

Holiday Shopping Safety Tips



Safe holiday shopping requires protecting your money, personal data, and physical safety whether you shop online or in stores.

Here are a few tips that will help keep you, your valuables and your bank accounts safe this holiday season, whether you shop in stores or online.

Online Shopping Safety

Use Trusted Retailers: Buy directly from official websites or well-known stores. Double-check web addresses for subtle misspellings or fake clone sites.

Look for HTTPS: Ensure websites use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) encryption, indicated by https in the URL and a padlock icon.

Pay with Credit Cards: Use a credit card instead of a debit card or cash for better fraud protection and easier recovery of stolen funds.

Avoid Public Wi-Fi: Never shop or enter financial details over unsecured public Wi-Fi networks in places like coffee shops.

Watch for Phishing & Delivery Scams: Be skeptical of unexpected emails or text messages from shipping carriers (like USPS, UPS, or FedEx) claiming you owe extra delivery fees.

Enable Multifactor Authentication (MFA): Add an extra layer of security to your online shopping and financial accounts.

In-Store & Physical Shopping Safety

Conceal Valuables: Lock all purchases and bags in your trunk out of plain view, and move your car to a new parking spot if you plan to go back inside the store.

Stay Aware and Lit: Shop during daylight hours when possible. If shopping at night, park in well-lit, high-traffic areas and walk with a friend or security escort.

Protect Your Wallet: Keep your purse close to your body and your wallet in an inside coat pocket or front pants pocket.

Shield Your Payment: Wait until asked before pulling out your card, and shield the keypad when entering your PIN or tapping your card.

Monitor Statements: Check your bank and credit card accounts regularly—ideally in real time via mobile apps—for any unauthorized or suspicious charges.

Sources: ncdps.gov/blog/2023/12/11/shopping-safety-tips-holiday-season, staysafeonline.org/articles/safe-online-holiday-shopping, [harriscountysoc.org/Documents/Frontpage/GetInvolved/2022%20Holiday%20shopping%20safety%20tips_english%20\(1\).pdf](https://harriscountysoc.org/Documents/Frontpage/GetInvolved/2022%20Holiday%20shopping%20safety%20tips_english%20(1).pdf), cisa.gov/keep-holidays-merry-and-bright-safe-online-shopping-tips-cisa, lasd.org/holiday-shopping-safety-tips, staysafeonline.org/articles/safe-online-holiday-shopping, statefarm.com/simple-insights/family/black-friday-shopping-safety-list

Daylight Saving Time Ends November 1st.



#DaylightSavingTimeEnds or #FallBack

The practice of Daylight saving time (DST) (also known as summer time) advances clocks during the summer months. It causes us to lose an hour for one day. However, the practice allows people to get up earlier in the morning and experience more daylight in the evening. Typically, users of DST adjust clocks forward one hour near the start of spring. Then, they change them back again in the autumn.

source/image: nationaldaycalendar.com/celebrations/daylight-saving-time-ends-first-sunday-in-november

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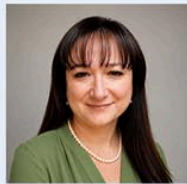
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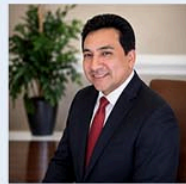
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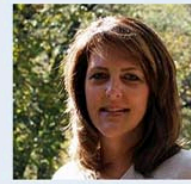
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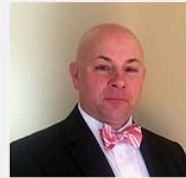
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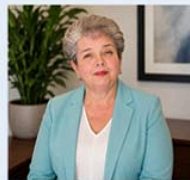
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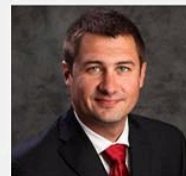
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