

10 Ways to Help Protect Your Baggage

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Most people spend a lot of time making packing decisions for their trips. Lost and delayed bags can really put a wrench in your travel plans. There are some preventative measures you can take to help prevent baggage loss and delay. Here are ten ways you can help to protect your baggage.

1. Take photos of the inside and outside of your bag. You can later use these photos for proof of the items inside, but also to help identify what your bag looks like.
2. Write your name and contact information on a luggage tag outside of the bag. Write the same information on something inside as well, in case the luggage tag falls off.
3. Consider putting your itinerary inside the bag. The airline may be able to get your bag to you quicker if they know where you'll be.
4. Use something unique to make your bag stand out. Think about adding a colorful ribbon, bright duct tape, or even purchasing a bag that's not a typical color.
5. Arrive early to the airport to give the airline enough time to check your bag and transfer it to the correct plane.
6. Never leave bag tags on from previous flights. It may confuse the employees when they scan in your bag.
7. Every time you get a new bag tag at the airport, check it for the correct destination.
8. When possible choose direct flights. Bags are often lost during the transfer from plane to plane.
9. Give yourself plenty of time between flights if you have a layover. Tight connections mean you have to rush, which in turn means your checked bag has to be rushed too.
10. Purchase travel protection. When your bag is delayed, you may be eligible for reimbursement of any necessary items purchased in the meantime. If your bag is lost you may also be eligible for coverage. Always remember to keep all receipts in case you need to start a claim.