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ELECTRONIC SECURITY · TASMANIA

CUSTOMER GUIDE

Choosing the right **Axis camera** for the job

How to decide what each camera needs to see, which type of camera does it best, and what sits behind it. A plain-English guide from Securatech.

8	10	12
STEPS	CAMERA TYPES	COMMON JOBS

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STEP 1

Start with the job, **not the camera**

The most common mistake is choosing a camera by its megapixels. A good system starts with a list of places and, for each one, what the footage must prove. Five questions answer almost everything.

01

What do you need to see?

Is it enough to know someone is there, or do you need to recognise a face or read a number plate? This decides how much detail each camera needs.

02

How far away is it?

Detail drops with distance. A camera that identifies a face at 3 m may only show a figure at 30 m.

03

What is the light like?

Bright sun through a doorway, a dark car park, headlights, no light at all. Each needs a different camera feature.

04

Where will it be mounted?

Indoors or outdoors, ceiling or wall, within reach of people, exposed to weather, dust, salt or vandalism.

05

What happens with the footage?

Watched live, reviewed after an incident, or used to raise alerts? How long must it be kept?

A SIMPLE WAY TO WRITE IT DOWN

"Main entrance, identify anyone coming in, 4 m from the door, strong backlight in the afternoon, outdoors under an awning, kept 30 days."

For every camera position, one line like this. That sentence is enough to choose the camera, the lens and the settings.

Your camera list

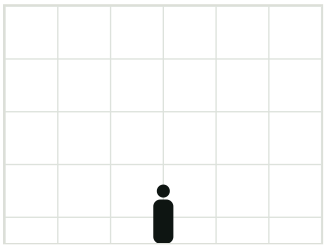
Fill in one row per position and bring it to your site survey.

POSITION	DETAIL NEEDED	DISTANCE	LIGHT	MOUNTING	KEEP FOR
Main entrance	*Identify*	*4 m*	*Afternoon backlight*	*Outdoor, under awning*	*30 days*

STEP 2

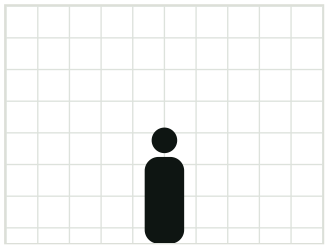
How much detail **do you need?**

Security cameras are specified by how many pixels fall on each metre of the scene. Four levels are used across the industry (DORI, from IEC 62676-4). Axis publishes the distance each camera reaches at each level.



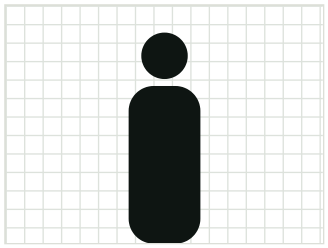
Detect 25 px/m

Something or someone is there. Good for alarms and perimeters.



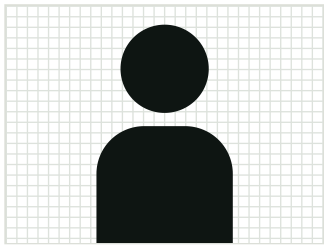
Observe 62 px/m

What a person is doing, clothing colour, general appearance.



Recognise 125 px/m

Someone you know can say with confidence that it is that person.



Identify 250 px/m

A stranger can be identified beyond reasonable doubt. Needed at entry points and counters.

How far each level reaches

Distance in metres at which a camera still gives that level of detail, in good light. At night and in rain expect less.

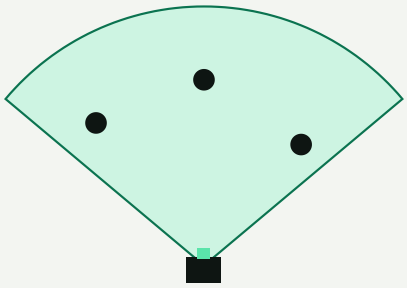
CAMERA	LENS VIEW	IDENTIFY	RECOGNISE	OBSERVE	DETECT
2 MP	Wide, ~100°	3 m	6 m	13 m	32 m
	Medium, ~55°	7 m	15 m	30 m	74 m
	Narrow, ~30°	14 m	29 m	57 m	143 m
	Telephoto, ~12°	37 m	73 m	146 m	365 m
4 MP	Wide, ~100°	5 m	9 m	18 m	45 m
	Medium, ~55°	10 m	21 m	41 m	103 m
	Narrow, ~30°	20 m	40 m	80 m	201 m
	Telephoto, ~12°	51 m	102 m	205 m	511 m
8 MP	Wide, ~100°	6 m	13 m	26 m	64 m
	Medium, ~55°	15 m	30 m	59 m	148 m
	Narrow, ~30°	29 m	57 m	115 m	287 m
	Telephoto, ~12°	73 m	146 m	292 m	731 m

Worked out from the image width and lens angle. Each camera's own figures are in its Axis datasheet.

STEP 3

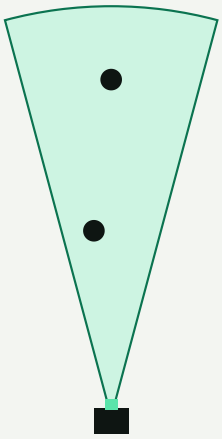
Lens and **field of view**

Every camera spreads its pixels across what it sees. A wide view covers more but puts fewer pixels on each person. A narrow view sees less but reaches much further. Choosing the lens is usually more important than choosing the resolution.



Wide lens · ~100°

Covers a whole room, less detail on each person



Narrow lens · ~30°

Same pixels on a smaller area: detail much further away

Fixed or varifocal?

Fixed lens cameras are smaller and cost less. They suit places where the view is known, such as a corridor or reception.

Varifocal cameras can be zoomed and focused remotely during setup, so the view can be fine-tuned on site and changed later. They are the safe choice when the exact view isn't known yet.

Telephoto and PTZ cameras zoom much further for car parks, yards and long views.

Rules of thumb

- **Use two cameras rather than one big one:** a wide camera for the overview, a narrow one where people must be identified.
- **Put identification cameras at pinch points:** doors, gates, counters, stairs. People pass close and face the camera.
- **Mount at about 2.5–3 m** and look along the direction people walk, not straight down on them.
- **Use corridor format** (the image turned 90°) for aisles, corridors and fences.
- **Panoramic and 360° cameras** replace several cameras in open rooms, but give less detail at the edges.

STEP 4

Camera types **side by side**



Dome

Indoor and outdoor ceiling or wall mounting. Discreet, tamper-resistant, hard to tell where it is pointing.

Good for Shops, offices, corridors, receptions, schools.
Watch for Limited zoom on the smallest models.

`e.g. AXIS M3085-V`



Bullet

Outdoor wall or pole mounting with built-in infrared. Clearly visible, which deters.

Good for Car parks, building perimeters, entrances, yards.
Watch for More visible to vandals; mount out of reach.

`e.g. AXIS P1475-LE`



Box

Interchangeable or long lenses and the best image quality for a fixed view.

Good for Long views, number plates, high-detail areas.
Watch for Larger; usually needs a housing outdoors.

`e.g. AXIS Q1656-LE`



Panoramic / 360°

One camera sees a whole room or both directions of a hallway.

Good for Open-plan offices, retail floors, lobbies, intersections.
Watch for Less detail at the edges; not for identification at distance.

`e.g. AXIS M4327-P`



Multi-directional

Three or four camera heads in one housing, each aimed separately. One cable, one mounting point.

Good for Building corners, car park intersections, warehouses.
Watch for Higher price than a single camera.

`e.g. AXIS P3737-PLE`



PTZ

Pans, tilts and zooms to follow activity. Operators can zoom in on detail far away.

Good for Large sites, yards, ports, live monitoring.
Watch for Only sees one place at a time; best with fixed cameras alongside.

`e.g. AXIS Q6086-E`



Thermal

Sees heat, not light. Detects people and vehicles in total darkness, smoke and glare.

Good for Fence lines, perimeters, remote sites, early warning.
Watch for Doesn't identify people; pair it with a visual camera.

`e.g. AXIS Q1971-E 13 mm`

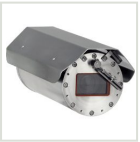


Modular

A tiny sensor on a cable with a separate main unit. Hides almost anywhere.

Good for ATMs, counters, lifts, vehicles, covert spots.
Watch for More parts to install.

`e.g. AXIS F9104-B Mk II`



Explosion-protected

Certified stainless housings for areas with flammable gas or dust.

Good for Fuel, gas, chemical and grain sites.
Watch for Specialist pricing and installation.

`e.g. AXIS EXCAM XF Q1785`



Cube

Small, affordable indoor camera with infrared, often on a desk or shelf.

Good for Small offices, shops, home offices.
Watch for Indoor only; fixed wide view.

`e.g. AXIS M1075-L Mk II`

STEP 5

Light, weather **and toughness**

Most footage that fails is footage taken in difficult light. Match the camera to the worst conditions the spot will see, not the best.

Dark, but some light Car parks with street lights, warehouses at night	**Lightfinder** keeps colour and detail in very low light, so clothing and vehicle colours are still visible.
No light at all Unlit yards, fence lines, back lanes	**Built-in infrared** (models ending in L, e.g. LE, LVE). Check the IR range in the datasheet against the distance needed. Images are black and white.
Bright and dark in one view Doorways, glass entrances, loading docks	**Forensic WDR** balances sunlight and shade so faces in a doorway aren't silhouettes. Essential for entrances.
Long distance in darkness, smoke or fog Perimeters, remote assets	**Thermal cameras** detect heat out to hundreds of metres regardless of light.
Headlights Driveways, gates, number plates	**Purpose-built plate cameras** (AXIS Q1800-LE) tuned for plates at speed, day and night, with built-in OptimizedIR.

Weather ratings (IP)

IP42–IP54	Indoor or sheltered.
IP66	Outdoors, heavy rain and hosing.
IP67 / IP68	Temporary or long immersion; washdown areas.

Coastal and industrial sites may need stainless or coated housings. Ask about salt, chemicals and high-pressure cleaning.

Impact ratings (IK)

IK08	Knocks and bumps, indoors out of reach.
IK10	Vandal-resistant; anywhere people can reach or throw things.

THE LETTERS IN THE MODEL NAME

E outdoor

L built-in IR (LED) light

V vandal-resistant

For example, an **LVE** camera has built-in IR light, is vandal-resistant and is rated for outdoors.

STEP 6

Common jobs and **what we'd use**

A starting point for typical locations. Every site is different, so the final choice comes from the survey.

	LOCATION	DETAIL NEEDED	USUAL APPROACH	TYPICAL MODEL
	**Reception or service counter**	Identify	Fixed dome facing customers, 2–3 m away	**AXIS M3085-V**
	**Building entrance or doorway**	Identify	Varifocal dome with Forensic WDR, looking at people coming in	**AXIS P3275-LVE 10 mm**
	**Corridor or aisle**	Recognise	Dome or bullet in corridor format	**AXIS P3277-LV**
	**Open office or retail floor**	Observe	360° panoramic dome on the ceiling	**AXIS M4327-P**
	**Car park**	Observe	Bullet with infrared, or a multi-directional dome at a corner	**AXIS P1488-LE**
	**Vehicle gate or driveway**	Identify vehicles	Number plate camera at the gate	**AXIS Q1800-LE**
	**Fence line or perimeter**	Detect	Thermal camera with analytics, plus a PTZ to check alarms	**AXIS Q1971-E 19 mm**
	**Large yard or loading area**	Observe	Multi-directional camera or PTZ on a building corner	**AXIS P3737-PLE**
	**Warehouse aisles**	Recognise	Bullet or dome in corridor format at each aisle end	**AXIS P1487-LE**
	**Building corner, two walls**	Observe	Outdoor panoramic dome with 180° or 360° views	**AXIS M4317-PLVE**
	**Lift, ATM or covert spot**	Recognise	Modular camera with a hidden sensor	**AXIS F9104-B Mk II**
	**Plant room or hazardous area**	Observe	Explosion-protected camera	**AXIS EXCAM XF Q1785**

Prices are Axis RRP for the camera only, from the Securatech Axis price list (November 2026). Mounts, cabling, recording and installation are extra.

STEP 7

Analytics: cameras that **watch for you**

Most current Axis cameras (marked "AI analytics" in the price list) can tell people from vehicles on the camera itself. Instead of reviewing hours of footage, the system raises an alert or bookmarks the moment something happens.

Object in area

A person or vehicle enters a zone, such as a yard after hours.

Line crossing

Someone crosses a virtual line, such as a fence or a doorway, in a chosen direction.

Time in area

Someone stays too long, such as loitering at a back door or an ATM.

Counting and occupancy

How many people or vehicles pass or are inside a space.

Number plates

Plates read and checked against an allow list to open a gate (AXIS License Plate Verifier).

Searching footage

Find every red car or every person in a blue jacket across cameras in AXIS Camera Station.

What analytics do well

- Cut false alarms from animals, shadows and moving trees compared with simple motion detection.
- Turn cameras into an after-hours intrusion system with a thermal or IR camera.
- Make finding an incident minutes instead of hours.

What to be realistic about

- Detection works within a set range; the camera must have enough detail on the target.
- Heavy rain, fog, spider webs and bright lights still cause some false alerts.
- Zones and rules need tuning after installation. Securatech does this during commissioning.

STEP 8

What sits **behind the cameras**

Power over Ethernet (PoE)

Axis cameras take power and data over one network cable, up to 100 m from the switch. Each camera has a PoE class shown in the price list:

POE CLASS	UP TO	TYPICAL CAMERAS
Class 2-3	13 W	Indoor domes, bullets, most fixed cameras
Class 4 (PoE+)	25.5 W	Outdoor IR, heaters, multi-sensor cameras
Class 6-8 / mains	51–71 W	PTZ and specialist cameras with heaters

Add up every camera on a switch and leave headroom. Outdoor cameras draw more in winter when heaters run.

Recording and software

- **Small sites (up to 8 cameras):** AXIS S3008 Mk II recorder with built-in PoE ports.
- **Larger sites:** AXIS S12 or S22 series recorders with AXIS Camera Station licences included.
- **AXIS Camera Station** runs on the recorder and lets staff watch live, search and export footage from PCs and phones.

How much storage?

Storage depends on cameras, resolution, how busy the scene is and how long footage must be kept. With Axis Zipstream and continuous recording, a typical camera uses:

CAMERA	AVERAGE	14 DAYS	30 DAYS	90 DAYS
2 MP	1.5 Mbit/s	0.2 TB	0.5 TB	1.5 TB
4 MP	2.5 Mbit/s	0.4 TB	0.8 TB	2.4 TB
8 MP	4 Mbit/s	0.6 TB	1.3 TB	3.9 TB

Per camera, continuous recording. Busy scenes, night-time noise and higher frame rates use more; recording on motion or analytics uses much less. Securatech sizes storage for each site.

Keeping it secure and supported

- Cameras on their own network or VLAN, not on the guest Wi-Fi.
- Unique passwords for every device, and firmware kept up to date. Axis signs its firmware and supports models for many years.
- Remote viewing set up properly, without opening the recorder to the internet.
- Axis offers a five-year warranty on most of its products.

QUICK PICK

Which camera, **at a glance**

Follow the row that matches the spot. Each ends at a camera type and the Axis line we usually start with.

WHAT DOES THIS CAMERA NEED TO DO?	WHERE IS IT?	WHAT'S THE LIGHT?	START WITH
Identify people at a door, counter or gate	→ Indoors	→ Normal light	→ **Fixed or varifocal dome** M-series / P32 series
	→ Outdoors	→ Backlight or night	→ **Outdoor varifocal dome** P3275-LVE / P3277-LVE
Read number plates driveways, gates	→ Gate or road	→ Day and night	→ **Plate camera** Q1800-LE
Watch an area yard, car park, floor	→ Open room	→ Normal light	→ **360° panoramic dome** M43 series
	→ Outdoors, large	→ Dark	→ **IR bullet or multi-directional** P14 series / P37 series
Detect intruders fences, remote land	→ Long perimeter	→ Any light, no light	→ **Thermal + analytics** Q19 series
Follow activity live large sites, operators	→ Large open site	→ Day and night	→ **PTZ** Q60 / Q63 series
Hide the camera lifts, ATMs, counters	→ Tight space	→ Normal light	→ **Modular** F / FA series

NEXT STEPS

How Securatech **plans your system**

01

Site survey

We walk the site with you, mark every camera position on your floor plan, and note light, mounting, cabling and network for each one.

02

Coverage plan

Each camera is drawn on the plan with its view, so you can see what it covers and what detail it gives before anything is bought.

03

Written quote

Cameras, recording, licences, network, cabling and installation, itemised, using the models and prices in our Axis price list.

04

Install and commission

We install, aim and focus every camera, set up analytics and recording, test with you, and hand over the documentation.

securatech.

Electronic security and technology integration, statewide across Tasmania.

Talk to us about your site.

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Product details are summarised from Axis Communications and may change; check the Axis datasheet for each model. Distances and storage figures are guides for planning, not guarantees of performance on a particular site. E&OE.