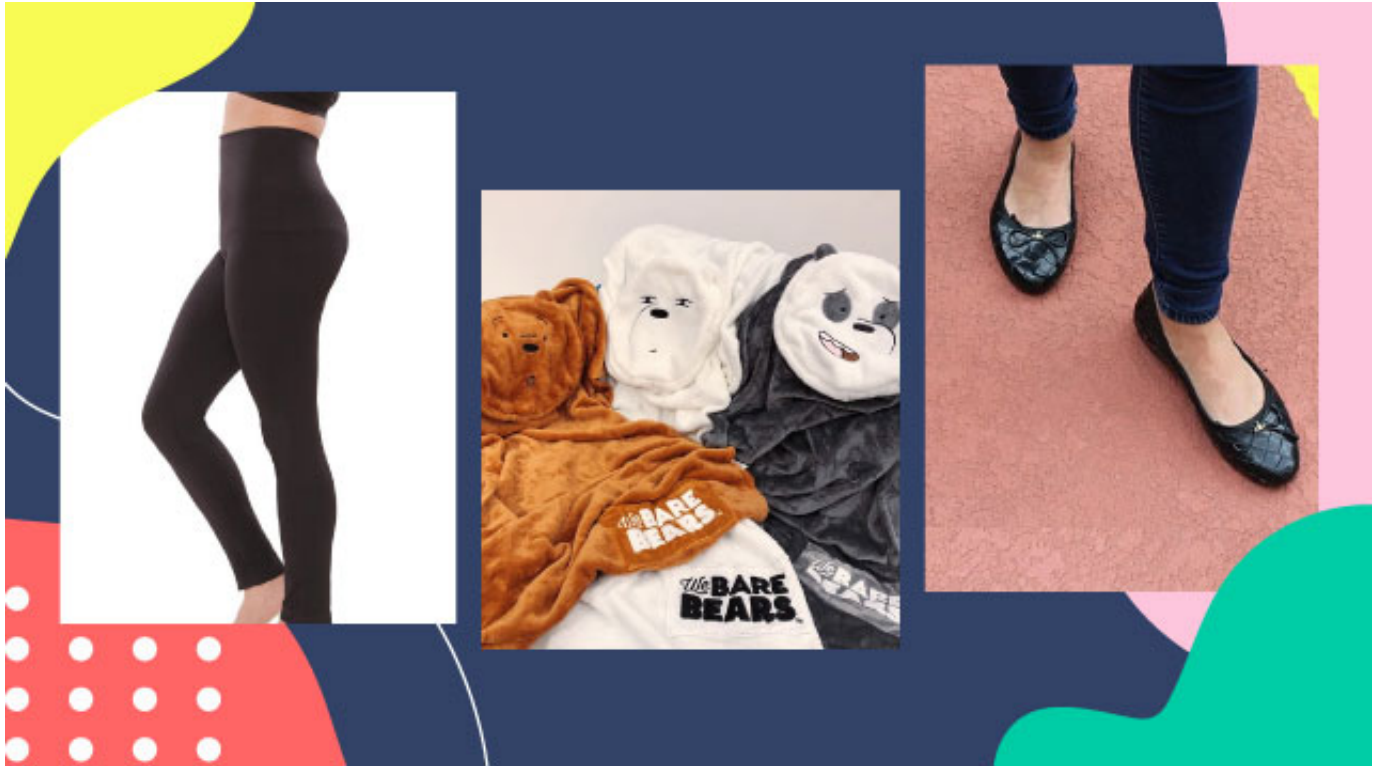


5 Multitasking Essentials for Busy Moms on the Go

- These essentials conveniently cover all sorts of challenges when traveling.

by [Kitty Espiritu-Ricafort](#) . Sep 20, 2019

- 79 Shares



- If there's anything any hardworking mom loves, it's a multi-tasking product. And when we travel whether it is a road trip or plane ride, products need to do double-duty because limited carry-on bags, ever-shrinking coach seats plus traveling with a baby (or two) necessitate products that will cover a multiple of needs and work as hard as you do.

We made a list of top five multi-tasking travel essentials mom needs to make long-haul trips just a little bit more bearable

Large tote

The perfect home for carefully labeled ziplock pouches full of snacks, juice boxes, onboard kiddie entertainment, extra clothing, diapers, wipes, sanitizer, mom's makeup kit, and last-minute add-ons — the large tote can take it all. Roomy totes with a wide zippered top opening count as number one because it makes it easy to throw in anything there amid the hustle and bustle of toddler tantrums, snack breaks, and traveling.

Keep relevant travel documents and electronic gadgets in a smaller separate zippered bag (that fits inside the tote once onboard) for safety purposes and easier access during check-in and immigration.

Choose one that has a durable waterproof exterior, side pockets and can fit under the plane seat in front of you (who wants to keep standing up to get their bag from the overhead bin?), so it will always be on hand for those frequent onboard needs. This can even double as a makeshift footrest (average height moms find relief with this hack) primarily on those hours-long treks.

More from Smart Parenting



Compression leggings

Trends come and go, but what a jet-setting mom is always on the lookout for is a pair of comfy, flattering bottoms that travel well. Enter the compression leggings by Silouex. As any frequent traveler knows, the onset of deep-vein thrombosis (a potentially life-threatening condition wherein a blood clot forms in one of your major veins) is always a possibility, especially on long flights.

These high-waisted compression leggings/shapewear provide not only full coverage with its high-waist design and thicker stretchy material but also mild body compression that helps prevent DVT. Specially designed by two enterprising fellow moms as versatile outerwear that doubles as shapewear, these leggings comfortably smoothen out post-baby bulges, and support (and lift) sagging odds and ends without being constricting.

After a road test by some discerning travel moms, the leggings proved to be surprisingly comfortable and kept them warm and wedgie-free. Other details such as anti-roll silicone strips at the waist and no center seam (goodbye, camel toe) make this a travel must-have. We suggest a size smaller than you

usually wear for more support/compression, go for the same size if you just want the comfort of regular leggings. Wear with an oversized hoodie or a sporty zip-up for athleisure travel comfort.

More from Smart Parenting



Paw Paw ointment

The Paw Paw or Papaw ointment named after the humble papaya is touted as a handy, natural cure-all that answers minor skin issues. Whether you choose the popular red tube from Australia (Lucas' Papaw Ointment) or the yellow one (the UK's Dr. Pawpaw's Original Balm), both brands contain fermented papaya, which is said to be antibacterial and antimicrobial and promotes skin repair and anti-inflammatory benefits.

The ointment uses its namesake's natural healing properties to soothe effectively, clean, moisturize and speed up the healing process of minor skin ailments such as chapped lips, sunburn, nappy rash, chafing, minor scalds/burns, cuts, splinters, gravel rash, insect bites and gives temporary relief to some cases of dermatitis and eczema. (One even claims to be suitable for "hair and beauty finishing"!) Talk about double-duty.

More from Smart Parenting



Slip-on shoes

Shoelaces — a mom's public enemy number 1. Notorious for slowing down home departures, getting caught in escalators, tripping us (and our kids) as well as providing one of the worst laundry challenges ever (once soiled, they never go back to white) — the shoelace has no place in a busy household much less on an airplane.

The answer? Easy to slip on and off shoes. The slip-on is also more forgiving on foot swelling caused by altitude, just make sure the size you're wearing is a half-size bigger. Wear those no-show foot socks when you have to slip in and out of shoes at the X-ray machine (who wants to put bare feet on those high-traffic carpets?) and use a pair of long socks for those chilly airline cabins.

Try on slip-on loafers, ballerina flats, mules (the current mom favorite) and check in and out of airports and airplanes ready to hit the ground running. Choose the covered toe variety to keep toes warm onboard. And yes, they can be stylish.

More from Smart Parenting



Shawl

Nowadays, with airfare getting more affordable, and people being able to fly more and more frequently, air traffic, congested airports, and delayed flights are becoming a common occurrence. The convenience of having a soft, fluffy, comforting swathe of fabric when one finds herself stuck at an airport thanks to a canceled flight or onboard a delayed plane that didn't exactly get thoroughly cleaned (which leaves cabin pillows and blankets questionable), the multi-functional shawl can evolve from a blanket, pillow cover, seat cover, neck pillow, scarf and hood.

When traveling with kids, bring at least one per child for their own portable cuddly security blankies. These ones of We Bare Bears actually become cushion pillows when folded. Avoid synthetic blends for these attract more static electricity and turn scratchy if you are flying.

Be prepared for your next trip with these essentials and make it indeed a bon voyage!

More from Smart Parenting

