

# A SHOPLIFTING GUIDE

2018 United States & Canada Edition

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## Introduction

Our goal is to provide the basic and comprehensive **knowledge, skill, and attitude** necessary to learn how to steal tons of shit using this comprehensive guide. There are basic vocabulary words that all beginners need to know. There are not many, but everyone needs to know these vocabulary words as followed.

- Lift: To steal/shoplift an item (see, "What is Shoplifting")
- Jet: to run or hurry out of a store to avoid detainment
- LP: a "Loss Prevention" officer is hired for scoping out and catching shoplifters
- AP: "Assets Protection" is the same person as an LP
- Conceal: to tuck the goods away in a jacket or another container so you have items to lift
- Mom n' Pop Stores: Stores purely owned by families who are trying to make a living. Do not go to these as it is against the shoplifting moral code.

Shoplifting can have many terms and definitions in many parts round the globe. It is removing items from the shop's immediate display or any other place in the store without paying the purchase price for the item(s). It is also paying less than a item's purchase price by trickery or deception (for example, altering or switching price tags), or transferring items from one container to another Concealing items. Simply put, shoplifting is stealing. Shoplifters come from all walks of life and in different sizes and colors, religions, etc.

## Types of Shoplifters Based on People

1. Teens
2. Children
3. Lower-class citizens
4. Compulsive lifters
5. Organized Crime members
6. Petty-thieves
7. Druggies

## Types of Shoplifters Based on Crime Seriousness

### Lvl 1- Beginners

- Their first time shoplifting
- They can already have shoplifted in the past when they were a lot younger

### Lvl 2- Seasoned

- People who shoplift because of budget/income/living deficiencies
- It can also be people who want to save money because they don't want to pay \$2 for chips. This will save more money in the long-run.

### Lvl 3- Bingers

- People who steal for kicks/the adrenaline and have no purpose for shoplifting

## Lvl 4- Professional

- People who can shoplift over \$200 in a single day. This requires years of training/practice and very few get lucky with shoplifting something over \$200 in one day, even so, one hour
- They tend to work very well in groups and can sell stolen goods online
- They can organize groups to do their bidding

## Lvl 5- Insiders

- These people are the boss and the end-goal in shoplifting
- They can do everything a professional shoplifter can do but the difference lies on what they know about a specific location- they are people who work in major retail stores.
- They are the 1% reason for retail loss in the US & UK every year

Whether you are a pro or a novice, you need to set grounds on how you act and steal. **ALWAYS** plan beforehand to ensure that you get away with the crime. **ALWAYS** be aware of your surroundings. And **ALWAYS** be ready to make a run for it. Be respectful to everyone in the store and be nice (but not overly nice), and please do not go straight to the electronics area, or any area with the most expensive items when you first walk in. Blind spots (spots where security cameras can't see) are your best friend and you can conceal items more easily and quickly there. Another big one both LPs' and lifters are aware of is that, "if they didn't see you conceal the items then you didn't steal." What this means is that, if no one caught you putting items in your bag/purse/jacket etc. and hightailing it out the store, then technically, you didn't steal anything.

Many newcomers ask this question to the people who have been around for quite-a-while. Lots of stores have LP and have the policy "do not chase." Why? Most employees don't chase you because in the past, employees have been seriously hurt or even killed by shoplifters when trying to catch them. A lot of stores have LP and security cameras and if you're a frequent shopper there, find the blind spots and scope out the LP. There is really no safe way of knowing what every store is like, because of the demographics of the area and how much funding the particular stores get. That's why you ALWAYS follow "The Four Fundamentals to Shoplifting."

## The Four Fundamentals to Shoplifting

- **TIMING:** don't stay for too long or too short.
- **NERVOUSNESS CONTROL:** do not get shaky and sweaty
- **ADRENALINE CONTROL:** don't be stupid and dash right away.
- **FOLLOW-THROUGH:** If you're planning on stealing then do it.

These four fundamentals should be performed with **EVERY** lift. These will be discussed as we go along.

## Position

What is a "position"? A position is the platform from which all the shoplifting fundamentals are executed. A *position* should be doable, easily accessible, and properly aligned with the target item. This also works in tandem with "The Four Fundamentals to Shoplifting" and is crucial to understand. *Position* has three main categories that tie in with the four fundamentals. You have to know that what you want to do is **doable**, **easily accessible** from anywhere in the store, and has other places & **blind spots** that can help you get there.

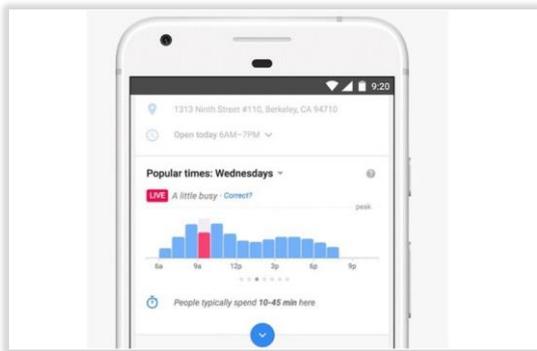
## Special Appearances for ~The Occasion~

When you lift, don't dress like a lowlife. Also, don't dress too flashy- and please do not wear a hoodie or look like a gangbanger- LPs and employees will stare you down. Make sure you wear the right clothes for the season of the year and weather. People will suspect someone with a big coat on in the summer instead of shorts. This one is for you ladies: don't bring a gigantic purse with you inside the store. This will attract attention on you (which is unneeded nowadays). When you come into the store, you want to make the impression of having class and self-dignity. One needs to keep their head up high and walk normally. Smile at everyone and say the occasional "hi!" Don't go out of your way to be mean to everyone in the store.

What really throws the scent off you is when you contour your facial features with makeup, so when you make a run for it with an expensive item. Your face will be less recognizable from the one in real-life when shown on the "wanted" board or something like that. Note that this can work for anyone, regardless of sex or race.

## Timing

Don't stay for too long or too short. You do not want to mess this up. Timing is key and often, the people working at the store watch those briskly-walking people or the other people who have been in the store for over 2 hours (yes, some lifters do that). It depends on how busy the store is that day you want to lift and you must find the busiest times of the day. Google Maps is a great "cheat sheet" because it will show you a graph of the busiest times of the day, for the whole week. If there is a lot of people, concealing is harder because you are most likely to get caught. That is why walkouts are very efficient. You can take your items and jet during busy store hours. Black Friday is the day with virtually no limits on how long you should be at the store. Just take n' dash.



## Nervousness Control

Calm down when it comes to this. I have read many on the subreddit r/shoplifting on Reddit where people became very nervous, became nauseous, etc. when it is they're first time lifting, or any time they have lifted. Time and again, the pro lifters have reprimanded them to control themselves. A lot of beginning lifters are caught due to this one thing, and it's not a surprise, that, they were seen "shaking themselves" when first walking into a target store.



don't be numb headed and grab n' dash right away. This is when you get overly-confident, cocky, and think you can make like a ninja. Well, you're wrong. Like I've said, every store is different. The employees there are either careless or people who *care* about their jobs (and the price of goods on the market). Take your time but don't take your time. Be friendly, dress nicely, and give the impression of a normal shopper. Most regular shoppers do not bolt into the store and bolt-out all within 20 seconds, or neither do they stay in the store for 6 full hours looking for stuff to buy. It goes back to nervousness control: calm yourself. Because

during the ordeal, one's heart-rate goes faster and you start to get red. For the bigger name stores, the optimal stay-time is 20-35 minutes. And as for the smaller stores, the optimal stay-time is about

10-15 minutes. And for those stores with many security cameras (I'm looking at you, Target), the optimal stay-time is 15-25 minutes. Last of all, don't chicken-out at the last minute. If you plan on doing a walkout with a high-value item, then you must have a partner to drive a getaway car. Last of all- If you've already planned on stealing then do it. Often, people regret not shoplifting when they wanted, but did not. You wouldn't believe that some lifters do literally everything that they aren't supposed to do then proceed to chicken- out when they get to their target item. Don't be one of these fools.

## The Science of Stress During Shoplifting

### Effects Of the Stress Response

- Heart: races and pumps blood
- Lungs: shorter, quicker breaths
- Muscles: get tense
- Intestines: squeeze and empty (i.e. you feel like pooping your pants, throwing up, or feel like you have butterflies in your stomach)

### If You Get Caught

If you get caught, at least know your state/province laws regarding shoplifting. If you got caught, you were either stupid and didn't follow protocol/got cocky, or you got instant karma and must pay for it. But don't worry, it's not like you're getting your hand cut-off (which in some countries you do). You have two choices when you get caught.

1. Flee (run as fast as you can out of the store)
2. Stay and defend yourself- this is when you say that you didn't shoplift

Attacking the LP or whoever is catching you is **NOT** an option. This can land you in jail for a **VERY** long time and with a hefty settlement with the company, if they choose to press charges.

## Group Work: The Good, The Bad, And the Ugly



One of the most heart-racing aspects of "lifting the life" out of stores. It is when a group of individuals come together and bond through stealing thousands of dollars' worth of items. Group work can be awesome because when there is more than one person going for stuff, you can devise a brilliant plan and steal very expensive items. The success rate is about 200% greater when working with groups. All you have to do is come-up with a plan and follow the protocol. Groups tend to fall apart due to immature actions of immature people. Group work isn't *all* that great, but it does have a good side to it. You can steal shit more easily and quickly. There are obviously many ways to lift from a store as a group, with everyone at different competency levels. Here is an example of a successful group lift where everyone is smart.

(There are 5 characters who are shoplifting. They're A, B, C, D & E)

1. A & B walk into the store and head for target item
2. C & D come into the store a few minutes later, one by one. Note that they are not all bunched together like a group of three
3. A & B get the target item
4. C & D distract LPs and employees with questions to places that are on the opposite end of the store where A & B are lifting
5. A to D eventually meet at the entrance of the store (with carts or bags) and walk out

6. Then A to D hop into a car that E is driving and they get away.

And now the ugly: Immaturity and lack of experience calls for a failed lift and so does a lack of cooperation. All it takes is one person to screw it all up and get everyone arrested. Here is an example of a terrible group lift where everyone is caught and arrested.

(Again, there are 5 characters who are A, B, C, D & E)

1. A to D walk quickly into the store and head for the target item
2. A to D start to quickly grab the items and shove them in tote bags
3. A to D run towards exit
4. LPs and Employees run towards exit, calls security & police
5. Police apprehends some of the suspects and some get tackled by employees & other customers
6. One person doesn't get caught and hops into vehicle.
7. That person later gets pulled over by police or they floor it and cause a high-speed chase. But in another scenario, they get away.

## Other Helpful Tips

- Do not bring children with you. They will only serve to distract you.
- Act completely normal. Most people get caught because of their body language, looking around to see who is watching you is not normal behavior. You can pretend to call someone as extra coverage.
- If you use props, make sure they are new. Ex: using a tired, old, and crinkly shopping bag is a giveaway.
- Don't worry about CCTV. 9/10 times no one is watching every single area.
- Always remember that you **WILL** eventually get caught so be prepared for that eventuality.
- If you do bring a bag into a store, keep it in your pocket, jacket, etc. until you get to your spot, because employees will become automatically suspicious.
- anytime anyone says something like "security to \_\_\_\_\_" or wherever, it is just a scare tactic to deter any potential shoplifters.
- If anyone working at the store calls the police on you, they will never announce it over the loudspeakers.

## Tools of The Trade



RM 3000 Security Tag Key  
Co's Price: \$20.00



Universal Rack Master  
Co's Price: \$40.00



RM 2000 Hand Key  
Co's Price: \$30.00



RM 1000 Tag Driver  
Co's Price: \$20.00



The Rack Master Pack  
Co's Price: \$100.00



RM Gator Detacher  
Co's Price: \$100.00



Counter Top Detacher  
Co's Price: \$60.00



Portable Tag Detector  
Co's Price: \$100.00

Did you know that there are tools to acquire items that are locked or wrapped in those weird plastic things? The two most popular tools in the shoplifting community are the **S3 key** & the **magnetic detacher** (both shown on left). It is required that everyone should go onto YouTube and watch videos on how to use the tools. Just look-up, "shoplifting tools" and one can see a plethora of helpful content.

I highly recommended **Amazon** or **EBay** to purchase the tools. You can find most that are under \$20

(please note that the prices on the left aren't the only price-range on the internet)

## Shoplifting Competency

### Group Lifting:

#### Experienced Lifters:

- 2 people- 95% chance success rate
- 3 people- 100% chance success rate
- 4 people- 110% chance success rate
- 5 people- 150% chance success rate
- 6 people- 170% chance success rate
- 7 people- 189% chance success rate
- 8 people- 200% chance success rate
- 9 people- 219% chance success rate
- 10 people- 230% chance success rate

#### Unexperienced Lifters:

- 2 people- 19.3% chance success rate
- 3 people- 25% chance success rate
- 4 people- 39% chance success rate
- 5 people- 44% chance success rate
- 6 people- 49% chance success rate
- 7 people- 55% chance success rate
- 8 to 10 people- 60% to 77% chance success rate

**Personal Lifting:**



**Store Shoplifting Competency Levels**

**Easy**

- Dollar Tree/General
- CVS
- Rite Aid
- Michael's
- Curry's Art Supplies
- Bashas'
- Safeway
- Albertsons
- Any grocery store
- Hobby Lobby
- Big Lots
- Joann's
- Dollarama
- Shoppers Drug Mart
- Ardene
- La Senza
- Beall's Outlet
- Goodwill

**Medium/location depending**

- Walmart
- Meijer
- Kmart
- Winners
- Walgreens
- PetSmart
- Any Gas Station
- Bed Bath & Beyond
- Home Depot
- Big 5 Sporting Goods
- WinCo Foods
- Ulta
- Loblaws
- Chapters/Indigo
- Aritzia
- Barnes & Noble
- Ross
- Any book store

- Subway
- Lowes
- Shoppers Supply
- Burlington Coat Factory
- Gift shops
- Bookstores
- Cabella's
- Aldo
- Office Max/Depot
- Payless Shoe Source
- Supercenters/superstores
- Canadian Tire
- Any franchise store

### **Hard**

- Best Buy
- Target
- Hudson's Bay
- Macy's
- Sephora
- Any mall
- H&M
- Costco
- The Source
- Apple

### **Very Hard**

- Gucci
- Prada
- Fendi
- Dolce & Gabbana
- Chloe
- Tom Ford
- Chanel
- Oscar de la Renta
- Versace
- Any other high-end brands

### **Do not lift:**

- Mom & Pop places

## **What are Some Methods of Lifting?**

- **Concealing:** stuffing items in jackets, purses, bags, etc. and leaving the store
- **Walkouts:** walking out with items in hand/basket/bag & not paying
- **Baby Stroller:** pretending to have/or having a baby in a stroller and concealing in stroller
- **"Milkshake" Subterfuge:** coming in with large empty foam drink and putting items in it
- **Barcode Scam:** switching out barcodes to pay less than original price
- **"Accidental" Stealing:** If caught, just say that you were 'distracted'
- **Fitting-room Concealment:** concealing items in fitting rooms

- **Fake Returns:** returning a stolen item without a receipt & getting store credit to buy stuff
- **Switching items:** taking an item and switching it out with another in a box
- **Grab n' Dash:** taking an item and running with it out the store (the opposite of walkouts)
- **Consuming On-site:** This method is when people in grocery stores eat while they shop
- **Gift Card Cloning:** stealing a gift card, copying the back, sneakily returning it, and using it when it is activated. It is tricky to do but doable.
- **Coupon Fraud:** Reprinting coupons and using them at different stores
- **Shoe Box Switching:** When someone switches out their old shoes and puts them into a shoe box and puts on the new shoes and leaves the store.