

Removing Odors from Refrigerators and Freezers

- ◆ Remove the food.
- ◆ Take out removable parts and wash them with mild detergent; then rinse and dry. Also wash the door gasket.
- ◆ Wash the inside of the refrigerator or freezer with 1 tablespoon of baking soda in a quart of tap water or with 1 cup of vinegar in a gallon of tap water.
- ◆ Let the surface dry with the door open.
- ◆ If the odor persists, spread baking soda on shallow pans and put them on the shelves of a refrigerator or on the bottom and in baskets of a chest freezer. Leave the appliance open and unplugged.
- ◆ If the odor persists, use activated charcoal. This type of charcoal is extra dry and absorbs odors more quickly than does charcoal used for cooking. It is sold at drug stores and pet supply stores. To use activated charcoal:
 - Place the charcoal in pans or on paper in the bottom of the freezer or refrigerator,
 - and leave it there for several days.
 - Turn the refrigerator on low and run it empty for a few days so odors will be absorbed.
 - If the odor remains, put in new charcoal.
 - When the odor is gone, unplug the appliance and rinse and dry the inside of the freezer or refrigerator.
 - Turn on the freezer or refrigerator, and it is ready for restocking with food.
- ◆ If the odor gets into the freezer's insulation, contact the manufacturer for suggestions on solving the problem.
- ◆ Sometimes nothing can be done to eliminate the odor.
- ◆ Visit this site for additional information: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/impmod02/01500029.html>

