Cleaning and use of service fridges and freezers

- Covered by primary authority assured advice

Cloth	Yellow
PPE	N/A
Chemicals	• Sanitiser
Reference	Safety policies • COSHH manual • Risk assessment manual • DMLB SOP OF0023 - Pest control • SOP K0004 - Preparation and storage of raw meat SOP K0055 - Dealing with a spillage • SOP K0009 - Temperature checks on fridges and freezers SOP K0061 - Electrical safety (kitchen) • Kitchen prep list pack
Equipment	Replacement door seals • Blue roll • Yellow hazard warning sign • Fridge/freezer thermometer • White plastic tray • Vaccum cleaner • Fridge/Freezer vinyl numbers

Step



For the fridge:

- Remove contents and store safely in an alternative fridge.
- Ensure that raw meat is stored in the correct location of the alternative fridge. Refer to SOP K0004 - Preparation and storage of raw meat.
- Switch off the fridge and remove plug from socket.
- Remove shelf supports and shelves and wash in the dishwasher.
- Allow shelves to air dry.

For the freezer:

- At the end of the trading day, remove contents and store safely in an alternative freezer.
- Switch off the freezer and remove plug from socket.
- Remove shelf supports and shelves and wash in the dishwasher.
- Allow shelves to air dry.

Step



For the freezer only:

- Open the door and place a plastic container under the freezer to catch any water or large pieces of ice.
- Do not remove any ice manually.
- Do not apply any heat source to the freezer to speed up the defrosting process.
- Display a yellow hazard warning sign for the duration of the task.
- Defrost the freezer overnight.

Step 3



For the fridge or freezer:

- Remove any food debris from the fridge or freezer and discard.
- Using sanitiser and a yellow cloth clean the inside of the fridge or freezer paying particular attention to corners, fan cover and bottom vent.
- Work from the top downwards.
- Using blue roll, dry the inside of the fridge or freezer.

Step 4 cntd on next page







- Check that the door seal does not have any splits or breaks.
- Check that a replacement seal is available.

If splits or breaks are found replace the seal as follows:

- Starting at a corner, carefully pull the broken seal away from the housing channel and discard in the general waste bin.
- Lightly wet the new seal with hot water so that it is pliable.
- Remove any excess water from the seal using blue roll.

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Step 4 cntd



- Starting at a corner, carefully push the seal into the housing channel.
- Repeat for each corner.
- Carefully push the seal into the housing channel between each corner.
- Do not overstretch, kink or twist the seal when fitting.
- Check that there are no gaps between the seal and the housing channel.
- Once the seal is replaced, ensure that the door closes properly.



Step 5



- Using sanitiser and a yellow cloth clean the inside of the door paying particular attention to the door seal and seal gullies.
- Using blue roll, dry the inside of the door, seal and seal gullies.

Step



- Using a vacuum cleaner, remove any debris from the motor housing area.
- Any signs of pest droppings should be reported to the duty manager immediately.

Step



- Replace shelves and close door.
- Plug in the fridge or freezer and switch on.
- Ensure that the fridge/freezer thermometer is replaced.
- Wait until the desired fridge or freezer temperature has been reached. Refer to SOP K0009 - Temperature checks on fridges and freezers.

The safe temperature ranges are:

- Fridges between +1°C and +8°C (with a target of +4°C).
- Freezers between -15°C and -23°C (with a target of -18°C).

Step



- Using a yellow cloth and sanitiser clean the outside of the fridge or freezer paying particular attention to handles, air vents and cabling.
- Inspect the cable and plug casing for signs of damage. If damage is noted, do not use the appliance. Refer to SOP K0061 Electrical safety.

Step 9



- Refer to kitchen prep list pack when refilling the fridge or freezer.
- Where space permits an undercounter service fridge can be designated for the storage of raw meat/fish/eggs to reduce the risk of cross contamination.

Step 10



- Report any maintenance issues via the property maintenance system.
- Replacement seals can be ordered via the property maintenance system.
- All spillages must be cleaned up immediately. Refer to SOP K0055 dealing with a spillage.
- Fridge and freezer doors must always be labelled with a vinyl number. Refer to SOP K0009 Temperature checks on fridges and freezers.
- Replacement labels can be ordered via the POS order.

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