



SHOPPING CENTRE SAFETY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Designed by the Senior Safety Working Group of the Townsville Thuringowa Safe Communities Program

Safety Audits provide an opportunity for the community to have a say about what contributes to their feelings of safety in their neighbourhoods, and thereby encourages better use of public space.

Safety Audit programs are designed for people who want to feel safer in their public space and who are prepared to do something towards achieving it. Safety Audits are about improving the physical environment in ways that will reduce the opportunities for crime and injury. Safety Audits are also about making public places like parks, bus stops and streets, and semi public/private places like shopping centres, safer for everyone.

This Shopping Centre Safety Audit aims to:

- Identify possible crime sites in public space, as well as areas where injuries are likely to occur;
- Address crime-related and physical safety concerns by making recommendations to appropriate authorities and owners of space directed at removing or reducing opportunities for crime, and reducing and preventing injuries and;
- Enable the community to monitor the implementation of recommendations made.

Note to Facilitator:

These audits should only be undertaken with supervision/guidance and the permission of the shopping centre/public space ideally should be sought before proceeding. A one-hour workshop/orientation, off-premises, with participants, is recommended before an audit is conducted.

TIPS: It will be helpful to those conducting the survey if both external audit sections are photocopied onto different colour paper to the internal sections.



SHOPPING CENTRE SAFETY AUDIT CHECKLIST - DAY

NAME OF SHOPPING CENTRE:



- 2.5 If there are plants, bushes or trees that interfere with lighting please specify where, if not tick No

Where _____ N

- 2.6 If the loading area for delivery vans blocks views of pedestrian and vehicular traffic please specify the location, otherwise tick NO

Where _____ N

SECTION A-EXTERNAL OBSERVATIONS

Please state your entry point:

1. FIRST IMPRESSIONS



ON ARRIVAL AT THE OUTSIDE AREA OF THE SHOPPING CENTRE:

- 1.1 What is your reaction to the place? Do you feel safe or unsafe in this area?

Safe Unsafe

2. LIGHTING



- 2.1 If the level of lighting good enough to let you identify a face at a distance of 15 metres (50 ft) tick YES otherwise please specify where

Y If NO, Where _____

- 2.2 How even is the lighting? If there are pools of light and darkness please specify where

Where _____ N

- 2.3 If there are lights out/not working please specify where, otherwise tick NO

Where _____ N

- 2.4 If you consider the street lighting in the area is adequate tick YES otherwise specify where

Y If NO, Where _____



3. SIGHTLINES



- 3.1 If it is difficult to see what's ahead because of sharp corners, walls, hills, fences, bushes or pillars, please specify where otherwise tick NO

Where _____ N

- 3.2 As you walk through the car park and outside areas, specify if there are places someone could be hiding without you knowing it, otherwise tick NO

Where _____ N

- 3.3 If there is a need in this place to have transparent materials used around areas (e.g. using lattice/Perspex for bus shelter instead of solid material that cannot be seen through) specify where, otherwise tick NO

Where _____ N

- 3.4 If there is a need in this place to have corners of buildings angled so it's easier to see around them specify where, otherwise tick NO

Where _____ N

- 3.5 If there is a need in this area for security mirrors to let you see around corners specify where, otherwise tick NO

Where _____ N

- 3.6 If there are steps which are easy to see and use tick YES, otherwise specify where

Y If NO, Where _____

4. ATMs (Automated Teller Machines)



- 4.1 Do you feel safe accessing the outside ATMs?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 4.2 If people can see over your shoulder when you use the ATM, specify the location, otherwise tick NO
 Y location: _____ N

- 4.3 Screening of the ATM – Is the ATM in an area where there are lots of people so that you feel safe or is it isolated?
 Y in good public area
 N – Isolated (specify the location) _____

5. ISOLATION FROM BEING SEEN / HEARD



- 5.1 How close is the nearest telephone if you need to call for help?

- 5.2 Is there adequate signage which tells you where the nearest telephone is?
 Y N
- 5.3 Do you know where to go to get help?
 If Y where: _____ N

- 5.4 If you screamed for help would you be heard by another person (such as a security guard, parking lot attendant, trolley boy etc)?
 Y N

6. GRAFFITI VANDALISM and AREAS OF NEGLECT



NEARBY LAND USES:

- 6.1 If there is graffiti, litter or signs of vandalism which make you feel unsafe, specify where or tick NO
 Where _____ N

- 6.2 Does the LAND around the shopping centre seem owned and cared for, or is it desolate, abandoned and look like a place where unlawful activity might go unnoticed?
 Owned/Cared for Desolate/Abandoned

- 6.3 Is there more than one way out of the area for a person who feels threatened?
 Y N If NO specify location: _____

THE SHOPPING CENTRE PRECINCT:

- 6.4 If there is graffiti, litter or signs of vandalism which make you feel unsafe, specify where or tick NO
 Where _____ N

- 6.5 Do the CAR PARK and PUBLIC TRANSPORT stop areas around the shopping centre seem owned and cared for, or are they desolate, abandoned and look like a place where unlawful activity might go unnoticed?
 Owned/Cared for
 Desolate/Abandoned
 Location: _____

- 6.6 Is there more than one way out of the area for a person who feels threatened?
 Y N If NO specify location: _____

7. MOVEMENT PREDICTABILITY



- 7.1(a) Are all entrances and exits of corridors, tunnels, walkways, stairs, lanes or paths etc clear of obstruction?
 Y N
- 7.1(b) If no, what and where, is the obstruction?

- 7.2 If there are corners, recessed doors or bushes where someone could hide and wait for you please specify the location, otherwise tick NO
 Where _____ N



8. SIGNS



- 8.1 On arrival at the parking areas is there adequate signage about best access for wheelchair/disability access into the shopping centre?
 Y N
- 8.2 Are there enough signs and maps so that people can find their way around easily? (being confused about where to go makes a person feel more vulnerable to harassment or assault).
 Y N
- 8.3 Are public transport signs (bus stops and taxi ranks) adequate?
 Y N
- 8.4 Is there brail signage available?
 Y N

9. PUBLIC TRANSPORT STOPS



- 9.1 Do you feel safe at the bus stops?
 Y if N why not? _____

- 9.2 Do you feel safe at the taxi rank?
 Y if N why not? _____

- 9.3 Do you feel safe using the pedestrian walkways?
 Y if N why not? _____

- 9.4 Are the bus stops, taxi rank and pedestrian routes well enough lit to identify a human face at 15 metres (50 ft)?
 Y N
- 9.5 Are there signs to guide you to destinations?
 Y N
- 9.6 Is there more than one route to the bus stop?
 Y N
- 9.7 Is there more than one route to the taxi rank?
 Y N
- 9.8 Is it easy to get on and off buses at the bus stop?
 Y if N why not? _____

10. OVERALL DESIGN



- 10.1 If there is sufficient lights and mirrors in underground car parks, tunnels, corridors tick YES otherwise specify where they are insufficient
 Y N If NO where: _____

- 10.2 If there are a confusing number of different levels in the external parking areas please specify where or tick NO
Where _____ N

11. INJURY/FALLS PREVENTION



- 11.1(a) Is there flat access from the car park, disability parking bays into the shopping centre?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 11.1(b) If No is a kerb ramp accessible to wheelchairs provided to facilitate entry?
 Y N
- 11.1(c) Are ramps no steeper than the required slope/incline as designated by Australian Standards (1:14 Normally; very short distance can be 1:8)
 Y N If NO where: _____

- 11.1(c) Do slope angles of pathways make it difficult to keep a trolley, pram or wheelchair on an even keel when pushed?
if Y Where: _____ N

- 11.2 Are there enough disability parking bays?
 Y N
- 11.4 Are there specific parking bays for seniors?
 Y N
- 11.3 Are the disability parking bays adequate to enable safe use by persons in wheelchairs? (a flat surface no less than 3 metres wide (10 ft) which allows for the car and wheelchair to be level when a person is being transferred from the car to a wheelchair)
 Y N If NO specify location: _____



- 11.4 If there are pot holes in the car park and public transport areas specify where or tick NO.
Where _____ **N**

- 11.5 Is the walkway from car parking spaces to buildings covered to give adequate protection from the weather?
 Y **N** If **NO** specify location: _____

- 11.6 Are there enough trolley return areas close to parking, especially disability parking bays?
 Y **N** If **NO** specify location: _____

- 11.7 Are the floor surfaces non-slip when dry?
 Y if **N** specify location: _____

- 11.8 Are the floor surfaces non-slip when wet?
 Y if **N** specify location: _____

- 11.9 Are there any uneven floor surfaces?
Where _____ **N**

- 11.10 Is there a safety barrier around the trolley return area?
LOCATION: _____

- Low?** **Waist Height?** **Other?**
- 11.11 Are glass doors clearly marked?
 Y if **N** specify location: _____

- 11.12 Is there a change in floor surfaces which assist visually impaired people to realise that they have reached the entry to a slope, escalator or stairs?
 Y if **N** specify location: _____

12. IMPROVEMENTS - External



- 12.1 What improvements would you like to see to external areas? Do you have any specific recommendations?

PLEASE TURN TO SECTION B OVER PAGE



SECTION B – INTERNAL OBSERVATIONS

Please state your entry point:

13. FIRST IMPRESSIONS



INSIDE THE SHOPPING CENTRE:

3.1 What is your reaction to the place? Do you feel safe or unsafe in this area?
 Safe Unsafe

14. LIGHTING



14.1 Is the level of lighting good enough to let you identify a face at a distance of 15 metres (50 ft)?
 Y if N specify location: _____

14.2 How even is the lighting? Are there pools of light and darkness?
 if Y Where: _____ N

14.3 Are any lights out?
 if Y Where: _____ N

14.4 Do you consider the lighting in the area is adequate?
 Y if N specify location: _____

14.5 Are there plants and signage that interfere with lighting?
 if Y Where: _____ N

15. SIGHTLINES



15.1 Is it difficult to see what's ahead because of sharp corners, walls, displays, plants, pillars?
 if Y Where: _____ N

15.2 As you walk through the shopping centre are there places someone could be hiding without you knowing it?
 if Y Where: _____ N

15.3 Would you be able to see better if transparent materials were used instead of solid materials (e.g., using lattice/Perspex instead of solid corridor walls that cannot be seen through)?
 if Y Where: _____ N

15.4 Is there a need in this shopping centre for corners to be angled so they are easier to see around?
 if Y Where: _____ N

15.5 Is there a need in this shopping centre for security mirrors to let you see around corners?
 if Y Where: _____ N

15.6 If there are steps in this shopping centre, are they easy to see and use?
 Y if N specify location: _____

16. ATMs – Automated Teller Machines



16.1 Do you feel safe accessing the ATMs?
 Y if N specify location: _____

16.2 If people can see over your shoulder when you use the ATM, specify the location, otherwise tick NO
 Y location: _____ N

16.2.1 Screening of the ATM – Is the ATM in an area where there are lots of people so that you feel safe or is it isolated?
 Y in good public area
 N – Isolated (specify the location) _____



17. ISOLATION FROM BEING SEEN / HEARD

- 17.1 Do you know where to go to get help?
If Y where: _____ N

- 17.2 How close is the nearest telephone if you need to call for help?

- 17.3 Is there adequate signage which tells you where the nearest telephone is?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 17.4 Is there adequate signage which tells you where the Centre Management is?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 17.5 Have you seen a security guard whilst you have been inside the Shopping Centre?
 Y N

18. GRAFFITI, VANDALISM and AREAS OF NEGLECT

THE SHOPPING CENTRE PRECINCT – INSIDE:

- 18.1 Is there graffiti, litter or signs of vandalism which make you feel unsafe?
if Y Where: _____ N

- 18.2 Does the shopping centre seem owned and cared for, or is it desolate, abandoned and look like a place where unlawful activity might go unnoticed?
 Owned/Cared for Desolate/Abandoned
- 18.3 Is there more than one way out of the area for a person who feels threatened?
 Y if N specify location: _____

19. MOVEMENT PREDICTABILITY

- 19.1(a) Are all entrances and exits of corridors, tunnels, walkways, stairs, lanes or paths etc clear of obstruction?
 Y N
- 19.1(b) If no, what is the obstruction?

- 19.2 Are there corners, recessed doors or bushes where someone could hide and wait for you?
if Y Where: _____ N

20. SIGNS

- 20.1 Are there enough signs and maps so that people can find their way around easily? (being confused about where to go makes a person feel more vulnerable to harassment or assault).
 Y N
- 20.2 Which of these signs are adequate/inadequate (tick your response):

Toilet Signs

Clear Confusing Too Small Non Existent

Handicap Toilet Signs

Clear Confusing Too Small Non Existent

Telephone Signs

Clear Confusing Too Small Non Existent

Centre Management Signs

Clear Confusing Too Small Non Existent

Emergency Exit Signs

Clear Confusing Too Small Non Existent

Public Transport Signs (bus stops, taxi ranks)

Clear Confusing Too Small Non Existent

- 20.3 Is Brail signage available?

Y N

21. OVERALL DESIGN

- 21.1 Is it easy to find your way around?
 Y N
- 21.2 Do you know where to get help in this Shopping Centre?
if Y Where: _____ N



- 21.3 Public toilets – are they isolated?
 Y N
- 21.4 How easy is it for an intruder to go into the toilets unnoticed?
 Easy Difficult
- 21.5 Are there enough disabled toilets provided?
 Y N
- 21.6 Are the disabled toilets accessible by wheelchair from a main entrance, lift or other circulation space?
 Y N
- 21.7 Are the hand operated flushing controls easily accessible and easy to use by a person in a wheelchair? (i.e., should not be higher than 1200mm above floor level and push button or downward operating levers are preferred)
 Y N

22. INJURY/FALLS PREVENTION



- 22.1 Are the floor surfaces non-slip when dry?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.2 Are the floor surfaces non-slip when wet?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.3 Are there any uneven floor surfaces?
 Y Where: _____ N

- 22.4 Are glass doors clearly marked?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.5 Are doors easy to open?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.6 Are there grab rails on walls in corridors?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.7 Are there grab rails in all toilets?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.8 Do the stairs include non-slip edges?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.9 Do the stairs include a handrail that extends 300mm at the beginning and end of the flight of stairs (to act as a tactile aid for blind people and a balancing aid for pedestrians)
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.10 Are there any doors opening directly across the top of the flight or stairs, or which swing so that the top or bottom step is obstructed?
 Y Where: _____ N

- 22.11 Are the stairs in good repair (i.e., no chipped tiles etc).
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.12 Do ramps include at least one handrail extending along its length and extended 300mm (1ft) at the beginning and end of the ramp?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.13 Do the ramps have non-slip surfaces?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.14 Is the surface of the ramp in good repair?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.15 Do the ramps include a 100mm high (4 inches) gutter on each side that ensures effective control of a wheelchair to prevent it veering over the edge of the ramp and which serves as a tactile cue for the visually impaired?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.16 Is there a landing or level rest area provided after every 10000mm (10m or 33 ft) of the ramp? (if applicable)
 Y if N specify location: _____



- 22.17 Do the escalators have non-slip surfaces?
 Y if N specify location: _____

- 22.18 Are ramps, escalator inclines, pathways no steeper than the required slope/incline as designated by Australian Standards (incline angle ???)
 Y N If NO where: _____

- 22.19 Do slope angles of pathways, ramps, escalators make it difficult to keep a trolley, pram or wheelchair on an even keel when pushed?
 if Y Where: _____ N

- 22.18 Is there a change in floor surfaces which assists visually impaired people to realise that they have reached the entry to a slope, escalator or stairs?
 Y if N specify location: _____

23. IMPROVEMENTS – Internal



23.1 What improvements would you like to see to internal areas? Do you have any specific recommendations?

24. ANY OTHER COMMENTS?



**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR
 AFTER DARK EXTERNAL
 SURVEY**

