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 fields 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.

Don’t Shy Away from Elevator and Escalator Safety Amidst the Holiday Hustle & Bustle

In 2013, retail locations saw 17.6 billion visits between November and December.

SAFETY

Don’t Shy Away from Elevator and Escalator Amidst the Holiday Hustle & Bustle

As a primary mode of indoor transportation, elevators in the US take 16.8 million passenger trips per year.

RETAIL TRAVEL

Football

More than 40 million Americans are expected to travel over the Thanksgiving holiday, a 150% increase over the normal rate.

The third quarter isn’t going anywhere. Never try to stop a closing door.

Once on board, hold the rail or stand against the wall if possible. Keep your parka and presents away from the door.

Keep children and pets close. Leashed pets should ALWAYS be on the same side of the door as the passenger to prevent the door from closing on the leash.

If the doors don’t open, push the “door open” button. Watch your step while you wait. The elevator car may not be in level with the floor.

In the event that the elevator stalls, signal for help by using the phone or alarm button and wait for qualified help to arrive. Never climb out of a stalled elevator.

Never step onto an escalator 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.

When boarding and riding elevators:

- Never step on or off an elevator going in the opposite direction.
- Elevators 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 off the elevator.
- Don’t hold onto Gryphons or move closer to the escalator exit area. This isn’t the place to chat about Black Friday deals.
- If you happen to encounter trouble on an escalator, push the one stop button located at the top or bottom landing near the handrail.
- Host 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.

The National Elevator Industry, Inc. (NEII®) is the expert in building transportation safety. NEII works to develop and promote updated safety codes, encourage the adoption of the latest safety technologies, and inform passengers of the safest riding procedures for elevators and escalators.

For more detailed information about elevator and escalator safety, visit the NEII website at www.neii.org.

WHEN BOARDING AND RIDING ESCALATORS

When’s the last time you look, the stars at your hotel?