

**Barber Knolls Development Corp.**  
P.O. Box 12  
Barberton, Oh 44203  
Phone (330)-848-2989 fax (330)-848-3643

## **Refrigerator and Freezer Care**

Proper cooling and freezing depends on the circulation of air within your refrigerator and freezer, and of the cooling coils on the outside. Follow these tips to keep your fridge working and to save money on energy costs.

1. **KEEP AIR VENTS OPEN:** It is especially important in the freezer to make sure that the freezer vents (usually in the back) are not blocked by plastic bags or boxes tightly pushed against them. Blocking these vents can cause your freezer's failure to maintain its temperature or to ice up, clogging drain tubes and defrosting the freezer.
2. **DON'T OVERFILL:** Your freezer works at its most efficient when it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.
3. **CLEAN THE COILS:** Your electric costs will be lower if you keep your refrigerator clean outside as well as in. Clean the coils at the back of the fridge at least once every 6 months (more often if you have a pet). A coil cleaning brush can be purchased to make it easier to get into the small places. Use a vacuum to pull dust out. Unplug your fridge before cleaning the coils.
4. **CLEAN GASKETS:** Regularly clean the gaskets around the doors to both fridge and freezer with warm water and mild soap (detergent can damage the gaskets). This will maintain a tight seal, needed to keep the cool air inside where it belongs. Spills that drip into gaskets can cause the gasket to leak.
5. **CLEAN FREEZER VENTS:** Be sure crumbs, twist ties and other debris don't get caught in the freezer vents. The drain tube beyond the vents should be kept clear.
6. **ODOR CONTROL:** The best way to control odors from strong smelling foods like onion that are stored in the fridge is with a box of baking soda. It should be changed every 3 months.
7. **CLEAR DRAINS:** There may be a drain opening under the crisper cover, at the back of the freezer or fridge. Be sure these are not blocked by packages, crumbs or spills. If these are blocked, thawing frost can run out onto your floor.