5 Steps to Clean Your Refrigerator



If you have a recalled food item in your refrigerator, it's important to throw out the food and clean your refrigerator. Germs in the recalled food could spread to drawers or shelves in your refrigerator.

Follow these 5 steps for cleaning your refrigerator

ITEMS YOU'LL NEED



SEALED BAGS



HOT, SOAPY WATER



CLEAN TOWELS



Throw out the recalled food, and any other foods stored with it or touching it.

Put it in a sealed bag in the garbage.

IF THE RECALLED FOOD WAS STORED IN A REUSABLE CONTAINER, WASH IT WITH HOT, SOAPY WATER BEFORE REUSING.

> Empty the rest of the items in your refrigerator and put them on a counter or table while you clean.

Take out shelving, drawers, and any other removable parts.

DON'T LEAVE FOODS OUT THAT NEED TO BE KEPT IN THE REFRIGERATOR FOR MORE THAN TWO HOURS.

Wash shelving, drawers, and any other removable parts by hand with hot, soapy water.

Dry with a clean towel.

DON'T RUN COLD GLASS SHELVES OR DRAWERS UNDER HOT WATER -THE GLASS COULD CRACK. LET THEM COME TO ROOM TEMPERATURE FIRST.



Put the shelves, drawers, and other removable parts back in the refrigerator, along with the other items you took out.

WIPE FOOD AND DRINK CONTAINERS WITH HOT, SOAPY WATER **BEFORE RETURNING TO THE CLEAN REFRIGERATOR.**





AND DON'T FORGET!

Wash your hands with water and soap once you've finished cleaning.

Use hot, soapy water to wipe kitchen counters that held food, drinks, refrigerator parts and any cleaning materials.

Wash any towels you used to dry the refrigerator before using them again.

Stay up-to-date on the latest food recalls. www.foodsafety.gov



U.S. Department of **Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Accessible version: https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/communication/clean-refrigerator-steps.html



BACTERIA INSIDE + PARTIAL COOKING = RECIPE FOR ILLNESS

You might be used to leaving the middle rare when cooking chicken liver for pâté and similar dishes. But Campylobacter is a type of bacteria that can live inside chicken liver. If the middle isn't cooked to 165°F, bacteria can survive and cause illness.





less often

PROPER COOKING CAN PREVENT ILLNESSES

U.S. outbreaks from eating undercooked chicken liver are on the rise. Most are associated with restaurants.



In one outbreak, the restaurant went out of business after customers ate undercooked chicken liver and got sick.

Chefs, cooks, and caterers are key to helping prevent these outbreaks.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Environmental Health



Learn more: www.fsis.usda.gov/ChickenLiver Accessible version: https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/food-safety-during-a-power-outage.html

Eat Safe Food after a Power Outage

Refrigerated or frozen foods may not be safe to eat after the loss of power. Find out what you can do to keep food safe during a power outage, and when you need to throw away food that could make you sick.

Before



The refrigerator should be at 40°F or below.

The freezer should be at 0°F or below.



Prepare for emergencies or natural disasters



Freeze containers of water and gel packs to help keep your food at 40°F or below.

Have a cooler handy.

Buy dry ice or block ice to keep food cold in the refrigerator if the power might be out for a long time.

During

KEEP Refrigerator & Freezer Doors CLOSED





24 Hours in a HALF-FULL Freezer

After 4 hours without power, put refrigerated perishable foods in a cooler. Add ice or another cold source to keep them at 40°F or below.

After



Never taste food to determine if it is safe to eat. When in doubt, throw it out.

- Throw out perishable food in your refrigerator (meat, fish, cut fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, and leftovers) after 4 hours without power or a cold source.
- Throw out any food with an **unusual odor, color, or texture.**
- Check temperatures of food kept in coolers or your refrigerator with a cold source. Throw out food above 40°F.
- If you have an appliance thermometer in your freezer, check to see if it is still at 40 °F or below.
- You can **safely refreeze or cook** thawed frozen food **that still contains ice crystals** or is at 40 °F or below.



www.cdc.gov/foodsafety





STEPS TO SAFE AND HEALTHY FRUITS & VEGETABLES

From the Store to Your Table

Fruits and vegetables are healthy to eat. But did you know that harmful germs, like *Salmonella, E. coli*, and *Listeria*, can sometimes be on fruits and vegetables? There are steps that can help keep you healthy—and your fruits and vegetables safer to eat—from the store to your table.

Fruit and Vegetable Safety at the Store or Market



Check for Bruises

• Choose fruits and vegetables that are free of bruises or damaged spots, unless you plan to cook them.

Keep Precut Fruits and Vegetables Cold

• Choose precut and packaged fruits and vegetables that are refrigerated or kept on ice.

Separate

• Separate fruits and vegetables from raw meat, poultry, and seafood in your shopping cart and in your grocery bags.

Fruit and Vegetable Safety at Home





Wash

- Wash your hands before and after preparing fruits and vegetables.
- Wash or scrub all fruits and vegetables under running water before eating, cutting, or cooking.
- Fruits and vegetables labeled "prewashed" do not need to be washed again at home.

Keep Cold

- Refrigerate cut, peeled, or cooked fruits and vegetables as soon as possible, or within 2 hours.
- Use a refrigerator thermometer to make sure the temperature stays at 40°F or below.

Separate

- Store fruits and vegetables away from, and not next to or below, raw meat, poultry, and seafood. These items can drip juices that may have germs.
- Use a separate cutting board for fruits and vegetables that is never used for cutting or preparing raw meats, poultry, or seafood.
- Wash cutting boards, counter tops, and utensils with hot, soapy water before and after preparing fruits and vegetables.

For more information, call 1-800-CDC-INFO or visit www.cdc.gov.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

302879A Accessible version: https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/communication/steps-healthy-fruits-veggies.html



Kitchen Sink

- Wash your hands for **20 seconds** with soap and running water.
- Wash fruits and vegetables before peeling.
- Do not wash meat, poultry, or eggs.





Cutting Board and Utensils

- Use separate cutting boards, plates, and knives for produce and for raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs.
- Clean with hot, soapy water or in dishwasher (if dishwasher-safe) after each use.

Thermometer

- Use a food thermometer to make sure food cooked in the oven, stove or on the grill reaches a temperature hot enough to kill germs.
 - All poultry, including ground: 165°F
 - Ground beef, pork, lamb, and veal: 160°F
 - Beef, pork, lamb, and veal chops, roasts and steaks: 145°F (then let rest 3 minutes before serving)
 - Fish: **145°F**





Microwave

- Know your microwave's wattage.
 - Check inside the door, owner's manual, or manufacturer's website. Lower wattage means longer cooking time.
- Follow recommended cooking and standing times, to allow for additional cooking after microwaving stops.
- When reheating, use a food thermometer to make sure food reaches **165°F.**

Refrigerator

- Keep your refrigerator between 40°F and 32°F, and your freezer at 0°F or below.
- Refrigerate fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs, and meats within 2 hours; (1 hour if the temperature is 90°F or higher).



- Store raw meat on the bottom shelf away from fresh produce and ready-to-eat food.
- Throw out foods left unrefrigerated for over **2 hours**.
- Thaw or marinate foods in the refrigerator.



Computer or mobile devices

- Look for more tips to keep food safe at www.cdc.gov/foodsafety
- Stay up to date on food recalls at **www.foodsafety.gov/recalls**



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/foodsafety

Accessible version: https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/communication/food-safety-in-the-kitchen.html

Get Ready to Grill Safely.

Separate

When shopping, pick up meat, poultry, and seafood last and separate them from other food in your shopping cart and grocery bags.

Chill

Keep meat, poultry, and seafood refrigerated until ready to grill. When transporting, keep below **40°F** in an insulated cooler.



Clean

Wash your hands with soap before and after handling raw meat, poultry, and seafood. Wash work surfaces, utensils, and the grill before and after cooking.

Cook

Use a food thermometer to ensure meat is cooked hot enough to kill harmful germs. When smoking, keep temperature inside the smoker at

225°F to **300°F** to keep meat at a safe temperature while it cooks.

145°F	beef, pork, lamb, veal (then let rest 3 minutes before serving)
145°F	fish
160°F	hamburgers and other ground meat

165°F poultry

Don't cross-contaminate

Throw out marinades and sauces that have touched raw meat juices. Put cooked meat on a clean plate.

Refrigerate

Divide leftovers into small portions and place in covered, shallow containers. Put in freezer or fridge within two hours of cooking (one hour if above **90°F** outside).

SOAF





www.cdc.gov/foodsafety

Accessible version: https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/communication/bbq-iq.html