

7 WAYS ARCHITECTS CAN ENSURE SECURITY & DESIGN ARE SYMBIOTIC

Security consultants are advisors and supervisors who work with security protocols, plans, systems, and strategies. They also work closely with architects in many aspects of building design. But can that relationship be completely symbiotic?

The most effective way to ensure building design and security seamlessly exist is for architects and security consultants to work closely together on behalf of the client.

Taking a team approach and working in concert early in the design process, will help lead to fewer change orders and ensure projects finish in a timely fashion



Here are seven suggested steps:

- 1 Determine the operational intent** of the security door hardware and field devices. This includes ensuring they meet the needs of the end user as well as life safety/egress code.
- 2 Discover who is providing and installing** the various security project components. Know who is terminating each one.
- 3 Discuss the installation heights** for the security devices—distance above finished floor to middle, top, or bottom of the device. Ensure devices are installed at ADA-accessible heights.
- 4 Ask what finish/color options** are available for door hardware and security field devices. Request product data sheets to review aesthetics.
- 5 Request related trades use architectural door numbers** for device numbering/naming to support ease of coordination and tracking.
- 6 Inquire as to whether device locations** have been coordinated with other trades—plumbing, fire, signage, lighting, sprinklers to limit design errors.
- 7 Ensure requirements such as power**, network, rough-in, etc. are coordinated to minimize costly slowdowns or shutdowns during construction.

Atriade is a security consulting firm. We provide security system design services for access control, perimeter protection, video and visitor management, and other physical security technologies. We also provide security master planning, program development, risk assessments, project management, and professional services.

Our client portfolio includes Fortune 50 companies, Ivy League universities, and leading technology firms in Silicon Valley.

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