

KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

TSA-approved advice on how to avoid losing your luggage, your belongings, and your mind



Get Colorful

“Avoid standard black and blatant designer bags. They’re easy to confuse—and steal,” says Cari Gray, founder of upscale travel outfit Gray & Co. British Airways spokesman John Lampl suggests “bright-colored luggage.”



Tag It (Modestly)

Attach strong luggage tags to durable suitcase handles, but don’t use tags “that say ‘take me’—like silver or Louis Vuitton ones,” says Lampl. “Put business cards or papers with contact information in the suitcase.”



Don’t Bling Out

“Keep valuables in the zip area of a briefcase or a purse,” says TSA spokesman Nico Melendez. Lampl says, “Do not pack cash, computers, cameras, and jewelry in checked bags”—or bags that might have to get gate-checked.



Don’t Go in Circles

“When picking up bags at the airport, stand close to where the bags come out,” says Lampl. Gray agrees: “Don’t make your bags do a few laps around the carousel—there will be less chance of your bag getting taken.”
