Improving AM Reception In An Office Building

One of the toughest places to get radio reception is inside an office building. Construction materials like bricks and metal, and noise from computers and other electronics can all combine to make radio reception almost impossible for you. Besides the construction of the building, you sometimes have to account for your location in a building as well. I used to work at a corner desk in a windowless room on the 14th floor of a Manhattan office building. We were allowed to listen to music while we worked, but we quickly found that a radio was useless. Turning to the Internet might have been a viable alternative at home, but at work, streaming radio over the Internet would cut into the company's Internet service, and it's not always that reliable anyway. Most of us settled for the repetitive listening of CDs. Since you're visiting C. Crane, though, if you work in an office and have terrible radio reception, you don't have to settle. Here are some possible fixes for you:

Conventional Solution:

The simplest way to improve radio reception is to put a radio in a window. If you can't do that, however, you still have several options. First, just using a CCRadio plus, with its sensitive AM capabilities, is often enough to improve your radio reception. If you've already tried that, you might want to go the next route, of running a wire from your radio to an antenna in a window. You could run cable along the floor through the ceiling, or you could even wrap it around a few coworkers if you like. No, really, running a coax cable (like TV cable) from your radio to a well-situated antenna might just do the trick. Two antennas to consider for this type of set up are the AM Justice Antenna with twin-coil ferrite, and the FM Reflect antenna. If you have an "in" with the super, you might even be able to mount an antenna just outside your window.

