

Can you tell the difference between symptoms of flu and the common cold?



Symptom	Cold	Flu
Fever	Fever is rare with a cold	Fever is usually present with the flu . A temperature of 100°F or higher for 3 to 4 days is associated with the flu
Coughing	A hacking, productive (mucus-producing) cough is often present with a cold	A non-productive (non mucus-producing) cough is usually present with the flu. This may sometimes be referred to as a dry cough.
Aches	Slight body aches and pains can be part of a cold.	Severe aches and pains are common with the flu.
Stuffy Nose	Stuffy nose is commonly present with a cold and typically resolves spontaneously within a week.	Stuffy nose is not usually present with the flu
Chills	Chills are uncommon with a cold.	Sixty percent of people with the flu experience chills.
Fatigue	Fatigue/tiredness is fairly mild with a cold.	Fatigue/tiredness is moderate to severe with the flu.
Sneezing	Sneezing is common with a cold.	Sneezing is unusual with the flu.
Sudden Symptoms	Cold symptoms tend to develop over a few days.	The flu has a rapid onset (within 3-6 hours). It hits hard and includes sudden symptoms like high fever, aches and pains.
Headache	Headaches are fairly uncommon with a cold.	Headaches are very common with the flu (80% of flu cases)
Sore Throat	Sore throat is commonly present with a cold.	Sore throat is not commonly present with the flu.
Chest Discomfort	Chest discomfort is mild to moderate with a cold.	Chest discomfort is often severe with the flu.

