MAKING STORE PURCHASES ALONE

This will sound crazy, but just a few years ago I was so scared to go into a store on my own and purchase something. My mom would always say, "Roland, they're more afraid of you than you are of them!" And being that I am an eight-foot-tall bear, she was probably right.

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EARN THIS NUGGET

Go into a store on three separate occasions and make a purchase on your own. Of course, a family member can watch you from a distance inside or outside the store. But this is all you, RockHopper. The fact is, you need to get used to going into a store to buy things on your own because your parents can't always be there for you. Here are some things that can help your confidence.

- The greatest fear it seems that people have in a store is that they will get up to the cash register and won't have enough money to pay. So step one, make sure you know exactly how much money you have to spend. That way you don't have to be concerned about that.
- Talking about having enough money, another concern could be that you don't know how much the tax will be. So you may think you have enough money, but in reality you don't. The fix for this is, depending on which state you live in, sales tax is probably around 7% to 8%. So count off the item costing 10% more, which is an easy calculation in your head. Then you should be in good shape.



• Aside from this, what can go wrong? The store owner wants you there because they want to sell product. Enjoy it. The more you do it, the more natural it will feel.

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