

Tips for GIBs

Marge Dodge GIB, N24ND - (AZ) I would enjoy reading tips from other G.I.B.s (gal in back) with solutions to challenges we face in the backseat and on the ground at fly-ins. I hope this information exchange would encourage others to fly more frequently and comfortably with their EZ drivers.

The following ideas make my time in the backseat and at fly-ins as enjoyable as possible:

Spring Shades, lightweight, removable and compact canopy sun shades are available through Brookstone Catalog at 1-800-926-7000. Profile Sunshades measuring 25" X 16", order #195867 are available for \$8.99 and fit in a cute little drawstring pouch.

Travel size pillows are a must when camping and are handy during flight. I found the 18" X 14" Imperial Travel Pillow, a small down filled pillow, with ties and washable pillowcase in Macy's catalog 1-800-622-9748.

Lots of small bags are better for packing clothes than several large bags. I prefer lighter mesh bags as you can see through them to determine the contents. Upon arrival I throw these little bags into a larger bag.



Lightweight and compact Chart Wear jackets look like a navigational chart, and store in a 6"X 8" drawstring pouch. Matching hat and duffel bags are available from Chart Wear PRO motion 800-624-1404. The fabric is washable and breathable, but acts as a great rain jacket and wind breaker.

I requested PRO motion to offer a tablecloth size ground cloth, of the same fabric, to use while sitting under the wing. You don't stick to it and it's water resistant to sit on wet grass.

Pants with zipper off legs are very versatile on chilly mornings and evenings that give way to warm days. I found mine at REI, a nationwide outdoor/camping store.

I like the travel size toiletries from hotels, or as free samples. It's a good idea to put cosmetics in zip lock bags to avoid leakage that might occur at changing altitude - especially important when packing fingernail polish!

I carry travel pack size Kleenex or Wet Ones. The moist towelettes are great to wipe sweaty faces or clean hands. Sunscreen in individual towelette packages is great, but hard to find.

I find a spray bottle of water very refreshing for myself, our canine companion or pilot on warm flights. Kool Ties, when soaked in water will stay moist and cool all day long when worn around your neck. Found at most airshows, they are available in many different patterns and colors. We may need to travel light, but that doesn't mean we can't look fabulous!

For in-flight food, I like granola bars, fruit snacks in little pouches, rice krispies bars, etc. I stay away from pretzels and potato chips as they don't stow easily, the bag could pop at high altitudes, and the salt makes you thirsty. I have had success with the mini pretzels in small zip lock bags. I carry two small bottles of water, one for the pilot and one for the GIB, each in a zip lock bag to insure against leakage. I don't like sodas with caffeine because they act as a diuretic.

Good tasting low fat gingersnap cookies are a great remedy for motion sickness. The ginger settles your stomach and eating them takes your mind off being sick. I always keep an empty zip lock bag tucked away if I, or a guest GIB, become motion sick. Now, the inevitable question—where is that relief tube? This is always a

bit of a challenge for a GIB since most of the available devices were designed by men who obviously don't understand the physical requirements of the female, and the limitations of the EZ.

An EZ solution is a disposable diaper in a zip lock bag. No worries about your aim or fluid to spill. The diaper absorbs the moisture. For discrete transport and disposal at that refueling stop, located one hour beyond your bladder time, I made an aircraft interior matching terry cloth drawstring bag. Constructed from a hand towel folded in half and stitched up the sides, with shoelace drawstring, the bag also acts as protection for the seat cushion on those bumpy flights. I avoid jeans or flight suits on long trips and wear pants or shorts with elastic waistband. It makes it much easier to use the facilities. Those flight suits are so cute at happy hour, however!

These are a few tips I have learned, but I would really like to hear from some other GIB's regarding tips for taking photos out of the canopy (or wing windows), noise canceling, exercises on long flights, backup forms of communications with pilot, backseat responsibilities, emergency situations, traveling with animals, etc. There are so many things to talk about with new and "more experienced" GIB's. It would be fun to start a Tips for GIB's corner in the newsletter and perhaps the above will provide a start to the sharing of other great ideas.

More 2427 Resin Experience

Byron Eskesen (Tucson, AZ) I can confirm from personal experience that the Hexcell 2427 does not bond well under high humidity conditions. I used the 2427 for only a short time on my Lancair project, and at a time when the humidity was quite low. I used the 2427 a few days ago during a time of high humidity on a non-aircraft project and found the cured surface to be gummy. A subsequent lay-up over the 2427 had almost no peel strength. I'm now using EZ Pox with the expected good results that I've experienced using Safe-T-Poxy in the past.