





'Tis the season for shopping, but an everyday trip to the mall can pose a surprising number of hazards. Before you brave the holiday crowds with kids in tow, learn how to keep them safe while shopping.

FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE TIPS TO KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE :

Supervision

- Keep children with you at all times.
- Accompany children to the restroom.
- If you may be distracted while shopping, make arrangements for child care ahead of time.

Separations

- Talk with your children ahead of time so they know what to do if you become separated.
- Remind them to stay put if they get lost.
- Teach them who to ask for help (store salesperson with nametag, uniformed security officer).
- Give your child your cell number.

Carts

- Secure your child with the safety belt or harness.
- Keep your eyes on your child in the cart at all times.
- Do not let your child ride on the outside or underneath the cart.
- When available, choose carts that allow children to ride closer to the ground.

Escalators

- Escalators are 6-ton moving stairs and should be regarded as such.
- Hold children's hands to guide them on and off escalators safely.
- Remove loose clothing like scarves and bulky coats that can get caught.
- Know there usually is an emergency button at the bottom and the top.

Parking Lots

- Always watch for cars backing up.
- Winter weather can reduce visibility; don't expect others to see your child.
- Make it a rule to always hold hands in parking lots and garages.



Displays

- Mannequins and store displays can be very dangerous.
- Discourage children from playing on or near displays and furniture that may not be secured with child safety in mind.
- Don't let kids crawl under clothing racks.



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Kids deserve the best.