumental in creating a sense of place or territory for legitimate users of the space. A place that does not appear to be maintained or cared for may indicate to criminals that the place will not be defended and criminal activity in the area will be tolerated.

**Territoriality:** is the concept of creating and fostering places that are adopted by the legitimate users of the space (i.e. take ownership), making it less likely for people who do not belong to engage in criminal or nuisance behaviour at that location.

**Conflicting User Groups:** refers to instances where different user groups may conflict (e.g. a school near industrial development or a seniors centre near a nightclub). Careful consideration of compatible land uses can minimize potential conflicts between groups.

**Activity Support:** is the concept of filling an area with legitimate users (by facilitating or directly scheduling activities or events) so potential offenders cannot offend with impunity. Places and facilities that are underused can become locations with the potential for criminal activity.

**Crime Generators:** are activity nodes that may generate crime. For example, a 24 hour convenience or liquor store may not be a problem in itself but where it is located in the community may cause conflict or unforeseen secondary activity. The location of some land uses is critical to ensuring an activity does not increase the opportunities for crime to occur or reduce users and residents perceptions of their safety in the area.

**Land Use Mix:** is the concept that diversity in land uses can be a contributor or detractor for crime opportunities. Separating land uses (i.e. residential) from each other can create places that are unused during certain times of the day.

**Movement Predictors:** force people, especially pedestrians and cyclists, along a particular route or path, without providing obvious alternative escape routes or strategies for safety. Potential attackers can predict where persons will end up once they are on a certain path (e.g. a pedestrian tunnel or walkway).

**Displacement:** can be positive or negative so it is critical to understand how crime may move in time or space and what the impact may be. In general, the displacement that must be considered is:

Negative displacement – crime movement makes things worse;
Diffusion of benefits – displacement can reduce the overall number of crimes more widely than expected;  
Positive displacement – opportunities for crime are intentionally displaced which minimizes the impact of the crime.

**Cohesion:** is the supportive relationships and interactions between all users of a place to support and maintain a sense of safety. Though not a specific urban design function, design can enhance the opportunity for positive social cohesion by providing physical places where this can occur, such as activity rooms, park gazebos, or multi-purpose rooms in schools and community centers. In some cases property owners or building managers can provide opportunities for social programming. This will increase the ability of local residents or users of a space to positively address issues as they arise.

**Connectivity:** refers to the social and physical interactions and relationships external to the site itself. It recognizes that any given place should not operate in isolation from surrounding neighbourhoods and/or areas. Features such as walkways and roadways connecting a particular land use to the surrounding neighbourhoods and/or areas can accomplish this. Features such as centrally located community centers or program offices can also encourage activities to enhance this.

**Capacity:** is the ability for any given space or neighbourhood to support its intended use. For example, excessive quantities of similar land uses in too small an area, such as abandoned buildings or bars, can create opportunities for crime. When a place is functioning either over or under capacity, it can be detrimental to neighbourhood safety.

**Culture:** is the overall makeup and expression of the users of a place. Also known as “placemaking”, it involves artistic, musical, sports, or other local cultural events to bring people together in time and purpose. Physical designs that can encourage this include public multi-purpose facilities, sports facilities, and areas that local artists and musicians might use. Community memorials, public murals, and other cultural features also enhance this. These features create a unique context of the environment and help determine the design principles and policies that best support the well being of all user groups and contribute to their cohesiveness.