

Rev. Joe's Random Thought #2,943

by Rev. Joe Dirt - Friday, October 16, 2020

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yeah I know you did not ask!

Everyone has heard of the “five second rule”, if a piece of food falls to the floor you have 5 seconds to pick it up before the germs attack it.

This morning I thought we need to modify this formula a wee bit. The length of time that is available to pick up the food item is directly proportional to the the perceived goodness of the food. To illustrate, a lima bean would be trash while it is still a foot from the floor. A chocolate chip cookie would still be good after resting 20 or 30 seconds on the same floor.

I suppose if will really wanted to be scientific about this we would need to add a couple variables to the equation. One takes into account the cleanliness of the floor. A kitchen floor immediately after mopping with ammonia water would be close to zero. A well trafficked floor in a third world bus station would be pushing 1. We would need another variable for the stickiness of the food. Our chocolate chip cookie would again be close to zero and a limp, damp, overcooked piece of asparagus would be pushing 1.

If you are OCD and really want to know what studies have been done on this, here is an article from WebMD: [‘5-Second Rule’ Rules, Sometimes](#)