

FREE CHECKLIST

Camera & Access Control Coverage Planner

A room-by-room worksheet to count doors, choose camera types and size a system before you talk to a vendor.

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Step 1 — inventory your openings

List every door and gate. The columns decide what each one needs.

Door / gate	Exterior?	Public-facing?	High-value area behind it?	Traffic (low/med/high)	Recommended control
Main entrance	☐	☐	☐		Reader + intercom + camera
Staff entrance	☐	☐	☐		Reader + camera
Loading dock	☐	☐	☐		Reader + wide camera + intercom
Server / records room	☐	☐	☐		Reader (2-factor) + camera
Roof / mechanical	☐	☐	☐		Contact sensor + camera
(add rows)					

Rule of thumb: exterior + public-facing = reader plus intercom. Exterior only = reader. Interior high-value = reader with a second factor (PIN or mobile). Interior low-value = mechanical lock plus a door contact if you want an audit trail.

Step 2 — choose a camera type per zone

Zone	Camera type	Why	Typical count
Entrances (face capture)	Dome or bullet, 5–8 MP, 2.8–4 mm	Identifiable faces at door height	1 per door
Parking lot	Bullet, 8 MP, or multisensor	Distance, plates, low light	1 per 40–60 spaces + 1 per entrance
Open floor / warehouse	Fisheye or multisensor	Wide coverage, fewer units	1 per 3,000–5,000 sq ft
Corridors	Dome, 4–5 MP	Length of hall, vandal-resistant	1 per 60–80 ft
Cash / POS / pharmacy	Dome, 5–8 MP, close	Hands and transactions	1 per station
Perimeter / fence	Bullet or thermal	Long range, night	1 per 150–250 ft

Step 3 — sensors and alerts

- ☐ Door contacts on every exterior door
- ☐ Motion in after-hours zones
- ☐ Glass-break at street-level glazing
- ☐ Panic buttons at reception and cash points
- ☐ Environmental (temperature, water, air quality) in server rooms and where regulations require
- ☐ Intercom at every unstaffed public entrance

Step 4 — size the system

Count	Your number	Multiply by	Planning budget
Controlled doors		\$1,200–2,500 installed	
Cameras		\$800–1,800 installed	
Sensors / intercoms		\$300–900 installed	
Cloud licensing per device per year		\$150–400	
Planning total (year 1)			

Bands assume cloud-managed, PoE devices with a 5–10 year license horizon and typical US labor. Wiring runs over 300 ft, outdoor conduit and permits add cost.

Step 5 — network and power check

- ☐ A PoE switch port (or PoE+ for PTZ and multisensor) per device
- ☐ Cabling runs under 328 ft / 100 m from switch to device
- ☐ Internet upload capacity for cloud video (plan ~1–2 Mbps per camera for cloud clips; more for continuous cloud recording)
- ☐ UPS on the switch and access controllers so doors and cameras ride through outages
- ☐ A spare port budget of 20% for growth

Take the counts to a full spec.

Each \$497 Security Spec & Sourcing Package turns this worksheet into an equipment schedule, placement plan and RFP for your use case.

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