

# Ensuring a Safe and Joyful Holiday Season: Your Comprehensive Holiday Safety Guide

Whether you're hitting the road for travel, braving the crowds to shop, or simply enjoying holiday festivities, these tips will ensure your safety remains the top priority. Use these precautions to safeguard your celebrations and make this season joyous and secure.

## **Safety Checklist for Your Holiday Travels**

- Keep an emergency kit in your car in case of bad weather.
- Keep calm and focused while driving.
- Keep up with routine car maintenance.
- Always buckle up!
- If you will be driving in inclement winter weather, brush up on <u>how to drive in the snow or</u> icy conditions.
- Make sure someone knows where you are and the route you'll be taking.
- Double-check that everything is locked tight, including windows.
- Ask someone to check on your home while you're away.
- If you will be away for several days, make your home appear occupied by using light timers that activate lights at specific times of day to deter burglars.
- Never post on social media that you're leaving for vacation.
- Insure your valuables. Vault can assist you in finding the right policy.
- If you're staying in a hotel, use the safe in your room to store valuables.
- Don't be flashy with your valuables or leave them unattended.
- Use anti-theft luggage and bags; don't put valuables in checked luggage when flying.
- Never take jewelry or watches off in public spaces for washing hands or eating.

#### Tips to Avoid Scams While Holiday Shopping

- Be wary of online marketplaces.
- Make sure your internet connection is secure.
- Double-check that the website has an https:// address and has a lock symbol in the URL bar.
- Be on the lookout for holiday scams in your email.
- Avoid non-bank ATMs and be mindful of using your card.
- Use your mobile wallet on your phone.
- Park only in well-lit, high-traffic spaces.
- Keep your purchases out of sight.
- Bring only the cash you need while out shopping.
- Review your account activity often.





## Keep Your Home and Loved Ones Safe: Holiday Party Safety Checklist

### **Fire Safety**

- Inspect all cords, lights, and sockets.
- Keep an eye on your candles.
- Be careful not to overload outlets and extension cords.

## **Driving Safety**

- Get a ride home if you plan on consuming alcohol.
- Stay focused on the road and take precautions for bad weather.
- Take off puffy coats before buckling in small children.

## **Pet Safety**

- Keep pets away from holiday plants, tinsel, small toys, and batteries, which can make them sick.
- Secure your Christmas tree so your pets can't knock it over and get hurt.
- Don't feed your pets leftovers from the table.

## **Home Safety**

- Stay safe in the kitchen and deep-fry with care.
- Install smart lights and doorbell cameras.
- Don't forget to insure your gifted valuables.



