



Traveler and Consumer Travel Tips Transportation Security Administration

Following the three travel tips will prepare air travelers to go through checkpoints and drastically reduce chances of a more thorough secondary screening being required. Call it "Three for Three" - three tips that can avoid secondary screening that, on average, takes three minutes per person. The cumulative effect can be substantial, especially around Thanksgiving, the heaviest travel holiday because travel is concentrated in only a few days.

Here's what to do when approaching the checkpoint:

IN - Place all metal items IN a carry-on bag while waiting in line. (Watches, jewelry, etc)

OUT - Take laptops OUT of their cases.

OFF - Take coats, shoes and hairpins OFF.

- Everyone, even frequent fliers, should double check the content of their pockets and bags, particularly carry-on luggage, to ensure no prohibited items were inadvertently packed.
- Think about what you are wearing before going to the airport. Metal clothing or metal jewelry are likely to require additional screening.
- Pack undeveloped film in carry-on bags. Checked baggage screening equipment will damage undeveloped film.
- Wrap gifts upon arrival at your destination. If gifts require additional screening, screeners may have to un-wrap them.
- Do not over pack bags. If screeners have to open them, closing overstuffed bags can be difficult and result in delays for checked baggage.

If TSA screeners need to open a locked bag for inspection they may have to break the lock. There are now products on the market that have uniform locking systems that enable TSA during a required inspection, to open and relock the bag. Passengers without such devices should consider leaving bags unlocked.

For more travel tips and a complete list of items prohibited from carry-on or checked baggage, visit www.TSATravelTips.us or call the Contact Center toll-free at 1-866-289-9673.

The purchase of medications, plants, animals, fruits or vegetables (in Costa Rica) are prohibited and cannot be brought to USA.