

The Material Culture of Boredom (Waiting for the Bus)

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Fra Biancoshock

Caught at the bus stop without your smartphone or tablet? Whatever are you to do? (An apposite aside: do people still twiddle their thumbs or has thumb typing dexterity displaced the neural connectivity previously forged through such antique pastimes??)

An Italian conceptual artist named [Fra.Biancoshock](#) has installed a solution in Milan: free sheets of bubble wrap sized according to your estimated wait time. Read all about it in this recent [NPR science column](#) by Robert Krulwich.