

You have the right to opt out of a full-body scan in favor of a manual patdown. It is your choice. You have the right to choose whether a pat down is conducted in the public screening area or in a private area, and, if in a private area, whether to be accompanied by a travel companion.

You have the right to have manual search procedures performed by an officer who is of the same gender as the gender you are currently presenting yourself as. This does not depend on the sex listed on your ID, or on any other factor.

You should not be subjected to additional screening or inquiry because of any discrepancy between your appearance and the sex indicated on your ID. As long as your ID has a recognizable picture of you on it, with your legal name and birth date, it should not cause any problem.

<http://blog.tsa.gov/2010/11/new-tsa-pat-down-procedures.html>

If you are flying and decide to take photos or video of TSA checkpoints, that is legal as long as you do not film the TSA's monitors or interfere with the screening process.

We don't prohibit public, passengers or press from photographing, videotaping, or filming at screening locations.

You can take pictures at our checkpoints as long as you're not interfering with the screening process or slowing things down. We also ask that you do not film or take pictures of our monitors.

<http://blog.tsa.gov/2009/03/can-i-take-photos-at-checkpoint-and.html>

+1-571-227-2829 – TSA Office of Strategic Communications / Public Affairs

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<http://tsa.gov>

11.11.2010
New TSA Pat-down Procedures
As we've discussed before, TSA's screening procedures change regularly based on the latest intelligence. Pat-downs have long been one of the many security measures TSA and virtually every other nation has used in its risk-based approach to help detect hidden and dangerous items such as explosives like the one we saw in the failed terrorist attack last Christmas Day.

Pat-downs are primarily used to resolve alarms that occur at a walk-through metal detector, if an anomaly is detected during screening with advanced imaging technology (AIT), or during random screening. If one of those situations arises, you will be given a pat-down before you're able to continue on to your flight.

Pat-downs are also given to passengers who opt out of screening by AIT or walk-through metal detectors.

There's nothing punitive about it - it just makes good security sense. And the weapons and other dangerous and prohibited items we've found during pat downs speak to this.

It's worth mentioning that only a small percentage of passengers end up needing a pat-down. The best way to be prepared at the checkpoint is to remove everything from your pockets prior to screening. Also, if you have a hidden medical device, you may want to bring it to the officer's attention before screening. We'll be better able to help expedite your screening that way...

- * Pat-downs are conducted by same gender officers
- * All passengers have the right to request private screening at any point during the screening process
- * Anyone has the right to have a traveling companion present during screening in the private screening areas.


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3.31.2009
Can I Take Photos at the Checkpoint and Airport?



Unfortunately, there isn't a cookie cutter answer that can be applied to all of our screening locations and airports. It's important to note that we know there's a difference between someone taking a casual photo and someone doing surveillance, but if you are taking pictures at or near the checkpoint, don't be surprised if someone (TSA, airport police, or a curious passenger) asks you what you're up to.

We don't prohibit public, passengers or press from photographing, videotaping, or filming at screening locations. You can take pictures at our checkpoints as long as you're not interfering with the screening process or slowing things down. We also ask that you do not film or take pictures of our monitors.

However... while the TSA does not prohibit photographs at screening locations, local laws, state statutes, or local ordinances might. Your best bet is to call ahead and see what that specific airport's policy is.

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