

Symptom	Flu	Cold
Fever	Fever is usually present with the flu in up to 80% of all flu cases. A temperature of 100 F or higher for 3 to 4 days is associated with the flu.	Fever is rare with a cold
Coughing	A non-productive (non-mucus producing) cough is usually present with the flu (sometimes referred to as dry cough)	A hacking, productive (mucus-producing) cough is often present with a cold.
Aches	Severe aches and pains are common with the flu.	Slight body aches and pains can be part of a cold
Stuffy Nose	Stuffy nose is not commonly present with the flu	Stuffy nose is commonly present with a cold and typically resolves spontaneously within a week.
Chills	60% of people who have the flu experience chills.	Chills are uncommon with a cold
Tiredness	Tiredness is moderate to severe with the flu	Tiredness is fairly mild with a cold
Sneezing	Sneezing is not common with the flu	Sneezing is commonly present with a cold
Sudden Symptoms	The flu has a rapid onset within 3-6 hours. The flu hits hard and includes sudden symptoms like high fever, aches, and pains.	Cold symptoms tend to develop over a few days
Headache	A headache is very common with the flu, present in 80% of flu cases	A headache is fairly uncommon with a cold
Sore Throat	Sore throat is not commonly present with the flu	Sore throat is commonly present with a cold
Chest Discomfort	Chest discomfort is often severe with the flu	Chest discomfort is mild to moderate with a cold