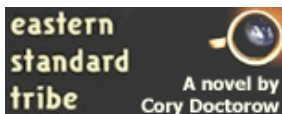
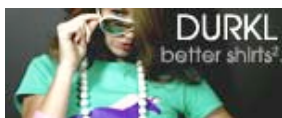


Sponsored by:



Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Dry air in planes causes colds

Forrest M. Mims III, author of the world's best practical electronics primer, [Getting Started in Electronics](#), summarizes the findings of a 2004 study on the increased likelihood of catching a cold after flying on a commercial plane.

Depending on three different flight scenarios, Hocking and Foster found that airline passengers in three different scenarios were 5, 23, or 113 times more likely to catch a cold than if they had not flown at all!

...

The most logical reason for infections would seem to be the limited amount of cabin air shared by the passengers. But Hocking, Foster and other scientists have found this is only one factor. The very low humidity in an airplane seems to be much more important.

...

Very dry air dries up the mucous system that captures and expels bacteria and viruses from our noses. This may be a key reason why airplane passengers catch more colds.

[Link](#)

posted by Mark Frauenfelder at 09:30:12 AM [permalink](#) | [Other blogs' comments](#)

[Save the Children Gift of Hope](#)

Give a gift that inspires hope. Donate, sponsor, shop or join Save the ...
<http://www.savethechildren.org>

Ads by Kanoodle

Sponsored by:



Interested in advertising on Boing Boing? [Email us](#)

[Best 10 Web Hosting](#)
Expert Independent
Reviews: By Webmasters

[2 Free iPod Nanos](#)
Claim your 2 Free Apple iPod Nanos!

[Better PowerPoint Shows](#)
Turn lifeless PowerPoint slides into a stunning visual experience. Try Ovation Free Here

[Free \\$75 Poker Account](#)
\$75 Free! No deposit, No Credit Card. Party Poker

[Your Ad Here](#)





[Support Bloggers' Rights!](#)



[HOWTO: Get a link posted to Boing Boing](#)

[Boing Boing Mobile powered by Winksite](#)

[Fark rules!](#)

[Our Linking Policy](#)



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons License](#).

[Stats \(About our stats\)](#)

[Our first five years' worth of posts in one file](#)

Copyright 2005 Happy Mutants LLC. Some rights reserved. Boing Boing is a trademark of Happy Mutants LLC in the United States [and other countries].