**Ready for Take Off: Top 10 Must-Have Travel Accessories**

Knowing what accessories to bring with you can be a challenge, even for those who travel regularly. With so many products to choose from, it’s hard to decipher which items are absolute necessities and which products that are better off being left at home. In order to keep your bags lighter and your trips convenient, we compiled a list of 10 items that belong everyone’s luggage.

**1. Travel Converter**

Travel converters allow the use of North American products overseas by converting 220V to 110V. This means any North American product you have that isn’t dual voltage, such as your hairdryer, flat iron, laptop charger, etc., can still be used during your travels. Many travel converters also feature the most commonly used overseas plug adaptors as well as USB ports, so no matter what hotel or bed and breakfast you’re staying at, you can still use your own amenities from home.

**2. Identity and Theft Protection Travel Bags and Wallets**

When you’re abroad, it’s wise to keep identity protection in mind. In 2012, the Bureau of Justice Statistics found that financial loss due to identity theft in the United States alone totaled a staggering $25 billion. While identity theft can occur almost anywhere, traveling causes more concern due to the amount of sensitive and important documents you have to carry. From passports, social security cards, and drivers’ licenses, thieves can gather all the valuable information they need in one fell swoop.

Travel bags have adapted to meet these security needs. Many include tough straps that are cut resistant, have tamper proof zippers, and feature material that blocks scanners to protect the sensitive embedded information found in credit cards and passports.

**3.** **Travel Garment Steamer**

Tight or hurried packing can leave deep creases in any wardrobe. A travel-sized garment steamer is easier to use than an iron and you won’t have to worry about burning your fingers. Compact, light, and simple to use, travel garment steamers can make you look your best no matter the country or the occasion.

**4. Noise Cancelling Headphones**

On the plane or on the ground, these can give you a little serenity no matter where you are. If you want to listen to your music without interrupting background noise or just shut out the world for a little while, noise cancelling headphones can keep you calm in even the most hectic of situations.

**5. Flushable Sanitary Wipes**

Flushable wipes are always convenient no matter where you’re going. They’ll keep you clean and comfortable, even if it’s just to wipe sweat off your forehead. Bio-degradable and septic safe, flushable sanitary wipes are safe for the environment and work wonders for any situation.

**6. Portable Air Purifier**

Travelling to a new country can wreak havoc on your existing allergies and may lead to discovering allergies you never knew you had. Air purifiers work by filtering contaminated air to remove airborne allergens, bacteria, and viruses. They produce clean air to keep you breathing easier no matter where you rest your head.

**7. Compact First Aid Kit**

Accidents are unavoidable, and it’s best to be prepared for when they occur. Travel sized first aid kits that you can carry in a backpack or in your pocket are it perfect for remote activities like hiking. You can address minor injuries like blisters or scrapes without hassle or temporarily treat something more serious until medical attention arrives.

**8. Insect Repellent Towelettes**

Different countries have different pests, and considering there are 900 thousand known species of insects in the world – with more being discovered every day – being protected from potentially harmful ones is a must. Simple insect repellant wipes are convenient and can protect from many types of insects that carry diseases including West Nile virus, Lyme disease, malaria, and more. Unlike many pump sprays or aerosol cans, most insect repellent towelettes can be taken in your carry-on luggage.

**9. Compression Cubes**

Compression cubes are a necessity for providing maximum storage space in your luggage and in your room. They compress their contents down to approximately half of their original size, making it simple to pack and unpack your clothes and towels. Since the cubes are independent of the luggage itself, they can easily be removed and placed in drawers.

**10. Microfleece Travel Blankets**

Light, compact, and comfortable, a microfleece blanket is a practical choice for airplane and car travel. Microfleece material is soft and warm, putting the airline blankets to shame, and since it’s yours, you don’t have to worry about who may have used the blanket before you.

Whether you’re a seasoned travel veteran or a novice adventurer, each of the items listed above should be on the list for your next trip. They’re sure to make any travel experience safe, convenient, and enjoyable.

**Sources:**

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