

## The Law

ARS 13-1805A — A person commits shoplifting if, while in an establishment in which merchandise is displayed for sale, the person knowingly obtains such goods of another with the intent to deprive that person of such goods.

13-1805H.— Shoplifting property valued at less than one thousand dollars is a class 1 misdemeanor, unless the property is a firearm.

## The Penalty

ARS 13-802A.—A sentence to pay a fine for a class 1 misdemeanor shall be a sentence to pay an amount, fixed by the court, of not more than two thousand five hundred dollars.

ARS 13-802E.—A judgment that the defendant shall pay a fine, with or without the alternative of imprisonment, shall constitute a lien in like manner as a judgment for money rendered in a civil action.

In addition to the legal penalties, any person who is convicted of shoplifting can also be held civilly liable to the owner of the merchandise.

Mesa Police Department  
130 N. Robson  
Mesa, AZ 85201  
[www.mesaaz.gov/police](http://www.mesaaz.gov/police)

# Choices & Consequences

## Minors and Shoplifting



**MESA POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

**Emergency - 911**

**Non-Emergency : 480-644-2211**

## Choices

The best part of growing up is being able to make your own choices, but as you get older the choices become more difficult and you may feel more pressure to make the “bad” choice. Most of the time, there is no penalty for not making the best choice.

Choosing the right friends is one of the most important choices you can make. They help you make many choices that will affect your future. Knowing “right” from “wrong” and not letting them pressure you into making choices you know are wrong will keep you from making “wrong” choices. Regardless of the choice you make, you must be willing to take responsibility for the consequences.

**You are in charge  
of your life !**

## Consequences

A consequence is a result of an action. When you “shoplift” an item from a store you have committed a crime, theft. When you are caught, there are no “good” consequences:

1. The store employee will take you into custody.
2. The police will be contacted and you will be arrested.
3. You will be charged with theft, in which the value of the item will determine the actual violation.
4. You will be “referred” to juvenile authorities for further action.
5. The police will only release you to a parent or a guardian.
6. You will be Trespasped from the store and not allowed to shop there for a long time.

**Shoplifting is a  
CRIME not  
a game !**

**The choice is up to you!**

**Your Future Begins  
Today !!**

## *The REAL Cost of Shoplifting*

- \$ The original price of the item.  
+
  - \$ The legal penalty: if the value of the item is less than \$1,000, the fine can be up to \$2,500.  
+
  - \$ The civil judgment: retail value of the goods, plus an additional \$100 penalty paid to the store from where the items were stolen.  
+
- ⇒ Parents of minors will be held financially responsible for any fines and civil judgments. **A ten cent item can cost you up to \$2,600.10 in cash, community service and you can be placed in the juvenile detention center for up to one year.**

**Your fingerprints will remain  
on file for life!!**

**Your picture will be taken and  
your fingerprints will be  
placed on file in the  
national (AFIS) database.  
This information can never be  
taken out and will be used to  
identify involvement in  
past or future crimes.**