

How to Use Refrigerator Correctly

Refrigerator is immeasurably helpful in keeping food fresh. However, if it is not used in a correct manner, or if it is not cleaned and disinfected at regular intervals, the food kept inside is susceptible to spoilage by contamination. We can take following notes to keep a refrigerator neat and tidy. Please remember to clean and disinfect it regularly to prevent cross-contamination and microbial growth in food.











Points to note when using the refrigerator

Pay Attention to Storage Temperatures



Make sure a refrigerator is maintained at below 5°C and a freezer at -18 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ or lower. Check the temperatures at regular intervals;



Allow warm leftovers cooling to room temperature before placing them in a refrigerator. Leftovers should be put into the fridge within two hours after cooked:



Food taken out of refrigerator should be thoroughly cooked or reheated until its internal temperature reaches 75°C or higher before eating;



Do not open a refrigerator frequently. As necessary, only open the door for a short time to avoid the temperature rise inside the fridge;



The amount of food kept in a refrigerator should be limited to 80% of the storage capacity to prevent from hindering the cold air circulation.

Notice on Food Storage



Food stored in a refrigerator must be separately wrapped or kept in appropriate covered containers, depending on its properties. Label it with the date of storage and adopt the 'First-In, First-Out' principle of food storage to make sure the foods being used or consumed before their expiry dates and avoiding cross-contamination;



Always place 'Raw Food Below Cooked Food'. Store ready-to-eat food and cooked food on the upper shelves and raw food on the lower shelves;



Opened canned food should be stored in a non-metallic and lidded container before putting into a refrigerator;



Non-perishable foods, such as soft drinks and beverages, can be kept on the door shelves of refrigerator;



Do not keep food in refrigerator for long periods of time, especially leftovers, which should be consumed as soon as possible;



Unopened food products (e.g. canned food) and unripe fruits do not require refrigeration.

Clean and Disinfect at Regular Intervals



Clean and disinfect refrigerator regularly to keep it tidy and clean (1:99 dilution of household bleach with water can be used);



Remove all food items from refrigerator before cleaning, and check their expiry dates and qualities;



Take out all removable shelves for washing. Wipe away the debris and stains on the inside of refrigerator with a damp cloth, then subsequently disinfect the refrigerator with diluted household bleach;



Cleaning and disinfection should all be done within two hours to avoid the food removed from refrigerator leaving at room temperature for too long.