



## PREPARING YOUR REFRIGERATOR

### Why Is This Important?

1. Proper pre-move cleaning will help ensure a cleaner and longer lasting appliance in your home.
2. When the refrigerator is un-plugged, the cycling of air stops and the existing air inside becomes moist creating an environment conducive to mold.
3. Failure to complete the cleaning and preparation process thoroughly may permanently ruin your appliance.

### Proper Steps for Cleaning and Preparation

**NOTICE:** If you have a water dispenser model, allow a trained appliance company to:

- Turn off the water to the refrigerator
- Cap the water line
- Suction the water out of your refrigerator (lines, solenoid, filter and reservoir)
- Secure the lines for transit
- Secure the filter (remover & wrap)
- Ensure the proper disconnection of the icemaker

**If you intend to disconnect the water lines/service the icemaker yourself, be sure to follow the instruction provided by the manufacturer.**

1. **Turn off 48 hours prior to move.** Make sure the filter has been removed and secured for transit. This is normally a good time to purchase a replacement filter for destination to avoid mold or bacteria growth. If your refrigerator goes to storage, definitely replace the filter.
2. **Before you clean, remove all food and unplug the appliance.** Use a towel to catch dripping water even with frost-free models.
3. **Remove the drawers and wash them.** Use warm, mildly-soapy water to remove all food debris. **DO NOT** use hot water—this can crack cold plastic or glass.
4. **Wipe down and clean the refrigerator and freezer.** Use a few teaspoons of baking soda per quart of water. **DO NOT** use ammonia, bleach or abrasive cleaning solutions. **DRY THOROUGHLY** after wiping down and cleaning.
5. **Leave the doors open to allow the appliance time to completely dry.** We recommend doing this at least 24 hours prior to moving. Using a small fan will help expedite the process.
6. **Use an absorbent for preserving a dry environment.** These methods include: securing a box of baking soda inside, placing a small brown paper bag inside that is securely closed with a few cups of unused coffee grounds, and hanging a nylon with unused coffee ground from a shelf. Make sure these items are secured and cannot spill.