



Use Social Distancing Signage in these 5 places

As each state continues their phased approach to returning to work, some states such as <u>Massachusetts</u> have "mandated that <u>social distancing signage</u> be used throughout the work place". **But where do all these <u>signs</u> go?** *I'm not sure – I've never had to do this before.* Luckily we have spoken to our field generals who have provided us with some great feedback as we ourselves prepare our own office for Social Distancing. Here are some areas where we would suggest placing signs!





Building Entrance & Exits: Traffic and crowd control is a key factor in social distancing and you may have started creating such a plan to enforce regulations in your own workplace. Don't forget to address the exterior of entrances and exits on your floor plan, your employees, guests, and delivery specialists will love you for it. Prevent that defeated feeling you get after an "*Excuse me – you're going to need to use the other door*". But I'm right here. I made all this effort to be here. Had I know that was the entrance over there – I would have been there! Trust us with the amount of deliveries we make – we promise you having a well-marked building really helps.

Reception: It's important to make a quick impression and communicate your guest policy immediately. Your greeting area which once welcomed warm handshakes and hellos has been replaced by messaging about face masks, socially-distanced furniture, and in some cases Body Temperature Checks and requests for travel documentation. To emphasize safety during this time, let's mark our floors to keep guests distant from each other as they wait to be greeted by your Director of First Impressions. Let's clearly mark areas where guests can rest while they wait to be seen, encourage the use of hand sanitizer as they just entered from the outside world and *please please please please* no shaking hands for the time being. Not that we don't want to, it's just, you know, a Pandemic.





Restroom: The Washington Post deemed the bathroom a major area of concern, coining it "a barrier to reopening". Many organizations will look to create the "touchless" restroom and help prevent the spread of germs in this area. Right from the very beginning of this pandemic there may have been no clearer message to the world than simply wash your hands. Try to go five minutes without touching your eyes, nose, or mouth, it's nearly impossible which is

why the <u>CDC encourages handwashing</u> after what feels like every moment of your life, and none more important than a trip to the restroom. Place signs around your restroom – near the sinks, on doors, etc. – to remind employees and guests of handwashing techniques to best slow the spread of germs.

Break Room: In the past decade, the emergence of <u>break rooms</u> has been incredible benefit for employees. The way to your employee's heart is through their stomach and providing complimentary beverages and snacks can improve productivity. Now this area of culture-building, unwinding, or powering-up is a prime area for risk. You know that guy in the break room always washing his coffee mug, telling you about his take on the latest article from Barstool Sports or Huffington Post. Use



signage to remind him to usher himself along or have a conversation from a minimum of six feet away. And wash those hands while you're at it!



The Elevator: This is definitely a tricky one, as there are many individuals who require passage to move throughout their building and these tight spaces cause significant challenges for social distancing. Whether you are limiting traffic from the lobby or from the loading dock these convenient lifts offer a significant challenge in social distancing. Create a policy that provides safe access to the elevator for employees and guests that need it. Cushman Wakefield's "Guide to Reopening the Workplace" suggests "using a queue

management for waiting passengers, posting social distancing signage concerning passenger limits, and adding floor stickers to establish safe distance zones showing where to stand and which direction to face." This would also be a good place for a facemask reminder.

Don't stop here - think of the lobby, HR department, other general office areas, point-of-sale countertops, additional exterior building spots, and so many more. Overall, making sure your signs give a clear and concise message of safety to your guests and employees will help ease the transition back into the world.

Sources

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