Use & Care Guide
Manual de Uso y Cuidado
Guide d'utilisation et d'entretien
English / Español / Français

Models/Modelos/Modèles: 253.70722*

Kenmore®
Refrigerator
Refrigerador
Réfrigérateur

P/N A01062201 (1408)
Sears Brands Management Corporation
Hoffman Estates, IL 60179 U.S.A.
www.kenmore.com
www.sears.com

Sears Canada Inc.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 2C3
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Record Model/ Serial Numbers

Please read and save these instructions

This Use & Care Guide provides specific operating instructions for your model. Use your unit only as instructed in this guide. These instructions are not meant to cover every possible condition and situation that may occur. Common sense and caution must be practiced when installing, operating, and maintaining any appliance.

Please record your model and serial numbers below for future reference. This information is found on the serial plate located inside the appliance compartment.

Model Number: 253. _____

or _____

Serial Number: _____

Purchase Date: _____

IMPORTANT

Use only soap and water to clean serial plate.

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Important Safety Instructions

Safety Precautions

Do not attempt to install or operate your unit until you have read the safety precautions in this manual. Safety items throughout this manual are labeled with a Danger, Warning, or Caution based on the risk type.

Definitions

⚠ This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death.

⚠ **DANGER**

DANGER indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

⚠ **WARNING**

WARNING indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

⚠ **CAUTION**

CAUTION indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury.

IMPORTANT

Indicates installation, operation, or maintenance information which is important but not hazard-related.

⚠ **WARNING**

Please read all safety instructions before using your new appliance.

For Your Safety

- Do not store or use gasoline or other flammable liquids in the vicinity of this or any other appliance. Read product labels for warnings regarding flammability and other hazards.
- Do not operate the unit in the presence of explosive fumes.

Important Safety Instructions

- Remove and discard any spacers used to secure the shelves during shipping. Small objects are a choke hazard to children.
- Remove all staples from the carton. Staples can cause severe cuts and also destroy finishes if they come in contact with other appliances or furniture.

Child Safety

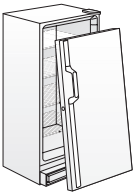
Destroy or recycle the carton, plastic bags, and any exterior wrapping material immediately after the unit is unpacked. Children should **never** use these items to play. Cartons covered with rugs, bedspreads, plastic sheets or stretch wrap may become airtight chambers and can quickly cause suffocation.

Proper Disposal of your Appliance

Risk of child entrapment

Child entrapment and suffocation are not problems of the past. Junked or abandoned appliances are still dangerous – even if they will sit for "just a few days." If you are getting rid of your appliance, please follow the instructions below to help prevent accidents.

Before you throw away your old unit:



- Remove door.
- Leave shelves in place so children may not easily climb inside.
- Have refrigerant removed by a qualified service technician.

IMPORTANT

Your old unit may have a cooling system that used CFCs or HCFCs (chlorofluorocarbons or hydrochlorofluorocarbons). CFCs and HCFCs are believed to harm stratospheric ozone if released to the atmosphere. Other refrigerants may cause harm to the environment if released to the atmosphere. If you are throwing away your old unit, make sure the refrigerant is removed for proper disposal by a qualified technician. If you intentionally release refrigerant, you may be subject to fines and imprisonment under the provisions of environmental legislation.

WARNING

These guidelines must be followed to ensure that safety mechanisms in this unit will operate properly.

Electrical information

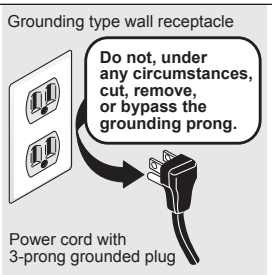
- The appliance must be plugged into its own dedicated 115 Volt, 60 Hz., AC only electric outlet. The power cord of the appliance is equipped with a three-prong grounding plug for your protection against electrical shock hazards. It must be plugged directly into a properly grounded three-prong receptacle. The receptacle must be installed in accordance with local codes and ordinances. Consult a qualified electrician. Do not use an extension cord or adapter plug.
- Do not pinch, knot, or bend the cord in any manner.
- Never unplug the appliance by pulling on the power cord. Always grip the plug firmly, and pull straight out from the receptacle to prevent damaging the power cord.
- Unplug the appliance before cleaning and before replacing a light bulb to avoid electrical shock.
- Performance may be affected if the voltage varies by 10% or more. Operating the unit with insufficient power can damage the motor. Such damage is not covered under the warranty.
- Do not plug the unit into an outlet controlled by a wall switch or pull cord to prevent the appliance from being turned off accidentally.

NOTE

Turning the temperature control to OFF turns off the compressor, but does not disconnect the power to the light bulb or other electrical components.

WARNING

Avoid fire hazard or electric shock. Do not use an extension cord or an adapter plug. Do not remove any prong from the power cord.



Warranty Information

KENMORE LIMITED WARRANTY

FOR ONE YEAR from the date of sale this appliance is warranted against defects in material or workmanship when it is correctly installed, operated and maintained according to all supplied instructions.

WITH PROOF OF SALE, a defective appliance will receive free repair or replacement at option of seller.

For warranty coverage details to obtain free repair or replacement, visit the web page: www.kenmore.com/warranty

This warranty applies for only 90 DAYS from the sale date in the United States, and is void in Canada, if this appliance is ever used for other than private household purposes.

This warranty covers ONLY defects in material and workmanship, and will NOT pay for:

1. Expendable items that can wear out from normal use, including but not limited to filters, belts, bags or screw-in base light bulbs.
2. A service technician to clean or maintain this appliance, or to instruct the user in correct appliance installation, operation and maintenance.
3. Service calls to correct appliance installation not performed by Sears authorized service agents, or to repair problems with house fuses, circuit breakers, house wiring, and plumbing or gas supply systems resulting from such installation.
4. Damage to or failure of this appliance resulting from installation not performed by Sears authorized service agents, including installation that was not in accord with electrical, gas or plumbing codes.
5. Damage to or failure of this appliance, including discoloration or surface rust, if it is not correctly operated and maintained according to all supplied instructions.
6. Damage to or failure of this appliance, including discoloration or surface rust, resulting from accident, alteration, abuse, misuse or use for other than its intended purpose.
7. Damage to or failure of this appliance, including discoloration or surface rust, caused by the use of detergents, cleaners, chemicals or utensils other than those recommended in all instructions supplied with the product.
8. Damage to or failure of parts or systems resulting from unauthorized modifications made to this appliance.
9. Service to an appliance if the model and serial plate is missing, altered, or cannot easily be determined to have the appropriate certification logo.

Disclaimer of implied warranties; limitation of remedies

Customer's sole and exclusive remedy under this limited warranty shall be product repair or replacement as provided herein. Implied warranties, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, are limited to one year or the shortest period allowed by law. Seller shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages. Some states and provinces do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, or limitation on the duration of implied warranties of merchantability or fitness, so these exclusions or limitations may not apply to you.

This warranty applies only while this appliance is used in the United States or Canada*.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

* In-home repair service is not available in all Canadian geographical areas, nor will this warranty cover user or servicer travel and transportation expenses if this product is located in a remote area (as defined by Sears Canada Inc.) where an authorized servicer is not available.

Sears Brands Management Corporation, Hoffman Estates, IL 60179

Sears Canada Inc., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 2C3

Master Protection Agreements

Congratulations on making a smart purchase. Your new Kenmore® product is designed and manufactured for years of dependable operation. But like all products, it may require preventive maintenance or repair from time to time. That's when having a Master Protection Agreement can save you money and aggravation.

The Master Protection Agreement also helps extend the life of your new product. Here's what the Agreement* includes:

- **Parts and labor** needed to help keep products operating properly **under normal use**, not just defects. Our coverage goes **well beyond the product warranty**. No deductibles, no functional failure excluded from coverage – **real protection**.
- **Expert service** by a force of more than **10,000 authorized Sears service technicians,** which means someone you can trust will be working on your product.
- **Unlimited service calls and nationwide service,** as often as you want us, whenever you want us.
- **"No-lemon" guarantee** – replacement of your covered product if four or more product failures occur within twelve months.
- **Product replacement** if your covered product can not be fixed.
- **Annual Preventive Maintenance Check** at your request – no extra charge.
- **Fast help by phone** – we call it **Rapid Resolution** – phone support from a Sears representative on all products. Think of us as a "talking owner's manual".
- **Power surge protection** against electrical damage due to power fluctuations.
- **$250 Food Loss Protection** annually for any food spoilage that is the result of mechanical failure of any covered refrigerator or freezer.
- **Rental reimbursement** if repair of your covered product takes longer than promised.
- **25% discount** off the regular price of any non-covered repair service and related installed parts.

Once you purchase the Agreement, a simple phone call is all that it takes for you to schedule service. You can call anytime day or night, or schedule a service appointment online.

The Master Protection Agreement is a risk free purchase. If you cancel for any reason during the product warranty period, we will provide a full refund. Or, a prorated refund anytime after the product warranty period expires. Purchase your Master Protection Agreement today!

Some limitations and exclusions apply. For prices and additional information in the U.S.A. call 1-800-827-6655.

* Coverage in Canada varies on some items. For full details call Sears Canada at 1-800-361-6665.

Sears Installation Service

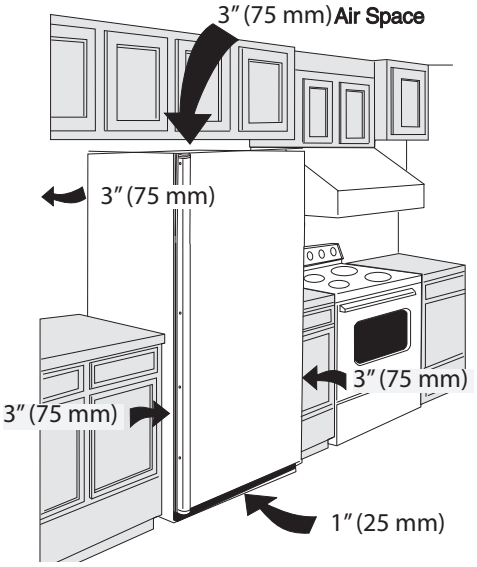
For Sears professional installation of home appliances, garage door openers, water heaters, and other major home items, in the U.S.A. or Canada call 1-800-4-MY-HOME®.

First Steps

This Use & Care Guide provides general installation and operating instructions for your model. We recommend using a service or kitchen contracting professional to install your appliance. Use the unit only as instructed in this Use & Care Guide. **Before starting the appliance, follow these important first steps.**

Location

- Choose a place that is near a grounded, non-GFCI, electrical outlet. Do Not use an extension cord or an adapter plug.
- For the most efficient operation, the unit should be located where surrounding temperatures will not drop below 40°F (5°C) or exceed 110°F (43°C). Additional compressor heaters are not recommended.
- Allow space around the unit for good air circulation. Leave a 3" (75 mm) space on all sides of the appliance for adequate circulation.



NOTE

The exterior walls of the appliance may become quite warm as the compressor works to transfer heat from the inside. Temperatures as much as 30°F warmer than room temperature can be expected. For this reason it is particularly important in hotter climates to allow enough space for air circulation around your unit.

Leveling

The unit must have all bottom corners resting firmly on a solid floor. The floor must be strong enough to support a fully loaded appliance.

NOTE

It is Very Important for your appliance to be level in order to function properly. If the unit is not leveled during installation, the door may be misaligned and not close or seal properly, causing cooling, frost, or moisture problems.

To Level Your Appliance:

After discarding crating screws, use a carpenter's level to level the unit from front-to-back. Adjust the plastic leveling feet in front, ½ bubble higher, so that the door closes easily when left halfway open.

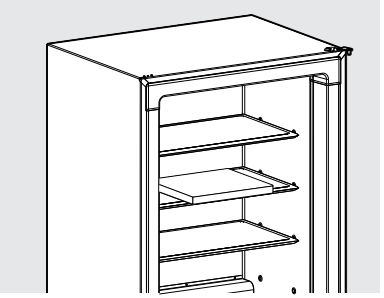
Cleaning (Prior to use)

- Wash any removable parts, the appliance interior, and exterior with mild detergent and warm water. Wipe dry. **Do not use harsh cleaners on these surfaces.**
- Do not use razor blades or other sharp instruments, which can scratch the appliance surface when removing adhesive labels. Any glue left from the tape can be removed with a mixture of warm water and mild detergent, or touch the residue with the sticky side of tape already removed. **Do not remove the serial plate.**

First Steps

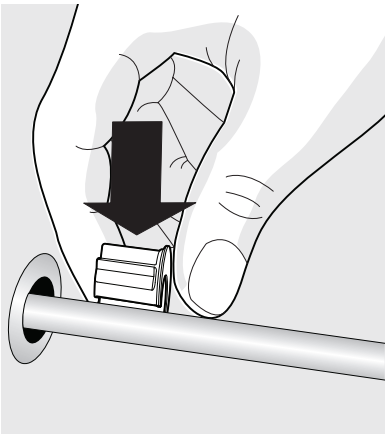
CAUTION

To allow door to close and seal properly, DO NOT let food packages extend past the front of shelves.

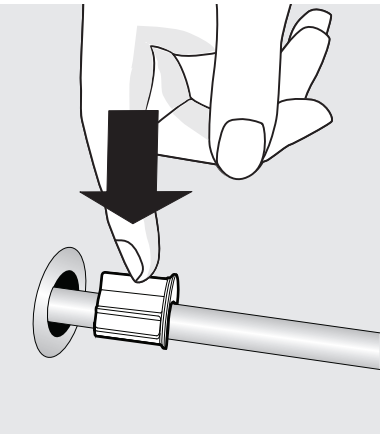


To install the shelf grommet to the shelf:

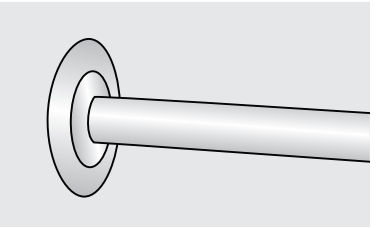
1. With the wire shelf installed, press the shelf grommet down onto the wire that is anchored into the appliance wall. Be sure to keep the larger end of the shelf grommet away from the wall.



2. Push the shelf grommet onto the wire until it snaps in place.



3. Slide the shelf grommet into the grommet already in the unit wall until it is flush.



Door Removal

If door must be removed:

1. Gently lay the unit on its back, on a rug or blanket.
2. Remove 2 base screws and base panel.
3. Remove wire from clips on bottom of cabinet if required.
4. Unplug connector, if required, by holding the cabinet connector in place and pulling the door connector out.
5. Remove bottom hinge screws.
6. Remove plastic top hinge cover.
7. Remove screws from top hinge.
8. Remove top hinge from cabinet.
9. Remove door and bottom hinge from cabinet.
10. To replace door reverse the above order, and securely tighten all screws to prevent hinge slippage.

Energy-Saving Tips



- The appliance should be located in the coolest area of the room, away from heat producing appliances or heating ducts, and out of direct sunlight.
- Level the unit so the doors close tightly.
- Do not overcrowd the unit or block cold air vents. Doing so causes the appliance to run longer and use more energy. Shelves should not be lined with aluminum foil, wax paper or paper toweling. Liners interfere with cold air circulation, making the appliance less efficient, which could cause food spoilage.
- Cover foods and wipe containers dry before placing them in the unit. This cuts down on moisture build-up inside the unit.
- Organize and label food to reduce door openings and extended searches. Remove as many items as needed at one time, and close the door as soon as possible.

Setting the Temperature Control

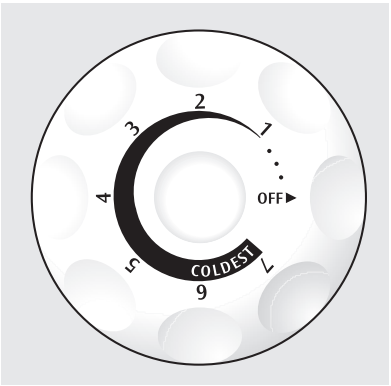
Cool Down Period

- For safe food storage, allow 4 hours for the appliance to cool down completely. The unit will run continuously for the first several hours.

Temperature Control

Electromechanical Temperature Control

The electromechanical temperature control is located inside the appliance on upright models, and on the left exterior wall on chest models. The temperature is factory preset to provide satisfactory food storage temperatures. However, the temperature control is adjustable to provide a range of temperatures for your personal satisfaction. To adjust the temperature setting, turn the temperature control knob clockwise or counterclockwise. Allow several hours for the temperature to stabilize between adjustments.



Optional Features

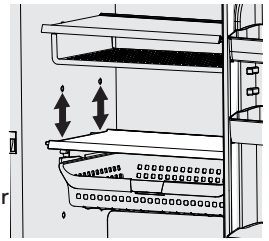
NOTE

Your appliance may have some, or all of the features listed below. Become familiar with these features, and their use and care.

Interior Light

The light comes on automatically when the door is opened. To replace the light bulb, turn the temperature control to OFF and unplug the electrical cord. Replace the old bulb with a bulb of the same wattage.

Adjustable Interior Shelves



Multi-position adjustable interior shelves can be moved to any position for larger or smaller packages. The shipping spacers that stabilize the shelves for shipping may be removed and discarded.

Care & Cleaning

Cleaning the Inside

Wash inside surfaces of the freezer with a solution of 2 tbsp. (25 g) of baking soda in 1 qt. (1 l) warm water. Rinse and dry. Wring excess water out of the sponge or cloth when cleaning in the area of the controls, or any electrical parts.

Wash the removable parts and door basket with the baking soda solution mentioned above, or mild detergent and warm water. Rinse and dry. **Never** use metallic scouring pads, brushes, abrasive cleaners, or alkaline solutions on any surface. Do not wash removable parts in a dishwasher.

Cleaning the Outside

Wash the cabinet with warm water and mild liquid detergent. Rinse well and wipe dry with a clean soft cloth.

Care & Cleaning

WARNING

If leaving the refrigerator door open while on vacation, make certain that children cannot get into the refrigerator and become entrapped.

Vacation and Moving Tips

Vacations: If the unit will not be used for several months:

- Remove all food and unplug the power cord.
- Clean and dry the interior thoroughly.
- Leave the door open slightly, blocking it open if necessary, to prevent odor and mold growth.

Moving: When moving the appliance, follow these guidelines to prevent damage:

- Disconnect the power cord plug from the wall outlet.
- Remove foods and clean the unit.
- Secure all loose items by taping them securely in place to prevent damage.
- In the moving vehicle, secure appliance in an upright position to prevent movement. Also protect outside with a blanket, or similar item.

Before You Call

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE	Before calling for service, review this list. It may save you time and expense. This list includes common occurrences that are not the result of defective workmanship or materials in this appliance.	
CONCERN	**POTENTIAL CAUSE**	**COMMON SOLUTION**
APPLIANCE OPERATION		
Appliance does not run.	• Appliance is plugged into a circuit that has a ground fault interrupt. • Temperature control is in the OFF position. • Appliance may not be plugged in or plug may be loose. • House fuse blown or tripped circuit breaker. • Power outage.	• Use another circuit. If you are unsure about the outlet, have it checked by a certified technician. • See **Setting the Temperature Control** Section. • Ensure plug is tightly pushed into outlet. • Check/replace fuse with a 15-amp time-delay fuse. Reset circuit breaker. • Check house lights. Call local electric company.
Appliance runs too much or too long.	• Room or outside weather is hot. • Appliance has recently been disconnected for a period of time. • Large amounts of warm or hot food have been stored recently. • Door is opened too frequently or too long. • Door may be slightly open. • Temperature Control is set too low. • Gasket is dirty, worn, cracked, or poorly fitted.	• It's normal for the appliance to work harder under these conditions. • It takes 24 hours for the appliance to cool down completely. • Warm food will cause appliance to run more until the desired temperature is reached. • Warm air entering the appliance causes it to run more. Open doors less often. • See "DOOR PROBLEMS" in **Before You Call** . • Turn control knob to a warmer setting. Allow several hours for the temperature to stabilize. • Clean or change gasket (See "Care and Cleaning Tips"). Worn, cracked or poorly fitting gaskets should be replaced.
Interior temperature is too cold.	• Temperature Control is set too low.	• Turn the control to a warmer setting. Allow several hours for the temperature to stabilize.
Interior temperature is too warm.	• Temperature Control is set too warm. • Door is kept open too long or is opened too frequently. • Door may not be seating properly. • Large amounts of warm or hot food may have been stored recently. • Appliance has recently been disconnected for a period of time.	• Turn control to a colder setting. Allow several hours for the temperature to stabilize. • Warm air enters the appliance every time the door is opened. Open the door less often. • See "DOOR PROBLEMS" in **Before You Call**. • Wait until the appliance has had a chance to reach its selected temperature. • Appliance requires 24 hours to cool down completely.
External surface temperature is warm.	• The external walls can be as much as 30°F warmer than room temperature.	• This is normal while the compressor works to transfer heat from inside the cabinet.

Before You Call

CONCERN	POTENTIAL CAUSE	COMMON SOLUTION
SOUND AND NOISE		
Louder sound levels whenever appliance is on.	• Modern appliances have increased storage capacity and more stable temperatures. They require a high efficiency compressor.	• This is normal. When the surrounding noise level is low, you might hear the compressor running while it cools the interior.
Longer sound levels when compressor comes on.	• Appliance operates at higher pressures during the start of the ON cycle.	• This is normal. Sound will level off or disappear as appliance continues to run.
Popping or cracking sound when compressor comes on.	• Metal parts undergo expansion and contraction, as in hot water pipes.	• This is normal. Sound will level off or disappear as appliance continues to run.
Bubbling or gurgling sound, like water boiling.	• Refrigerant (used to cool appliance) is circulating throughout the system.	• This is normal.
Vibrating or rattling noise.	• Appliance is not level. It rocks on the floor when it is moved slightly. • Floor is uneven or weak. Appliance rocks on floor when it is moved slightly. • Appliance is touching the wall.	• Level the unit. Refer to "Leveling" in the **First Steps** Section. • Ensure floor can adequately support appliance. Level the appliance by putting wood or metal shims under part of the appliance. • Re-level the appliance or move appliance slightly. Refer to "Leveling" in **First Steps**.
Snapping Sound.	• Cold Control turning the refrigerator on and off.	• This is normal.
WATER/MOISTURE/FROST INSIDE APPLIANCE		
Moisture forms on inside walls.	• Weather is hot and humid, which increases internal rate of frost build-up. • Door may not be seating properly. • Door is kept open too long, or is opened too frequently.	• This is normal. • See "DOOR PROBLEMS" in **Before You Call**. • Open the door less often.
WATER/MOISTURE/FROST OUTSIDE APPLIANCE		
Moisture forms on outside of walls.	• Door may not be seating properly, causing the cold air from inside the freezer to meet warm moist air from outside.	• See "DOOR PROBLEMS" in **Before You Call**.
ODOR IN APPLIANCE		
Odor in appliance	• Interior needs to be cleaned. • Foods with strong odors are in the appliance.	• Clean interior with sponge, warm water, and baking soda. Replace air filter. • Cover the food tightly.

Before You Call

CONCERN	POTENTIAL CAUSE	COMMON SOLUTION
DOOR PROBLEMS		
Door will not close.	• Appliance is not level. It rocks on the floor when it is moved slightly. • Floor is uneven or weak. Appliance rocks on floor when it is moved slightly.	• This condition can force the cabinet out of square and misalign the door. Refer to "Leveling" in **First Steps**. • Ensure floor can adequately support freezer. Level the floor by using wood or metal shims under the appliance or brace floor supporting the appliance.
LIGHT IS NOT ON		
Light is not on.	• The light is burned out. • No electric current is reaching the appliance.	• Follow directions in "Interior Light" in the **Optional Features** section. • See "Appliance does not run" in **Before You Call**.