

Refrigerator Storage Chart

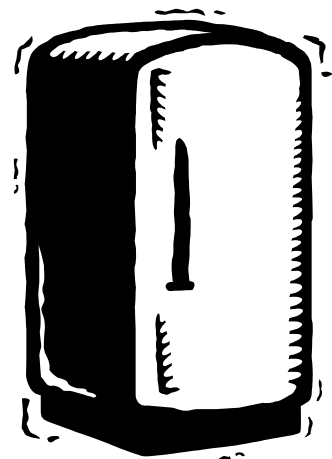
Cold Storage - These **SHORT** but safe time limits will help keep refrigerated food from spoiling or becoming dangerous to eat and will keep frozen food at top quality.

USDA's meat & poultry hotline: 1-800-535-4555

Product	Refrigerator (40 degrees F)	Freezer (0 degrees F)
Eggs		
Fresh, in shell	3 weeks	Don't freeze
Hardcooked	1 week	Don't freeze well
Egg substitutes, opened	3 days	Don't freeze
Unopened	0 days	1 year
TV Dinners/ Frozen Casseroles		
Keep frozen until ready to serve		3-4 months
Deli & Vacuum-Packed Products		
Store-prepared (or homemade) salads	3-5 days	Don't freeze well
Mayonnaise, commercial		
Refrigerate after opening	2 months	Don't freeze
Ground Meats		
Beef, turkey, chicken, pork	1-2 days	3-4 months
Hotdogs & Lunch Meats		
Hotdogs, opened package	1 week	
Unopened package*	2 weeks	
Lunch meats, opened	3-5 days	
Unopened*	2 weeks	

*But not more than one week after the sell-by-dates

-over-



Product	Refrigerator (40 degrees F)	Freezer (0 degrees F)
Bacon & Sausage		
Bacon	7 days	1 month
Sausage, raw	1-2 days	1-2 months
Precooked smoked breakfast links, patties	7 days	1-2 months
Ham		
Ham, canned shelf stable	shelf-2 years at room temperature	
Label says keep refrigerated	6-9 months	Don't freeze
Ham, fully cooked - whole	7 days	1-2 months
Ham, fully cooked - half and slices	3-5 days	1-2 months
Fresh Meat		
Beef, steaks, roasts	3-5 days	6-12 months
Pork, chops, roasts	3-5 days	4-6 months
Lamb, chops, roasts	3-5 days	6-9 months
Veal, roast	3-5 days	4-6 months
Meat Leftovers		
Cooked meat and meat dishes, soups & stews	3-4 days	2-3 months
Gravy and meat broth	1-2 days	2-3 months
Fresh Poultry		
Chicken or turkey, whole	1-2 days	1 year
Chicken or turkey pieces	1-2 days	9 months
Cooked Poultry, Leftover		
Fried Chicken	3-4 days	4 months
Cooked Poultry	3-4 days	4-6 months

IF IN DOUBT - THROW IT OUT!



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