

## The Gearbox: Reviews of travel gear



### Bag Tags by Accessory Sports

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**What they are:** Luggage or bag tags made of the materials they resemble. For example, a football tag is made of football material. Likewise for the basketball, tennis ball, soccer ball, softball, volleyball and golf bag. There also is a line of gambling-related tags -- maybe for people who want to bet on whether their luggage will arrive.

**How it works:** Fill out the identification slip and put it in the tag, then belt the tag to your luggage. I say "belt" because the tag comes with a very strong but small belt with a buckle that attaches to your luggage. Even a luggage handler in a bad mood would have a tough time detaching these tags.

**The good:** These are designed with sports enthusiasts in mind, but even if you aren't in that category, know this: When you're waiting by the luggage carousel at Italy's largest airport, Fiumicino, it's nearly impossible not to see your bag coming toward you on the conveyor if there is an American football dangling from it. Too many people have gotten the idea of attaching ribbons to their bags as identifiers, so the effectiveness of that strategy has passed. But footballs, basketballs, tennis balls? Until the world becomes saturated with them, you've got it made.

**The bad:** This "bad" probably is a good thing: It's difficult to pull the paper slip out of the tag if you want to write on it or replace it. Then again, that's kind of the idea; it's secure.

**Cost:** \$9.99 plus shipping

**Available from:** [accessorysports.com](http://accessorysports.com)

--Ross Werland