

The holidays bring opportunities to celebrate special traditions and meaningful moments with the people in our lives. As you prepare for November and December holidays, including but not limited to: Diwali; Kwanzaa; Thanksgiving; Hanukkah; Christmas Eve/Christmas; and New Year's Eve, these holiday planning safety tips can help protect you, your family, friends, and community from COVID-19.

## Travel Considerations

If traveling this holiday season, consider the mode of transportation (plane, car, bus, train), the dates you will be traveling, and your risk to COVID-19 exposure while traveling. Carry a small personal sanitizing kit that contains hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and extra masks.

Driving your own vehicle will reduce your exposure to COVID-19. If you need to use commercial or public transportation, be aware of and try to avoid the busiest travel times. Also, reconsider travel during the holiday season and consider holding special remote gatherings or small gatherings at home.



## Overnight Guests

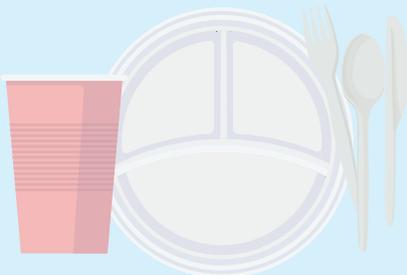
If you plan to have or be an overnight guest, the host and guests should communicate about what is expected ahead of time.

Identify a room where an individual can isolate should they develop symptoms or test positive while visiting. Make sure everyone understands the importance of wearing a mask and social distancing. Ensure that soap and sanitizer are available, and clean frequently touched surfaces.



## Holiday Meals

- Consider limiting your in-person gatherings to those within your household.
- Limit the number of people for which social distancing is possible before, during, and after the meal.
- Consider single-use disposable utensils and dishware for serving and eating meals.
- Wash and disinfect guest areas before and after holiday gatherings.



## Holiday Shopping

Consider alternative ways to purchase gifts other than visiting stores in-person, where possible.

Stay home if you have tested positive or have symptoms of COVID-19, which can include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms.

- **Lower Risk:** Consider shopping online.
- **Medium Risk:** If you choose to shop in-person, wear your mask and maintain six feet of distance between you and others. Try to shop at off-peak times when there are fewer shoppers.
- **Higher Risk:** High-risk activities include in-person sale promotions or holiday activities that encourage large crowds and lining up for limited supply deals, which make social distancing a challenge.



## Additional Considerations

- Avoid crowds of people shopping for holiday meals by purchasing groceries online.
- Delivering holiday foods, dessert, or décor at the door of extended family, elders, friends, or neighbors is another warm and safer way to celebrate a season of giving.
- Consider virtual caroling or reciting as an option.