



# BROOKLYN\_BORN

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## I broke my own rule and bought running shoes online

Monday, March 09, 2015

It's been a personal choice for me to support my local running stores. "Local" is a relative term out here in the country. I'm between two cities so I have a 40 min to 1 hour drive each way. Fortunately, I only need new shoes every 6 months and call ahead to be sure they have my size in stock.

My current problem isn't with the stores. I appreciate their support of fitness activities in the area and that they provide employment and pay taxes locally.

I have "difficult" feet and wear what I call "industrial strength orthotics." Remember the fairy tale "Princess and the Pea?" She could sense a tiny pea under a pile of mattresses. I can sleep anywhere, on anything, but a small change in my model of running shoes by the manufacturer makes a big difference to me. When that happens, I'm off on a quest to find an appropriate replacement and I really appreciate my running stores efforts to help me in this. Fortunately, I usually have a few years before I have to begin a new shoe quest.

A few weeks ago I replaced my shoes and they felt a LITTLE different. The weather has been awful so I've been limited to short runs. When I finally got out for 10 miles, I knew they weren't going to support extended distance.

I wrote to the company. Yes, aside from the new neon colors, they are "slightly wider" and built on a different foundation. In addition there are now only 6 eyelets instead of 7 so even my lacing pattern is off.

OK, it's their company and their decision. They suggested another model that might be better for me. My problem is that I have 2 half marathons coming up in the next 6 weeks. This is not the time to try out new shoes.

Neither running store had a pair of the original model in stock, but I could still find them online. So I ordered them. They should be here tomorrow and I'll be set for the races and the following 5 months.

During that time I'll go back to my running stores to find the next best thing for me. I'm glad to help keep them in business. I'm helping myself and my community.

It's the same thing as when I buy locally produced food or organic products. Sometimes, I just vote with my pocketbook.

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## Member Comments About This Blog Post



**CD4114015**

Well, I don't run so even though I wish I could run, I am glad not to have the problems you guys do have with your shoes. I used to wear "industrial" orthotics too but finally about 8 years ago found my foot doctor now and he totally revamped my feet with several surgeries and I no longer have to wear them but I know what you mean there!



So glad you found what you need....even if temporarily! 🤗



2285 days ago



**MIRAGE727**

I am indebted to my local running store! But due to color restriction and their prices, I had to order what I wanted on line! Not only did I save \$70 a pair...I got two pair...but I got the color you can see from Google Earth satellites! Sometimes you gotta do things like this. Oh, the store I bought from is also a local Tri store 5 hours from me, in Miami!



2285 days ago



**LIVEDAILY**

I know exactly what you're going through! You find a product that you LOVE, and that works well for you. You use it for months, years even. Then one day, you go to the store and you can't find it...anywhere!! Grrrr...so frustrating!!



2285 days ago



**DOVESEYES**

It is concerning when you like a product and have supported it for many years and the company makes changes. I find usually not for the better but maybe for their costs.



2285 days ago



**ALICIA363**

Rules are made to be broken!

I often think with the existence of marketing industries and a profit motive that companies lose sight of producing a great product.

Funny you should mention buying local ... I had my own personal small business Saturday this weekend, with running shoes, vacuum replacement, family restaurant, local grocery, and an alterations specialist. So grateful my needs were met by fine local businesses!



2285 days ago



**ONEKIDSMOM**

An inventive way around what is a perennial problem! I have that problem with dental hygiene tools, believe it or not... the proxy-brushes I most use to keep gum disease at bay? They stopped making the size that worked for me. Finding substitutes, even with help from two dental offices? Tough... but found some old stock of the no longer manufactured version on line... and like you and the shoes, snapped 'em up.



2285 days ago



**WATERMELLEN**

Grrrrr, That was a very reasonable decision in your situation!!



Any time I find a bra that fits perfectly . . . or a lipstick that's just right . . . the manufacturer immediately "improves it" out of existence!!

2285 days ago



**CD15068443**

I feel your pain. I've always worn Ryka walking shoes - made just for women. Well, they either sold out or changed or both cause they suck now. On the lookout for new ones. Trying to decide if I'll wait until after my surgery. Decisions, decisions!



2285 days ago



**POLSKARENIA**

At the end of the day, you need to do what is best for you, even if it means shopping online at times. You're the no.1 priority here.....



2285 days ago



**MARYJEANSL**

I wish you the best, once you have worn out the internet pair, in finding a new model that works well for you. I have trouble finding comfortable shoes for walking, and I can only imagine how hard it must be for running.



2285 days ago



**TERI-RIFIC**

I really hate it when shoe companies keep changing good shoes that I really like. My favorite shoe of all time is the original Saucony Lady Jazz (blue and yellow). It got 5 stars from Runners World and was about half the price of the other better known brands. Right now I'm in love with my Altra Olympus zero drop shoes. I have two old pairs and I bought two new pairs. I'm sure they will stop making them soon! I wish they would make Revlon Flex mousse, too! Good luck in your HM's.  
2285 days ago



**LILLIPUTIANNA**

Oh, I understand completely! I would love to buy local, but I'm picky and have a particular running shoe that I like. It's "vegan" and is made with biodegradable dyes. So, I have to send away for it. If only we still had local shoemakers in every town!  
2285 days ago



**PHOENIX1949**



2285 days ago



**SUBMOM2**

I'm glad you were able to find the originals online. It drives me nuts when they change a product I like, but then I guess the designers need to work, too!  
2285 days ago



**PHEBESS**

Ugh, I totally understand. My feet are like that too. Frustrating!!!! (And they always label the new model "new and improved" when there wasn't anything to fix!)  
2285 days ago



**WILSONWR**

I hate it when, for some reason (sometimes profit), changes are made in a product. I've worn the same type of running shoe for years, but all of a sudden, the quality has gone down and they are coming apart after just a few months! I guess I'll be looking for a new shoe also...  
2285 days ago



**JANETRW50**

This makes perfect sense! You know exactly what you want and now you are going to get it. I agree one should support our local businesses but it has to be the right choice for you.  
2285 days ago



**WUMPASTAR**

It's not like you had much of a choice..! With the half marathons coming up I completely understand your decision and I think you made the right one ;) You even have a shorter drive than me to go to a running store, hahaha. For me it's 2.5 hours minimum! Fortunately I don't run as much as you (and only run for 6 months a year) so I change my shoes every other year!  
2285 days ago



**GOLDENRODFARM**

I am always sad when they change a product so much that I can't wear it anymore from shoes to bras lol  
2285 days ago



**GINIEMIE**

I too have problems getting shoes that work for me, and now with the arthritic bump on the top of my right foot I perceive new issues. The broken in shoes are fine, the newer ones need stretched a bit and they are the same model so I just wear them for short periods and wear the older ones when I'll be on my feet and moving for longer periods. I think it's time for me to get refitted and try another pair too. Good luck.  
I agree, support local merchants, businesses and growers-it's usually better quality and better

service.



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