

Refrigerator and Freezer Maintenance



Keep your food safe, your appliances running longer, and your energy bills lower!



Keep Coils Clean

- Dirty condenser coils = higher energy use and shorter lifespan
- Coils are usually on the back or underneath the unit
- Vacuum coils and vents once a month
- If behind a panel, unplug, unscrew, clean inside, and plug back in



Check Door Gaskets

- No cracks or loose spots – this keeps cold air in
- Clean with mild detergent or white vinegar to remove mildew
- Don't forget the top, bottom, and front edges
- Rinse and dry thoroughly



Keep It Full (But Not Overloaded)

- A fuller fridge/freezer retains cold better
- Leave shelves in place for proper air circulation
- Don't block vents or overpack



Defrost When Needed

- Too much ice? It's time to defrost
- Do it when food supply is low
- Never use sharp tools to scrape ice
- Track with a defrost log
- Avoid hot spots: no sunny windows, ovens, or radiators nearby
- Keep away from very cold spots (below 60°F)
- Make sure air can circulate around the unit



Clean Regularly

- Clean spills right away to avoid odors and bacteria
- Wash drawers/shelves with mild soap, rinse, and dry
- Bacteria can grow in the fridge – clean often!



Keep It Cold

- Thermometers are required inside every fridge and freezer
- Fridge: 32°F – 40°F
- Freezer: Below 0°F
- Use a temperature log to check regularly