November and December are arguably the busiest months of the year for traveling, shopping and spectating. Millions will head to the nation's airports, shopping centers and football stadiums seeking to make indelible holiday memories. Many will be using elevators and escalators to move around these facilities, and even with all the advancements in safety technology, it's worth keeping in mind that most accidents can be easily prevented by following simple elevator and escalator safety tips.

### Safety Amidst the Holiday Hustle & Bustle

As a primary mode of indoor transportation, elevators in the US make 18 billion passenger trips per year. From November to December, most of the 36,000 escalators in the United States will see some serious use. Whether they're making the trek from the concourse to the gate, picking up presents at the mall, or on the way to catch a game of pigskin at the peak of the season, some 3,000 riders per hour will be using escalators.

### When Boarding and Riding Elevators

- Never step onto an elevator going in the opposite direction.
- Escalators aren't for wheelchairs, electric scooters, strollers, shopping carts, or rolling luggage. Take the elevator.
- Handrails are for holding. Always leave one hand available to maintain a firm grip. Never climb onto or ride the handrail.
- Don't hesitate! Step off promptly and move clear of the escalator exit area. This isn't the place to chat about Black Friday deals.
- If you do happen to encounter trouble on an escalator, push one of the stop buttons located at the top or bottom landings near the handrail.
- Hold children firmly by the arm or by their free hand. Never let children sit and keep them centered on the step. Don't rest any items or parcels on the handrail.
- Leave the flip flops in Orlando. Wear closed-toed, hard-soled shoes, step carefully onto the escalator and keep your feet steady on the stairs. Face forward and stay centered.

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