

Real-World Scenario 10-1: Choosing Physical Security Methods

Scenario: You are the security administrator for DPro42, Inc., a technology research firm that has 20 users in the main office, several offsite computers, a data center, and an unsecured computer lab. Your task is to use physical methods to secure these computers.

Name eight types of physical security methods and define them in the following table. The solution to this scenario might have different answers than you.

[illegible]

Real-World Scenario 10-1 Solution

There are many types of physical security methods. The following table shows eight examples and basic descriptions for them based on the scenario.

Physical Security	
Method	Description
CCTV	Closed-circuit television, used to monitor and record images from server rooms and data centers.
Cable locks	Used to physically lock down computers and monitors; for example, computers in an otherwise unsecured computer lab.
Cipher lock	A type of door lock that uses a basic cipher mechanism where the numbers of the code must be entered sequentially—often pushbutton operated. Used in server rooms, data centers, and even for entrances to offices.
Proximity badges	Basic swiping cards used to allow access to an office or a server room. The card (or badge) need only be in close proximity to the sensor for the door in question.
Safe	A wonderful way to protect items such as optical discs, backup tapes, USB flash drives, application and development discs, and so on.
Mantrap	A secure area that can be used to hold a person until that person is authenticated to the area ahead. Often used as entrances to server rooms and data centers (and even offices), while still allowing a means of egress in the case of an emergency.

Physical Security

Method	Description
Biometric scanner	Often a type of scanner that can be used on laptops and other mobile devices. It connects via USB and will usually scan a thumbprint. This type of physical security works great for computers that are located outside the office; for example, computers used by salespersons or data commuters.
Smart cards	Like proximity badges, something a person <i>has</i> . For example, a common access card, which has an embedded chip that can authenticate a user. An excellent choice for highly secure areas such as server rooms and data centers.

Your organization's physical security methods will vary. They will be based on the IT security budget as well as the level of confidentiality of your data. Consider researching additional methods of physical security on the Internet.

Simulation: Complete the simulation "10-1: Choosing Physical Security Methods."