



While they're always evolving, and depending on the airport, the security process must be faced. Therefore, it's important to know your choices before you proceed into it.

Be aware when inspectors offer the millimeter wave scanner or backscatter machine. You may be able to ask instead for the traditional pat down. If approved, you're entitled to a private screening room and a witness.

If you have no traveling companion, ask before screening that the airline provide an employee accompany you. Also, be aware that you may request a security screener of the same sex to conduct the body search. However, if that will slow up the process too much, it may be refused.

Of course, airport security ordeals are always rushed and stressful. Keep in mind that they'll go more smoothly when you're pleasant, considerate and cooperative.