

# Refrigerator

Refrigerators are responsible for about 8 percent of the average household's energy usage. Recent improvements in insulation and compressors ensure that today's ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> certified refrigerators are about 15 percent more energy efficient than non-certified models. Replacing your old refrigerator with an ENERGY STAR certified refrigerator can save from \$200 to \$1,100 on electricity costs over the lifetime of your refrigerator.

## What features should I look for in a new refrigerator?

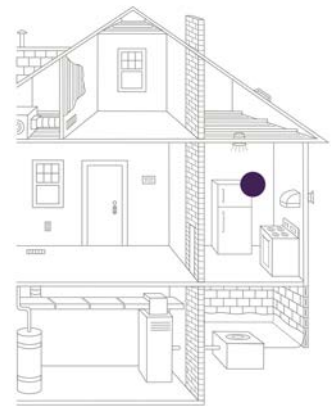
- **ENERGY STAR** – Always choose an ENERGY STAR certified model whenever you are purchasing a new refrigerator.
- **EnergyGuide Label** – Check the refrigerator's yellow EnergyGuide label for estimated annual operating costs and to compare similar models.
- **Top-Mounted Freezer** – Refrigerators with freezers mounted on top use about 10 percent to 25 percent less energy than side-by-side models or refrigerators with bottom-mounted freezers.
- **Appropriate Size** – In general, smaller refrigerators use less energy. The most energy efficient models are typically in the 16 cubic foot to 20 cubic foot range.
- **No Ice-Maker and Dispenser** – Save an additional 14 percent to 20 percent by choosing a refrigerator that does not have an automatic ice maker or through-the-door dispenser.

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

- **Set Temperature** – Make sure the temperatures are not set too low. Set your refrigerator between 35 and 38 degrees Fahrenheit, and set your freezer between 0 and 5 degrees Fahrenheit.
- **Cool Location** – Position your refrigerator in a cool location away from heat sources such as an oven, furnace register, or direct sunlight.
- **Air Circulation** – Make sure that there are a few inches of open space behind the refrigerator for air to circulate.
- **Clean Coils** – If you have an older refrigerator, keep the condenser coils clean. Refer to the user's manual for proper cleaning methods. Cleaning brushes are available at most home improvement stores.
- **Door Seals** – Make sure the seals around each of the refrigerator doors are airtight.
- **Door Closed** – Reduce the amount of time that refrigerator doors are left open.
- **Keep It Full** – A full refrigerator retains cold air better and doesn't require as much energy to keep food cold.

## Can I use my old refrigerator as a second refrigerator?

A second refrigerator could cost you an extra \$300 per year to operate, so you should unplug it if it is empty. When purchasing a new refrigerator, choose a retailer that will pick up and recycle your old refrigerator.



## TVA INCENTIVES

Currently, TVA does not offer incentives for refrigerator upgrades.

For more details, call 1-855-2eScore (1-855-237-2673) or go to [www.2eScore.com](http://www.2eScore.com)

