



## The Smart Way to ID Luggage

It's common sense to put an ID tag on your luggage in case it gets lost -- and common wisdom holds that you shouldn't let the ID show, lest thieves monitoring the airport mark down your address and break in while you're away. "Hideaway" luggage tags, with a flap covering the address, have been on the market for years, but there are additional steps you can take to guard your security:

- ◆ Mark your ID tag with only your business address and phone number.
- ◆ If you're traveling to a place where you know you'll have cell phone access, simply put your cell number on the tag, coupled with an "If this luggage is lost, please call..." notation.
- ◆ Mark your luggage with only your e-mail address -- it's more helpful than your street address if you can access e-mail from the road, because you'll get any lost luggage messages immediately. If the address you commonly use incorporates your full name, sign up for a free Hotmail or Yahoo e-mail account, with an address like MyLostLuggage@hotmail.com (sorry, we got that one first). Be advised, however, that if a free e-mail account lies fallow for several months, it will be deleted, so you'll need to use it periodically to keep it active.
- ◆ For trips to Europe it may be a good idea to place the name of our accommodation on the luggage as well as the hotel Telephone number on it. This may assure you of a prompt delivery of your luggage to your accommodation if they are misplaced by the airline.