



I go by air several times a month and too frequently seated near problem people. As I get older, it becomes more annoying. What can I do about it? *PLJ, Dallas TX*

A: It isn't just your age. Flying these days can be more crowded, security groped, frustrating, overbooked, overpriced and just plain unpleasant. One possible solution is upgrading. Pay more to get a larger, more comfortable single seat in business or first class. Also, when first boarding and believe seatmates will cause you trouble, try to get to another seat. Before the flight starts, privately ask the attendant to find you a quieter location.

If you can't move, try to block out the annoyance. Bring aboard noise-canceling earphones and latest smartphone. It may not result in a peaceful flight, but at least make it less intrusive.