

Items You Should Never Buy Used

Don't go into a thrift store until you read this! Here is what to never buy used, because even though you may save a few dollars now, it could cost you more money and affect your health later. We got this from *US News and World Report*.



- The first thing you don't want to buy used is kids' furniture and equipment. That's because used children's furniture, especially cribs and car seats, are dangerous. They may look like they're in good shape, but you have zero way of knowing if they were assembled correctly by the previous owner. A lot of cribs have been recalled for safety issues, too. Same goes for car seats. If they've been in one accident, they're worthless. Plus, safety technology improves every year. So spend \$50 on a new one and be 100% assured your child is safe.
- Another thing to never buy used? Bicycle helmets! Usually, a crash would only crush the foam *inside* the helmet casing, so the damage may not be visible. However, helmets are only meant to protect against **one accident**, so buying new would be a safer bet.
- Buying a used laptop might seem like a good deal, but consider this. Think about all the times you dropped your old laptop or spilled water on it. Over time, all that damage catches up to laptops. If you buy a new laptop, you're guaranteed it will be in complete working order and you have a warranty and tech support as back up. Unless you get a refurbished one from a computer manufacturer, skip it. Don't buy one off Craig's list. There are no warranties with used computers.
- If you're trying to convince your spouse to buy a new plasma or HDTV, here's a piece of intelligence for your argument. Tell them it's cheaper than buying a used one. That's because if a used TV needs repairs or replaced parts, it will cost more than buying a brand new one!
- Lastly, don't buy used hats. Don't even try them on! That's because if a person with a contagious skin disease – like ringworm – has ever worn the hat, then the disease is passed to you, even if you only tried the hat on for a few seconds.