



Refrigerator

Refrigerators are responsible for about 8% of the average household's energy usage. Replacing your old refrigerator with an ENERGY STAR® certified refrigerator could save you \$200–\$1,100 on electricity costs over the refrigerator's lifetime. Look to TVA EnergyRight® and your local power company to help you make even more smart decisions about your home's energy use.

What features should I look for in a new refrigerator?

ENERGY STAR models

Choose an ENERGY STAR certified model and you could save 15% more energy over a standard model.

EnergyGuide label

Check the refrigerator's yellow EnergyGuide label for estimated annual operating costs and compare it to similar models.

Top-mounted freezer

Choose a refrigerator with a top-mounted freezer and you'll use 10%–25% less energy than side-by-side models or bottom-mounted freezers.

Appropriate size

Select a refrigerator that is energy efficient in size, typically 16–20 cubic feet.

No ice maker and dispenser

Save an additional 14%–20% energy by skipping the automatic ice maker or through-the-door ice dispenser.



How can I reduce the amount of energy that my refrigerator uses?

Set temperature

Set your refrigerator between 35–38F; set your freezer between 0–5F.

Cool location

Place your refrigerator in a cool location away from heat sources like an oven, furnace register or direct sunlight.

Air circulation

Leave a few inches of open space behind the refrigerator for air to circulate.

Clean coils

Keep the condenser coils clean on older models. Refer to the user's manual for proper cleaning methods, then look for cleaning brushes at your local home improvement store.

Airtight door seals

Make sure the seals around each refrigerator door is airtight.

Shut the door

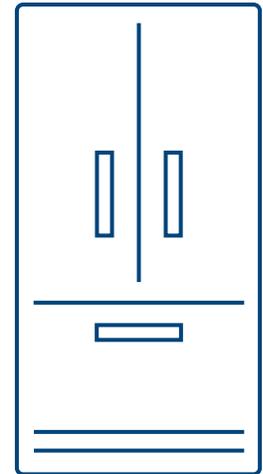
Reduce the amount of time refrigerator doors are left open.

Keep it full

Keep your refrigerator stocked to retain cold air better; you'll use less energy to keep food cold too.

Can I use my old refrigerator as a second refrigerator?

A second refrigerator could cost you an extra \$300 per year to operate. Unplug it if you're not using it. And when you're shopping for a new refrigerator, choose a retailer that will pick up and recycle your old one.



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