

# Metromint: What were they thinking?

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 [devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20070507-01](http://devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20070507-01)

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Some friends gave me a bottle of spearmint Metromint as a gift. And as it turns out, it was a mean-spirited gift. Let's look at that bottle. It calls itself "pure, simple mintwater®". What the heck is pure mintwater? Do you go to the local mintwater stream and collect it? Oh, wait, sorry. That should be mintwater®. With some trepidation, I took a sip. Yuck-o. It's like drinking chewing gum. Why would anybody want this? But wait, there's more. On the side of the bottle, there's a picture of a thermometer, and the mercury reads  $-6^{\circ}$ , or "extra cool." Whatever that means. The bottle never explains. On their benefits page, if you click through to "rehydrate", it says that "the good stuff in **Metromint** gets where it's going quicker, and goes to work faster." Huh? What's the scientific basis for this claim? Quicker than what? And the biggest mystery of them all: What part of Metromint is the "good stuff"? I haven't found it yet.

Whatever. My point is that this stuff is awful. And I'm not the only person who thinks so.

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