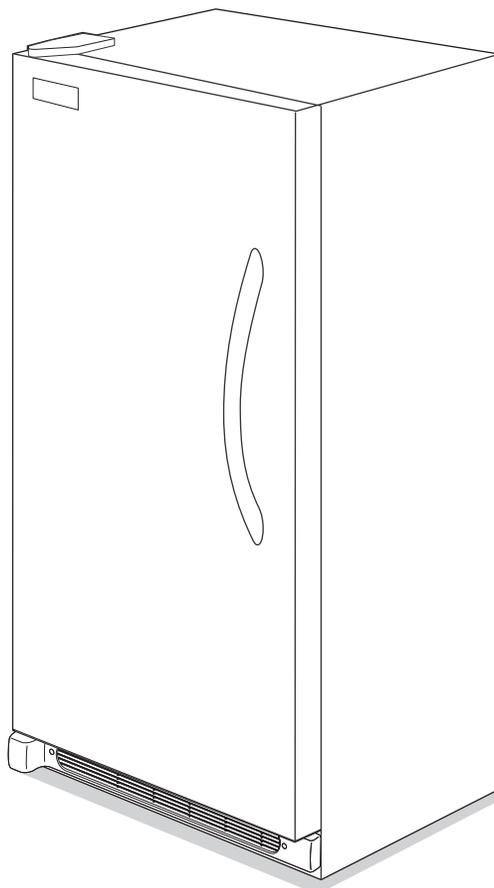




ELECTROLUX MAJOR APPLIANCES OF NORTH AMERICA

## Technical Service Manual

### Convertible Refrigerator / Freezer Model FKCH17F7HW



*Frigidaire*®



# Section 1

## Basic Information

# Basic Information



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**Safe Servicing Practices**

**Avoid personal injury and/or property damage by observing important Safe Servicing Practices. Following are some limited examples of safe practices:**

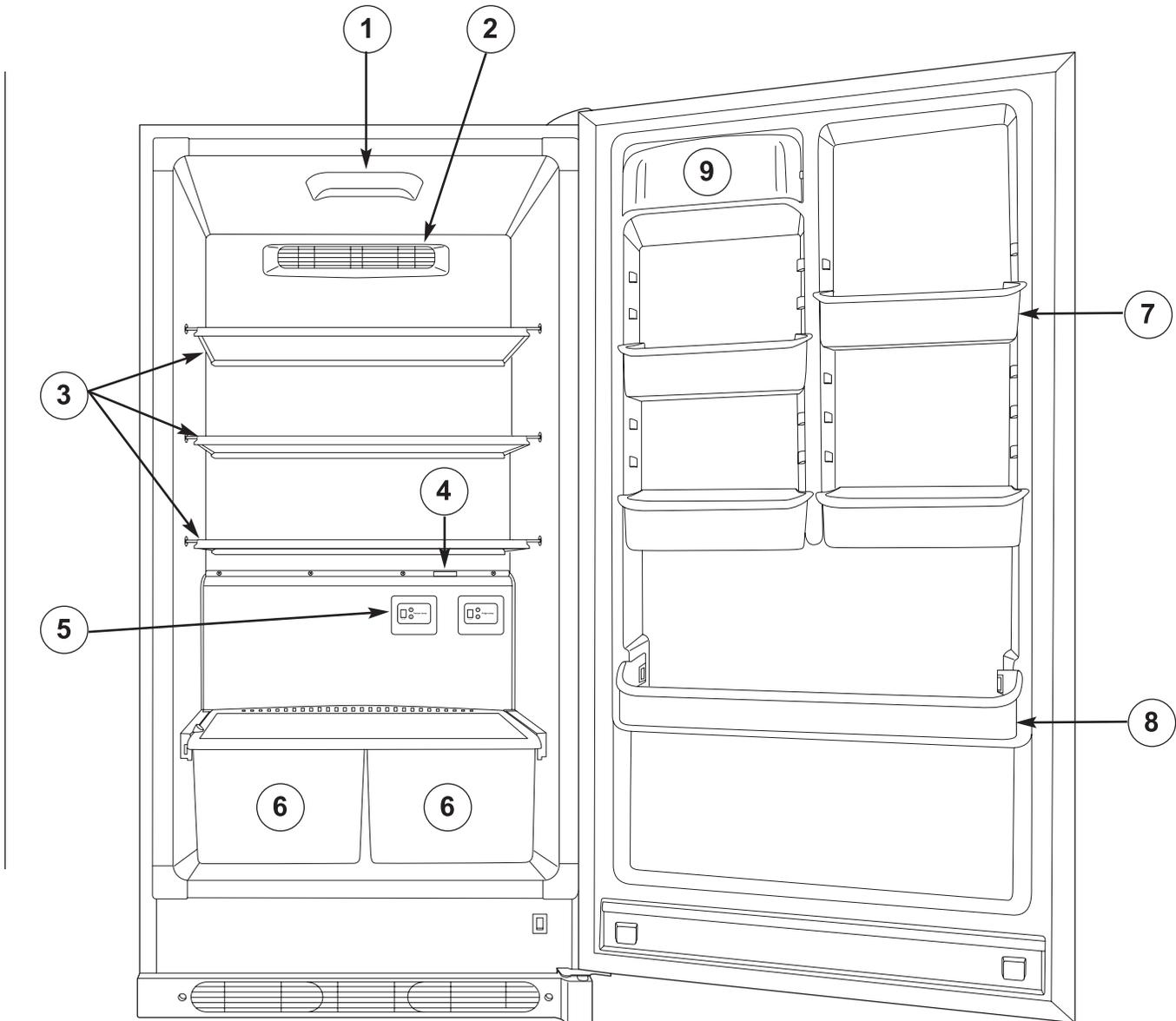
1. DO NOT attempt a product repair if you have any doubts as to your ability to complete the repair in a safe and satisfactory manner.
2. Always Use The Correct Replacement Parts as indicated in the parts documentation. Substitutions may defeat compliance with Safety Standards Set For Home Appliances. Do not exceed maximum recommended wattage on halogen bulb replacements. Doing so could blow fuses and/or damage transformers.
3. Before servicing or moving an appliance:
  - Remove power cord from the electrical outlet, trip circuit breaker to the OFF position, or remove fuse.
  - Turn off water supply if necessary.
4. Never interfere with the proper operation of any safety device.
5. Use ONLY REPLACEMENT PARTS CATALOGED FOR THIS APPLIANCE. Substitutions may defeat compliance with Safety Standards Set For Home Appliances.
6. GROUNDING: The standard color coding for safety ground wires is GREEN, or GREEN with YELLOW STRIPES. Ground leads are not to be used as current carrying conductors. It is EXTREMELY important that the service technician reestablish all safety grounds prior to completion of service. Failure to do so will create a hazard.
7. Prior to returning the product to service, ensure that:
  - All electrical connections are correct and secure.
  - All electrical leads are properly dressed and secured away from sharp edges, high-temperature components, and moving parts.
  - All non-insulated electrical terminals, connectors, heaters, etc. are adequately spaced away from all metal parts and panels.
  - All safety grounds (both internal and external) are correctly and securely connected.
  - All panels are properly and securely reassembled

# Basic Information



## Product Features

Frigidaire refrigerator/freezers are designed for optimal convenience and storage flexibility. Use the illustration below to familiarize yourself with product features and terminology.



1	LIGHT SHIELD	6	CRISPER DRAWERS
2	AIR DIFFUSER	7	ADJUSTABLE DOOR BINS
3	GLASS SHELVES	8	CONTOUR DOOR SHELF
4	CONTROL SWITCH	9	DAIRY COMPARTMENT
5	COMPARTMENT CONTROLS		

### Door Storage

Door bins, shelves, and racks are provided for convenient storage of jars, bottles, and cans. Frequently used items can be quickly selected. The dairy compartment, which is warmer than the general food storage section, is intended for short term storage of cheese, spreads or butter.

### Adjustable Door Bins

Some models have adjustable door bins that can be moved to suit individual needs. (See Figure 1-1)

To move door bins

1. Lift bin straight up.
2. Remove bin.
3. Place bin in desired position.
4. Lower bin onto supports until locked in place.

### Crisper Drawers

The crisper drawers, located under the bottom refrigerator shelf, are designed for storing fruits, vegetables, and other fresh produce. Wash items in clear water and remove excess water before placing them in the crisper drawers. Items with strong odors or high moisture content should be wrapped before storing. (See Figure 1-2)

### Adjustable Shelving

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. (See Figure 1-3)

### Humidity Control

The Humidity Control, present on some models with crisper drawers, allows you to adjust the humidity within the crisper. This can extend the life of fresh vegetables that keep best in high humidity. (See Figure 1-4)

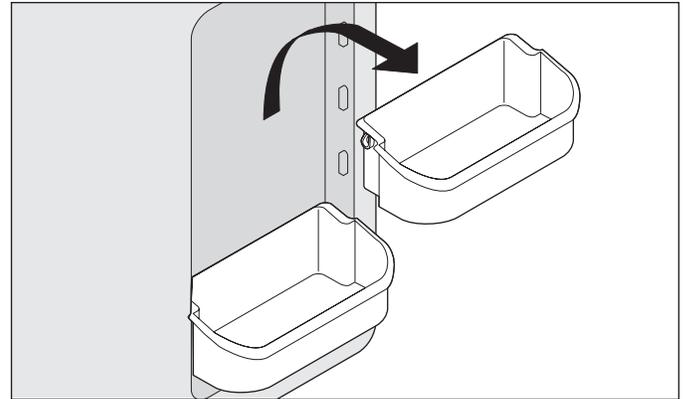


Figure 1-1. Door Bins

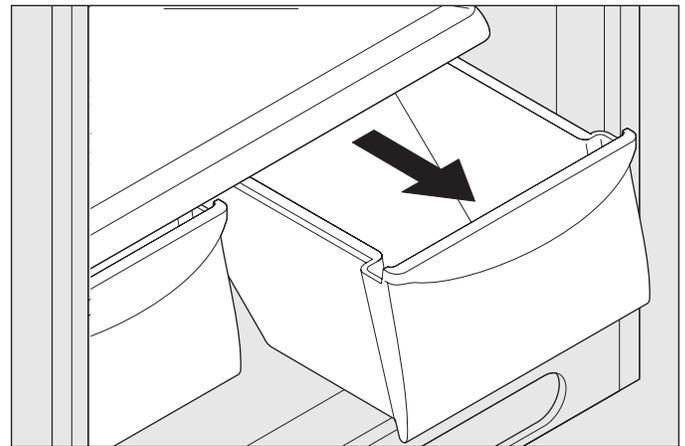


Figure 1-2. Crisper

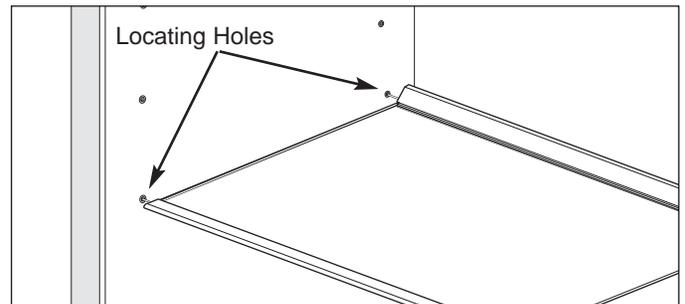


Figure 1-3. Adjustable Glass Shelves

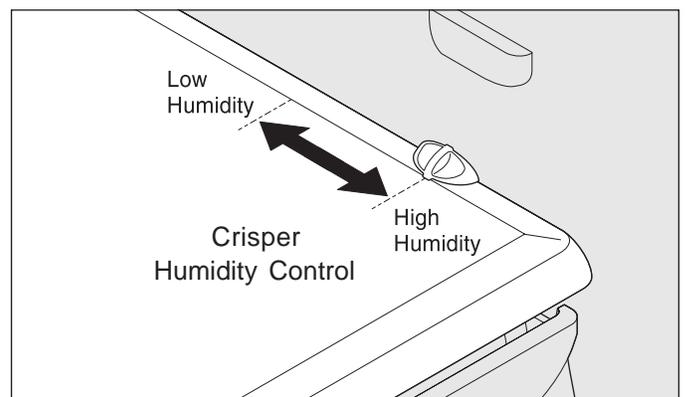


Figure 1-4. Crisper Humidity Control

# Basic Information



## Serial Plate

The serial plate is located inside the cabinet on the left sidewall. The technician should always refer to the serial plate to assure refrigerant type and quantity, as well as electrical ratings and operating pressures. (See Figures 1-5 and 1-6)

## Care and Cleaning

- Damp objects stick to cold metal surfaces. DO NOT touch interior metal surfaces with wet or damp hands.
- The freezer must be unplugged (to avoid electrical hazard) from power source when defrosting the unit. Convertible model is frost free and will defrost automatically, but should be cleaned occasionally.

## Cleaning The Inside

After defrosting, wash inside surfaces of the freezer with a solution of two (2) tablespoons of baking soda in one (1) quart (1.136 liters) 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 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. Replace parts and food. Do not use razor blades or other sharp instruments, which can scratch the freezer 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 the tape already removed. DO NOT REMOVE THE SERIAL PLATE.

ELECTROLUX HOME PRODUCTS, INC. / AUGUSTA, GA. 30907  
ELECTROLUX CANADA CORP. / MISSISSAUGA, ONT. L5V 3E4

MOD. **FKCH17F7HW0**  
SER. **WB00000000**

MANUFACTURED/FABRIQUE 2-08  
AMPS: 5.0 A VOLTS: 115 VAC HERTZ: 60 HZ  
REFRIGERANT R134A 35.2 Oz. (999 Grams)  
Design Pressure/ LS/PB 140 PSIG (965 KPa)  
Pression de dessin: HS/PH 320 PSIG (2206 KPa)

**FREE STANDING INSTALLATION ONLY**  
**INSTALLATION NON ENCASTREE SEULEMENT**  
HOUSEHOLD FREEZER  
CONGELATEUR DOMESTIQUE  
TYPE R17F

 Energy Performance Rendement Énergétique VERIFIED CSA\* EEV99421 VÉRIFIÉ  
C US LR67369

For questions, comments, or service please call us  
TOLL FREE: 1-800-944-9044

Figure 1-5. Serial Plate

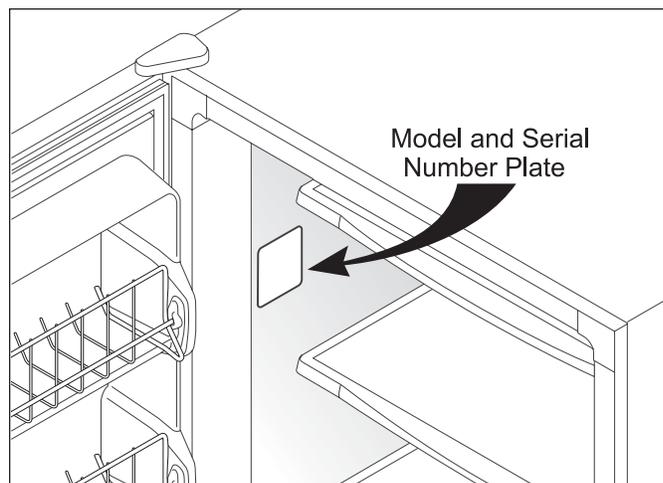


Figure 1-6. Serial Plate Location

# Section 2

## Electronic Control

# Electronic Control



## Electronic Temperature Control

The electronic temperature controls are located on the evaporator cover in the upper right hand corner. (See Figure 3-1) The rocker switch controlling the mode of operation is mounted to the top of the evaporator cover. (See Figure 3-2) Temperature is factory preset to provide satisfactory food storage temperatures.

The initial temperature setting "4" is displayed when power is applied the very first time. After the initial power up, the control will read the last saved setting.

## Switching Between Refrigerator and Freezer Mode

The unit can be switched between operating as a refrigerator or a freezer by pressing either the "R" for refrigerator mode, or "F" for freezer mode. Positioning the DPDT rocker switch in the middle position will disable all cooling functions. (See Figure 3-2)

## Setting Selection

For settings 1 through 7 when the UP button is pushed (to increase temperature), the setting number will decrease by one and when the DOWN button is pushed (to decrease temperature), the setting number will increase by one.

To turn the control off, go to temperature setting "1". Then press the UP key three times within five seconds. The display will show "0".

To turn the control on, press the DOWN key three times within five seconds. The display will show "1".

When the temperature setting is changed to "0", the compressor and defrost system will be turned off.

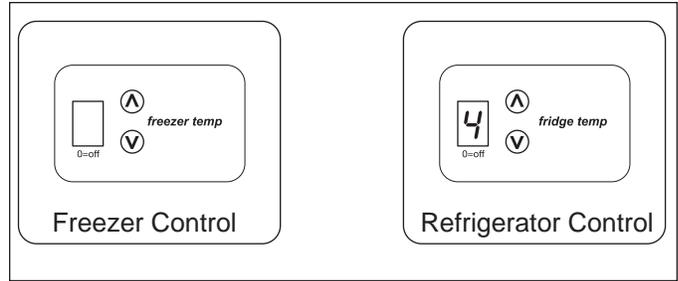


Figure 3-1. Electronic Controls

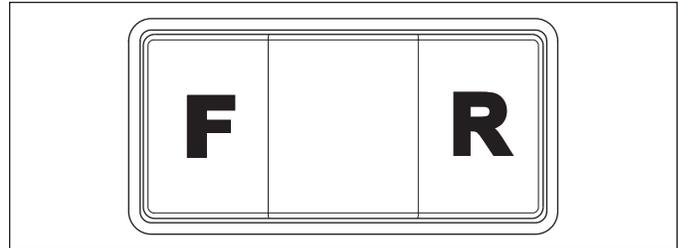


Figure 3-2. DPDT Rocker Switch

## Operation of Electrical Control Components

### Freezer and Refrigerator Modules

The modules, when selected by the rocker switch, control the temperature of the unit by an internal thermistor mounted on the circuit board. Each module has an individual service mode.

Each module has the following connections to the rear of the circuit board:

- 1= Neutral
- 2= Not Used
- 3= L1
- 4= Compressor
- 5= Defrost Thermostat

### DPDT Rocker Switch

The DPDT Switch is connected to the household power supply with L1 connecting to terminal 2, and the Neutral line to terminal 5. (See Figure 3-3)

In refrigerator mode, The DPDT switch will have the a closed condition between terminals 5&4, and 2&1.

In freezer mode, The DPDT switch will have the a closed condition between terminals 5&6 and 2&3.

### Ambient Thermostat

The ambient thermostat will close at 35°F (1.6°C) and will then supply power to terminal 6 of the fan relay. (See Figure 3-4)

### Fan Relay

The purpose of the fan relay is to direct power to the auxiliary heater and fan motor when ambient temperatures go below 35°F (1.6°C) and the DPDT switch has refrigeration selected.

Use an ohmmeter to test the fan relay. The following conditions should result with the fan relay in the OFF state:

- Between terminals 7 & 8 should read 4.4k Ohms.
- Between terminals 6 & 2 and 5 & 1 - closed condition.
- Between terminals 4 & 6 and 3 & 5 - open condition.

When voltage is supplied to terminal 6 through the ambient thermistor, voltage will come out terminal 2 and connect with terminal 1.

Terminal 1 is connected to terminal 5 which feeds power to the evaporator fan motor.

The following conditions should result with the fan relay in the ON state:

- Line voltage is supplied to terminals 7&8.
- Between terminals 4 & 6 - closed condition.
- Between terminals 6 & 2 - open condition ( cutting power to the auxiliary heater).
- Between terminals 3 & 5 - closed condition (supplying line voltage to the fan).
- Between terminals 5 & 1 - open condition

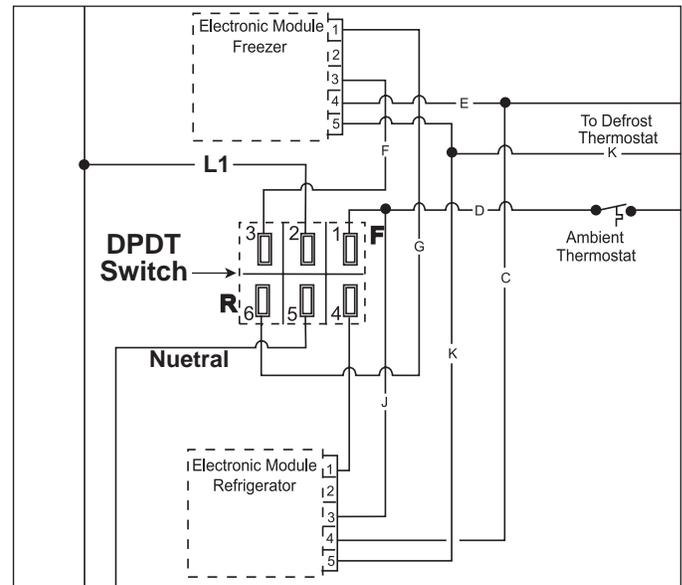


Figure 3-3. DPDT Switch Arrangement

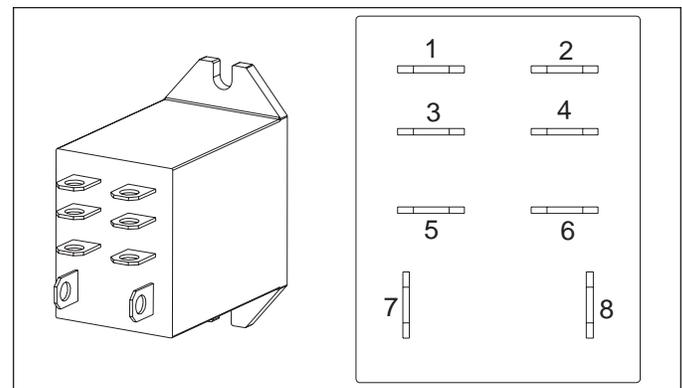


Figure 3-4. Fan Relay Terminal Arrangement

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## Service Diagnostic Mode

### Initiate Service Mode

The refrigerator and freezer controls have individual service modes. Each control assembly has a thermistor embedded on the electronic control assembly circuit board.

To initiate service mode for the refrigerator or freezer control, set the control to "4" then press and hold the UP and DOWN buttons for 3 seconds until the display changes to "8".

When the diagnostics mode is entered, the number "8" is displayed for three seconds indicating diagnostic mode. After three seconds the numbered information below will be displayed in 3 second intervals and then the system will then exit the diagnostic mode, automatically assuming the default temperature setting.

Changing the model number will cause the control to operate within parameters defined for other models.

1. "8" (7 segment display test)
2. Model ID (1)
3. SW Version (0)
4. Thermistor status
  - "C" for short
  - "O" for open
  - "-" for good thermistor

### Defrost Cycle Timing

After each 12 hours of accumulated compressor runtime, a defrost cycle will be entered and last for thirty minutes. The heater will be active until the defrost thermostat opens at 47° F, turning off the defrost heater. The defrost thermostat closes at 37° F.

### Manual Defrost Mode

When pressing both UP and DOWN keys for 3 seconds while on setting "2", the control will enter Manual defrost mode. The display will show a "d". Manual defrost can be cancelled by again holding both UP and DOWN keys for 3 seconds. Manual defrost mode will terminate after the defrost cycle has completed. The control will resume normal operation on setting "2".

### Compressor Delay Start

When the compressor is turned off it will not start again for 13 minutes.

### Voltage Range

The control operates normally down to a line voltage of 92 volts. Below this voltage, the compressor is turned off and an "E" will flash for one second intervals on the display of the active electronic control assembly. A low voltage check should be done at the power supply outlet. The unit must have a minimum of 92 volts to operate. Once the voltage rises above 92 volts, the control resumes normal operation.

**Error Indication**

The following error conditions are monitored by each electronic control assembly:

1. Thermistor open or shorted. A defective thermistor will require that the affected electronic control assembly be replaced.
2. Stuck Key (the key appears to be pressed for longer than 30 seconds).
3. Low Voltage (AC line voltage has dropped below 90 volts).

If any of these errors occur, the display will flash an "E" at one second intervals and the control will go into Fail Safe Mode.

**Fail Safe Mode**

While in Fail Safe mode, the compressor will run constantly with a 30 minute defrost cycle every 12 hours.

**Stuck Key**

If either key is held in for more than 30 seconds the control enters fail safe operation.

**Exiting Fail Safe Mode**

Once a failure is resolved (thermistor, stuck key or low voltage), the control resumes its normal operating mode under the setting it was at before the error occurred.



# Section 3

## Refrigeration System

## NOTE

Instructions given here are furnished as a guide. Persons attempting to use these instructions to make repairs to the sealed refrigeration system should have a working knowledge of refrigeration and previous training on sealed system repair, and an EPA certification for servicing refrigeration systems.

## IMPORTANT

Effective July 1, 1992, the United States clean air act governs the disposal of refrigerants such as R-134a. Therefore, when discharging or purging the sealed system use an EPA approved refrigerant recovery system as outlined in the final rule on the protection of stratospheric ozone and refrigerant recycling, which was published in the Federal Register May 14, 1993.

## NOTE

The use of recovered refrigerant in the servicing of products for in-warranty and out-of-warranty repairs or for products covered by service contracts is not permitted. Therefore, only new refrigerant or refrigerant that has been reclaimed back to new specifications by a refrigerant manufacturer is to be used.

## Definitions

### Recovery:

To remove refrigerant in any condition from a system and store it in an external container without necessarily testing or processing it in any way.

### Recycling:

To clean refrigerant for reuse by oil separation and single or multiple passes through devices, such as replaceable core filter-driers, which reduce moisture, acidity and particulate matter. This term usually applies to procedures implemented at the field job site or at a local service shop.

### Reclaim:

To reprocess refrigerant to new product specifications by means which may include distillation, will require chemical analysis of the refrigerant to determine that appropriate product specifications are met. This term usually implies the use of processes or procedures available only at a reprocessing or manufacturing facility.

## Safety Warnings

### Compressor Testing

Whenever testing a compressor, extreme caution should be used to prevent damaging the terminals. A compressor with a damaged terminal or a grounded winding can expel a terminal from its insulated housing when the compressor is energized. If this happens, a mixture of refrigerant and oil will be released that could be ignited by an external heat source (open flame, heater, etc.). Also, if there is air in the system when this happens, a spark at the compressor shell could ignite the refrigerant and oil mixture.

### Charging Sealed Systems

Overcharging a refrigeration system with refrigerant can be dangerous. If the overcharge is sufficient to immerse the major parts of the motor and compressor in liquid refrigerant, a situation has been created which, when followed by a sequence of circumstances can lead to the compressor shell seam separating.

A hydraulic block occurs, preventing the compressor from starting. This condition is known as locked rotor. Electric current continues to flow through the compressor motor windings which become, in effect, electric resistance heaters. The heat produced begins to vaporize the excess refrigerant liquid causing a rapid increase in system pressure. If the compressor protective devices fail, the pressure within the system may rise to extremes far in excess of the design limits. Under these conditions, the weld seam around the compressor shell can separate with explosive force, spewing oil and refrigerant vapor which could ignite.

To eliminate this exceedingly rare but potential hazard, never add refrigerant to a sealed system. If refrigerant is required, evacuate the existing charge and recharge with the correct measured amount of the refrigerant specified for the system.

### **⚠ WARNING**

**WEAR APPROVED SAFETY GLASSES WHEN WORKING WITH OR ON ANY PRESSURIZED SYSTEM OR EQUIPMENT. HAVE AN APPROVED DRY TYPE FIRE EXTINGUISHER HANDY WHEN USING ANY TYPE OF GAS OPERATED TORCH.**

1. All joints to be soldered must have proper fit. Clearance between tubes to be soldered should be from .001" to .006". It is not practical to actually measure this; however, you do not want a dry fit or loose fit. Tubing joints should overlap about the distance of their diameter except for restrictor tubes, which should be inserted 1.25".
2. Clean all joint areas with fine steel wool or preferably an abrasive cloth, such as grit cloth No. 23 or Scotch-Brite.
3. Apply a thin film of liquid flux recommended for silver soldering to surfaces to be joined and to surfaces immediately adjacent to joint.

### **⚠ Caution**

**During application of heat, use wet cloths to prevent heat from conducting to areas other than the soldered joint. Use a sheet of metal or torch guard pad as a heat deflector to keep flame away from inflammable materials and painted surfaces.**

4. Align tubing so no stress is on joint. Do not move tubing while solder is solidifying or leaks will result.
5. Use a torch of adequate capacity so joint can be quickly heated with a minimum of heat travel to other points. Use a good grade of silver solder.
6. Solder connections. If tubing is properly cleaned and fluxed, solder will flow readily. Use only enough solder to make a good bond.
7. Allow joint to cool, then wash exterior with water to remove flux.

### **Basic Components**

The basic components of a refrigerator/freezer are a compressor, condenser, evaporator, heat exchanger (capillary tube and suction line) and drier.

### **Refrigerant Cycle**

The refrigerant cycle is a continuous cycle that occurs whenever the compressor is in operation. Liquid refrigerant is evaporated in the evaporator by the heat that enters the cabinet through the insulated walls and by the heat from product load and door openings. The refrigerant vapor is then drawn from the evaporator, through the suction line to the compressor. Compression raises the pressure and temperature of the vapor in the compressor and the vapor is then forced through the discharge valve into the discharge line and into the condenser. Air passing over the condenser surface removes heat from the high pressure vapor which then condenses to a liquid. The liquid refrigerant then flows from the condenser to the evaporator through the small diameter liquid line (capillary tube). Before it enters the evaporator, the liquid refrigerant is sub-cooled in the heat exchanger by the low temperature suction vapor in the suction line. When refrigerant is added, the frost pattern will improve, the suction and discharge pressures will rise, the condenser will become hot and the wattage will increase.

## Low/High Side Leak or Undercharge

A loss of refrigerant can result in any of the following:

1. Excessive or continuous compressor operation.
2. Above normal refrigerator/freezer compartment temperature.
3. A partially frosted evaporator (depending on amount of refrigerant loss).
4. Below normal refrigerator/freezer compartment temperature.
5. Low suction pressure (vacuum).
6. Low wattage.

The condenser will be “warm to cool”, depending on the amount of refrigerant lost.

In the case of a low side refrigerant leak resulting in complete loss of refrigerant, the compressor will run but will not refrigerate. Suction pressure will drop below atmospheric pressure and air and moisture will be drawn into the system saturating the filter drier.

If there is reason to believe the system has operated for a considerable length of time with no refrigerant and the leak occurred in the low side of the system, excessive amounts of moisture may have entered the system. In such cases the two stage service Dryer Filter part number 5303918288 and vacuum procedure listed under Refrigerant Leaks need to be followed to prevent repetitive service.

If a slight undercharge of refrigerant is indicated and no leak can be found after a thorough leak test, the charge can be corrected without changing the compressor.

If a high side leak is located and some refrigerant remains in the system it is not necessary to change the compressor.

## Testing for Refrigerant Leaks

### NOTE

**The line piercing valve (clamp-on type) should be used for test purposes only. It must be removed from system after it has served its purpose.**

If the system is diagnosed as short of refrigerant and the system has not been recently opened, there is probably a leak in the system. Adding refrigerant without first locating and repairing the leak or replacing the component will not permanently correct the difficulty. The leak must be found. Sufficient refrigerant may have escaped to make it impossible to leak test effectively. In such cases, add a ¼” line piercing valve to the compressor process tube. Add sufficient refrigerant vapor to increase the pressure to 40 to 50 lb. per sq. in. Check the low side for leaks. Run the compressor 2 or 3 minutes and check the high side for leaks. Recover refrigerant using an EPA approved recovery system.

## Compressor Replacement

To check for contamination, obtain oil sample from old compressor.

1. If the oil has burned odor, but no color change or residue, then follow instructions on page 4-6 “Installing A New Compressor”.
2. If oil has a burned odor and a sugar or gritty feel as well as showing signs of contamination (dark color), follow instructions in next section, To Flush The System. Remove as much of contamination as possible from system before installing new compressor and filter-drier.

### Caution

**NEVER install a new compressor without first checking for possible system contamination.**

### NOTE

**It is recommended that system be flushed with dry Nitrogen. However, if refrigerant is used to flush the system you must look at the serial plate to see what type of refrigerant is used in the system. This is the only refrigerant that can be used to flush the system and it must be recovered.**

## To Flush The System

### ⚠ Caution

Use extreme care when using Dry Nitrogen to flush systems. Pressure in nitrogen cylinder could be as high as 2000 psi. Nitrogen cylinder must be equipped with approved pressure regulator and pressure relief valve. Ensure that your hoses have adequate ratings for pressure involved and that all of your equipment is in good condition. The end of the flushing hose on this tank regulator must be equipped with a hand shut-off valve (Robinair No. 40380). Close hand shut-off valve and adjust nitrogen regulator to correct pressure before proceeding with flushing procedure.

## To Use Dry Nitrogen To Flush The System:

1. Remove compressor and filter-drier. Connect process coupling to outlet tube of condenser.
2. Fasten cloth over other end of coil to prevent old oil from spraying over room.
3. Connect hand shut-off valve on flushing hose to process coupling.
4. Slowly open hand shut-off valve and allow nitrogen to flow through condenser until discharge is clear.

### ⚠ Caution

**DO NOT exceed 300 PSIG.**

5. Disconnect cap tube from evaporator. Flush evaporator in same manner as condenser.

### ⚠ Caution

**DO NOT exceed 150 PSIG.**

6. Flush cap tube. This is only possible if you have proper service valve adapter.

### ⚠ Caution

**DO NOT exceed 300 PSIG.**

7. Reassemble system.

## To Use Refrigerant To Flush The System:

### ⚠ Caution

Refrigerant used for flushing must be recovered into a recovery system. Meter amount of refrigerant used for flushing with your charging cylinder. **DO NOT OVERFILL THE BAG.**

1. Disconnect the suction and discharge lines from the compressor and remove the filter-drier. Connect process coupling to outlet and inlet tube of condenser.
2. Connect hose to outlet process coupling and charging cylinder. Connect another hose to inlet coupling and recovery system.
3. Open charging cylinder and allow refrigerant to flow through condenser until discharge into bag is clear.

### 🗨 NOTE

**The line piercing valve (clamp-on type) should be used for test purposes only. It must be removed from system after it has served its purpose.**

4. Disconnect capillary tube from evaporator. Flush evaporator in same manner as condenser.
5. Flush cap tube. This is only possible if you have a proper service valve adapter.
6. Reassemble system.

# Refrigeration System



## Installing a New Compressor

### NOTE

Entirely new compressors have been developed for use with R-134a and Ester oil refrigeration systems. Both compressor and electric motor have been modified. Old compressors intended for R-12 refrigerant must not be used for new systems charged with R-134a.

Replacement of compressor and installation of filter-drier must be done in a continuous sequence so system is exposed to atmosphere no longer than necessary.

All replacement compressors are shipped with rubber plugs in the suction, discharge and process tubes and contain the correct oil charge and a holding charge of inert gas. Compressors have a low-side process tube attached to the compressor shell. A high-side process tube is attached to the filter-drier.

### WARNING

**DO NOT OPERATE RECIPROCATING COMPRESSOR WHEN CHARGING LIQUID REFRIGERANT INTO SYSTEM THROUGH ITS PROCESS TUBE.**

Replacement compressors for refrigerators may have an oil cooler even if the original compressor did not. If the product is not equipped for an oil cooler, leave the plastic caps in place and install the compressor connecting only to the suction and discharge lines of the new compressor.

Before installing the replacement compressor remove the discharge plug and check for the pop sound of the inert gas leaving the compressor.

### Caution

**DO NOT use compressor if you do not hear this sound.**

If the compressor checks OK, reinstall the plug. Do not remove any of the plugs again until the compressor is in position and you are ready to braze the lines.

### Caution

**On R-134a systems, compressor must NOT be left open to atmosphere for more than 10 minutes to prevent moisture contamination of oil.**

### NOTE

The following instructions are generalized to help the technician understand the procedures of sealed system repairs. See Section 5 Component Teardown on the exact steps of accessing the components of the refrigeration system.

A new compressor which is cold (e.g. after having been kept in a cold service van) should be left to warm to the surrounding temperature before the plugs on the compressor connections are removed. This will help prevent condensation from forming in the oil and the compressor. Also, avoid opening the system when any of the components or lines are cold.

### NOTE

**Release holding charge (release slowly to avoid oil discharge) on new compressor to ensure there is no leak in seam or tubing. Reinstall rubber plug.**

1. Disconnect electrical supply to refrigerator.
2. Remove compressor access panel.
3. Remove all components needed to pull the compressor assembly from the unit.

### NOTE

**If low-side process tube is too short, silver solder four inch piece of tubing onto process tube at this time.**

4. Pull compressor assembly straight out.
5. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
6. Remove leads from compressor motor terminals.
7. Remove mounting clips and washers.
8. After refrigerant is completely recovered, cut suction and discharge lines as close to compressor as possible. Leave only enough tubing to pinch off and seal defective compressor. Plug or tape any open system tubing to avoid entrance of moisture and air into system. Remove inoperable compressor and transfer mounting parts to new compressor.
9. Install new compressor in exact same manner as original compressor.

10. Reform both suction and discharge lines to align with new compressor. If they are too short, use additional lengths of tubing. Joints should overlap 0.5" to provide sufficient area for good solder joint. Clean and mark area where tubing should be cut. Cut tubing with tubing cutter. Work as quickly as possible to avoid letting moisture and air into the system.
11. Solder all connections according to soldering procedure.
12. Remove original filter-drier.

### **⚠ Caution**

**DO NOT unbrazed old filter-drier from system. This will vaporize and drive moisture from desiccant back into system. The old filter-drier should be cut out of system.**

13. Install new filter-drier at condenser outlet.
14. Evacuate and charge system using recommended procedure described under Evacuating and Recharging.
15. Reconnect compressor terminal leads in accordance with refrigerator wiring diagram.
16. Reassemble unit.

## Condenser Replacement

### **🗨 NOTE**

**The following instructions are generalized to help the technician understand the procedures of sealed system repairs. See Section 5 Component Teardown on the exact steps of accessing the components of the refrigeration system.**

1. Disconnect electrical supply to refrigerator.
2. Remove compressor access panel.
3. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
4. Remove condenser fan mounting screws.
5. Unplug fan motor harness located in back of fan motor.
6. Remove fan motor and fan blade.
7. After refrigerant is completely recovered, disconnect inlet and discharge lines from condenser.
8. Lift front of condenser and pull out of retainers mounted to the drain pan.
9. Remove old condenser out the back of cabinet.
10. Install replacement condenser.
11. Remove original filter-drier.

### **⚠ Caution**

**DO NOT unbrazed old filter-drier from system. This will vaporize and drive moisture from desiccant back into system. The old filter-drier should be cut out of system.**

12. Install new filter-drier at condenser outlet.
13. Evacuate and charge the system using recommended procedure described under Evacuating and Recharging.
14. Reassemble unit.

## Filter-Drier Installation

Any time the sealed system is opened and the refrigerant charge is removed, the liquid line filter-drier must be replaced and the system thoroughly evacuated before replacing refrigerant.

### **Caution**

**DO NOT unbraid old filter-drier from system. This will vaporize and drive moisture from desiccant back into system. The old filter-drier should be cut out of system.**

### **NOTE**

**The following instructions are generalized to help the technician understand the procedures of sealed system repairs. See Section 5 Component Teardown on the exact steps of accessing the components of the refrigeration system.**

1. Disconnect electrical supply to freezer.
2. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
3. Using a 3 cornered file, score a groove around capillary tube as close to old filter-drier as possible. Break capillary tube along score mark from filter-drier.
4. Cut condenser outlet tube at filter-drier. Discard filter-drier.
5. Thoroughly clean condenser outlet tube and capillary tube.
6. Place inlet connection of filter-drier over condenser tube approximately ¼" and solder.
7. Insert capillary tube input end into filter-drier outlet. Do not allow tube to bottom against screen. Solder carefully so that solder does not plug capillary tube.
8. Install process tube adapter to filter-drier.
9. Evacuate and charge system using the recommended procedure described under Evacuating and Recharging.
10. Reassemble unit.

## Evaporator and Suction Line Replacement

### **NOTE**

**The following instructions are generalized to help the technician understand the procedures of sealed system repairs. See Section 5 Component Teardown on the exact steps of accessing the components of the refrigeration system.**

1. Disconnect electrical supply to refrigerator.
2. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
3. Remove shelving.
4. Remove evaporator cover.
5. Remove evaporator from its installation position.
6. Cut or remove suction line from compressor.
7. Cut filter-drier from condensing unit.
8. Remove sealant from cabinet where suction line enters.
9. Remove evaporator and suction line as one piece.
10. Install new evaporator with attached suction line.
11. Seal cabinet.
12. Install new filter drier at condenser outlet.
13. Evacuate and charge system using the recommended procedure described under Evacuating and Recharging.

**⚠ Caution**

Check the serial plate for the correct refrigerant type. It is extremely important to verify the type of refrigerant in the system before starting any sealed system repairs.

With the possible exception of the vacuum pump, all service equipment that comes in contact with R-134a during evacuation and recharging must be dedicated. Accordingly, R-134a will require a dedicated charging cylinder, manifold gauge set, process tube adapters, and hoses. Any residual mineral oil on other tools (tubing cutter, etc.) must be thoroughly cleaned off before using on R-134a/Ester oil systems. It will be necessary to check with the manufacturer of your vacuum pump for refrigerant and oil compatibility issues.

If you use a vacuum pump with mineral oil to evacuate an R-134a system, it is **ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL** to have a shut-off valve between the pump and your manifold gauge set as shown on page 4-11. The hand valve must be closed during all times when the vacuum pump is not operating. This will prevent the migration of mineral oil vapor into the R134a/Ester oil system. If the vacuum pump should stop during evacuation for any reason, the hand pump shut-off valve must be closed immediately.

Insure that your refrigeration hoses are specified for use with R-134a refrigerant. Research has shown that compounds in standard refrigeration hoses may enter sealed systems and ultimately restrict the cap tube in an R-134a system.

**Equipment Needed for Evacuation & Recharging:**

- Heated charging cylinder
- Standard 3-port manifold gauge set:
  - 4 charging hoses
  - Tee fitting with valve core stem removed (Robinair No. 40396)
  - Hand shut-off valve (Robinair No.40380)
- Two stage vacuum pump
- Process tube adapter kit (Robinair No.12458)
- Tubing cutter
- Pinch-off tool capable of making leak proof seal
- Complete brazing torch set
- Small 3-corner file
- Grit cloth or Scotch-Brite
- 45% silver solder and flux
- Heat Gun

**Installing Evacuation and Recharging Equipment**

1. Disconnect freezer from electrical supply.
2. If compressor was replaced, install correct sized process tube adapter on process tube. If compressor was not replaced, cut process tube with tubing cutter leaving as much tube as possible and install correct size process tube adapter.
3. Install correct sized process tube adapter on high-side process tube.
4. Attach refrigeration service gauge manifold to system in following order:
  - Low-side (compound gauge) hose to suction side process tube adapter.
  - High-side (pressure gauge) hose to high-side process tube adapter.
  - Center port manifold hose before hand shut-off valve to charging cylinder.
  - Center port manifold hose after hand shut-off valve to vacuum pump.

## **⚠ WARNING**

**R-134A SYSTEMS ARE PARTICULARLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO MOISTURE CONTAMINATION WHICH CAN ONLY BE PREVENTED BY EVACUATING THE SYSTEM FOR A MINIMUM OF 30 MINUTES TO ATTAIN A MINIMUM 29.9 INCH (500 MICRON OR LOWER) VACUUM.**

## Evacuating System

To achieve the required levels of evacuation, a properly maintained two stage vacuum pump in good condition is required. It is absolutely essential to maintain your vacuum pump according to the manufacturer's instructions including required oil changes at the recommended intervals. Vacuum pump oil should always be changed after evacuating a contaminated system.

Vacuum pump performance should be checked periodically with a micron gauge.

1. Make certain that charging cylinder valve, hand shut-off valve, and manifold gauge valves are closed.
2. Start vacuum pump.
3. Open hand shut-off valve and slowly open both manifold valves, turning counterclockwise, for two full rotations.

## **⚠ Caution**

**If high vacuum equipment is used, just crack both manifold valves for a few minutes and then open slowly for the two full turns counterclockwise. This will prevent the compressor oil from foaming and being drawn into the vacuum pump.**

4. Operate vacuum pump for a minimum of 30 minutes to a minimum of 29.9" (500 micron) vacuum.
5. Close hand shut-off valve to vacuum pump. Watch compound gauge for several minutes. If reading rises, there is a leak in the system, go to step 6. If no leak is indicated, stop vacuum pump. System is now ready for charging.
6. If a leak is indicated, stop vacuum pump and introduce a small charge of refrigerant into system by cracking valve on bottom of charging cylinder until system is pressurized to 40 or 50 lbs psig.

7. Leak test low-side. Close compound gauge. Run compressor for a few minutes and leak test high-side. When leak is found, recapture refrigerant using EPA approved recovery system. Repair and go back to step 1.

## Charging The System

### **⚠ Caution**

**Check the serial plate for the correct refrigerant type. It is extremely important to verify the type of refrigerant in the system before starting any sealed system repairs. After charging the system with liquid be certain to wait at least 5 minutes before starting the compressor to give the refrigerant a chance to disperse throughout the system. Otherwise the compressor could be damaged by attempting to pump excessive quantities of liquid.**

### Preparing The Charging Cylinder:

1. Make certain that hand shut-off valve to vacuum pump is closed.
2. Close high-side manifold gauge valve.
3. Set charging cylinder scale to pressure indicated on cylinder pressure gauge.
4. Observe refrigerant level in sight glass. Subtract amount to be charged into system and note shut off point.
5. Open charging cylinder valve slowly and allow proper charge to enter system.
6. As soon as refrigerant in sight glass has gone down to predetermined level, close charging cylinder valve.

## **⚠ WARNING**

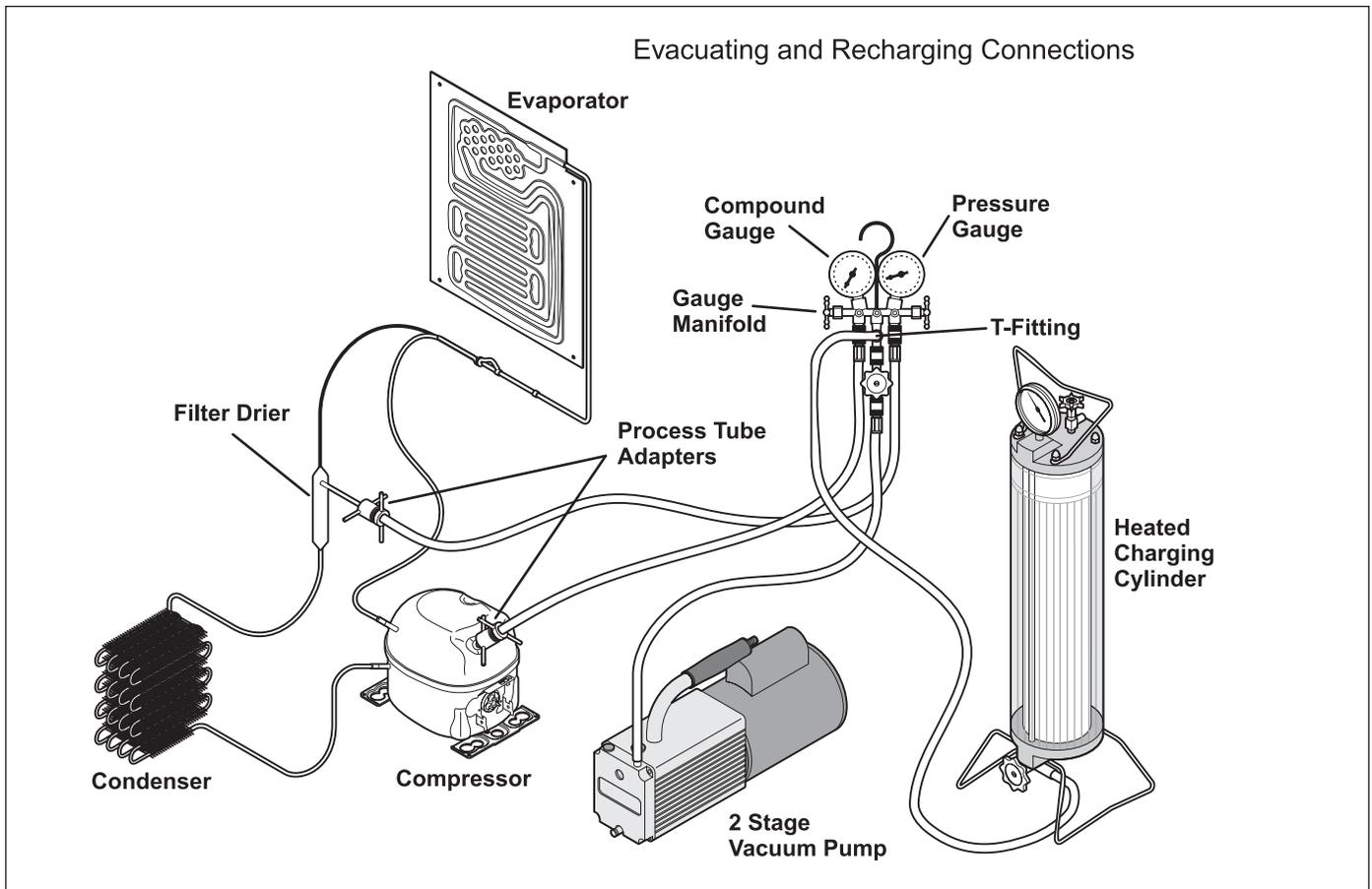
**DISCONNECT THE CHARGING CYLINDER HEATER AT THIS TIME TO PREVENT THE CYLINDER PRESSURE FROM EXCEEDING ITS MAXIMUM LIMITS.**

7. Allow system to sit for five minutes.
8. Turn on refrigerator compressor. Run compressor for a few minutes and monitor system pressures.
9. When satisfied that the unit is operating correctly, clamp the high-side process tube with the pinch-off tool while the unit is still running.

10. Slowly open the high-side manifold gauge valve to allow the compressor to remove any refrigerant trapped in the high-side hose and the process fitting.
11. Close both of the manifold gauge valves. If the high-side gauge reading rises, the pinch-off must be corrected before proceeding.
12. Remove the high-side process tube adapter and solder the process tube closed.
13. Clamp the low-side process tube with the pinch-off tool while the unit is running. Remove the low-side process tube adapter and solder the process tube closed.
14. Check the process tubes for refrigerant leaks.

## Final Leak Test

1. With the refrigerator turned OFF leak test all low-side system components.
2. Turn the unit ON and run until the condenser is warm. Leak test the high-side system components.



## NOTE

Instructions given here are furnished as a guide. Persons attempting to use these instructions to make repairs to the sealed refrigeration system should have a working knowledge of refrigeration and previous training on sealed system repair.

## Verify Refrigerant Type In The System

### Caution

R-134a and R-12 are completely incompatible. Before starting any sealed system repair, it is extremely important to check serial plate of product to verify the type of refrigerant in the system.

## Dedicated Equipment

R-134a must not be mixed with other types of refrigerants. R-134a must be recovered in dedicated and properly identified recovery bags and tanks.

It will be necessary to check with the manufacturer of your recovery equipment to determine R-134a compatibility. Some recovery equipment manufacturers have changeover instructions for switching between refrigerant types. Protect yourself and your equipment by following all manufacturer guidelines.

Also, ensure that your refrigeration hoses are specified for use with R-134a refrigerant. Research has shown that compounds in standard refrigeration hoses may enter sealed systems and ultimately restrict the cap tube in an R-134a system.

## R-134a Refrigeration Systems

The sealed refrigeration system will consist of the same basic components being utilized in the R-12 systems.

There is a 10% to 15% discharge pressure increase using R-134a, with a 5% to 10% decrease in suction pressure when compared to the same product with an R-12 system operating at 90°F (32°C) ambient temperature conditions. Lower suction pressures result from the lower density of R-134a refrigerant which effects refrigerant flow rate. R-134a systems commonly operate in a 1"-2" vacuum on the suction side.

Products using R-134a refrigerant will generally have a longer capillary tube to maintain a similar flow rate and some models will have a larger condenser to reduce the discharge pressures and lower start-up sound transmission.

## Miscibility of R-134a and Ester Oil

A special synthetic oil known as Ester oil is used as a lubricant in refrigeration systems operating on R-134a. Ester oils are produced from alcohols and fatty acids and are available in several different variants. Ester oils have a pleasant aroma reminiscent of fruit.

Ester oils generally include various types of additives for improving certain properties such as viscosity, temperature sensitivity, etc. These additives are often aggressive, and skin contact with Ester oils should therefore be avoided.

One of the most important requirements made on a refrigerant system is that the oil mix with the refrigerant. Since mineral oil and ordinary synthetic oil DO NOT mix with R-134a, Ester oil is used for lubrication. Ester oil dissolves in R-134a.

Ester oil is broken down by chlorine and cannot be used with R-12 (R-12 contains chlorine) or any other compound containing chlorine. Therefore, R-134a refrigeration systems have virtually no tolerance for chlorine molecules from CFC refrigerants (R-134a is an HFC and contains no chlorine).

### Caution

During R-134a service, it is extremely important to avoid using equipment that may contain residual amounts of mineral oil, CFC's or HCFC's which

For example, hoses that were used for a refrigeration system operating on R-12 may contain small quantities of mineral oil which can block the capillary tube in a system operating on R-134a. As little as one milligram may be sufficient to cause a blockage. In addition, sealed system components that have been used with CFC systems must not be used with R-134a systems. These components may contain residual amounts of refrigerant and oil which could damage an R-134a system.

At the earliest stage of development work on R-134a, tests were carried out on a different type of synthetic oil known as Poly-Alkaline Glycol (PAG). This oil is also used in certain air conditioning systems for cars. PAG and Ester oil DO NOT mix with one another. Service equipment used for R-134a / Ester oil must not come into contact with PAG.

### Water In The Refrigeration System

Even in very small quantities, water in any refrigeration system can cause the following problems:

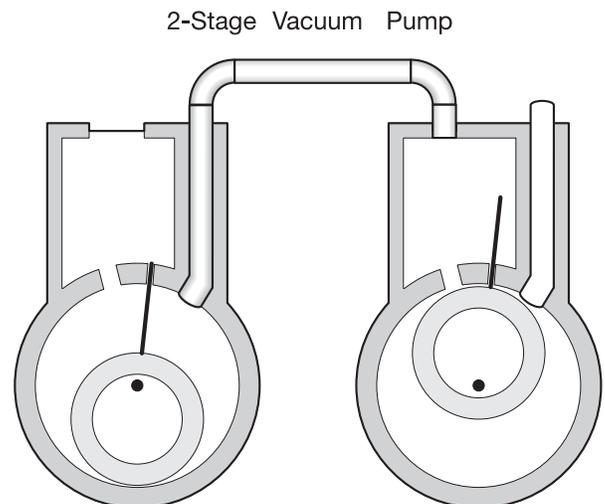
- Ice plugs in capillary tubes.
- Copper plating in compressor.
- Reactions with organic materials in systems.
- Corrosion of metals.

R-134a and Ester oil will aggravate the problem of water in the refrigeration system. Ester oil may react with water vapor and is hygroscopic (it will absorb water if it comes in contact with humid air). Water is also more soluble in R-134a than R-12.

To minimize the water content whenever service work is performed, the refrigeration system should always be thoroughly evacuated through process tube adapters on both the high and low sides of the system. Evacuation must be for a minimum of 30 minutes to at least a 29.9 inch (500 micron) vacuum.

VACUUM CHART		
Vacuum Inches Hg.	Microns	Boiling Point of Water °F
28.940	25000	77.9
29.530	10000	52.0
29.832	4600	32.0
29.882	1000	1.0
29.901	500	-11.2
29.915	150	-32.8
29.917	100	-38.2
29.919	50	-49.0

To achieve the required 29.9 inch (500 micron) vacuum, a properly maintained two-stage vacuum pump in good condition is required. A two stage pump can reach a deeper vacuum than a single stage because the exhaust from the first pumping stage is discharged into the second pumping stage. This means the second stage begins pumping at a lower pressure so a lower ultimate vacuum can be achieved.



## Vacuum Pump Maintenance

It is absolutely essential to maintain your vacuum pump according to the manufacturer's instructions including required oil changes at the recommended intervals. Vacuum pump oil should always be changed after evacuating a contaminated system. Vacuum pump performance should be checked periodically with a micron gauge.

Vacuum pump suppliers may or may not recommend changing the vacuum pump oil to the same type that's in the system being evacuated. Some manufacturers may recommend a vacuum pump that's dedicated to R-134a systems.

Robinair has stated that their current and discontinued vacuum pump models, using mineral oil currently specified for use in their vacuum pumps, can be used to evacuate R-134a/Ester oil systems. Robinair also states that it is acceptable to alternate between evacuating R-12/mineral oil and R-134a/Ester oil systems without adversely effecting the vacuum pump's performance.

For other brands of vacuum pumps, check with the manufacturer for restrictions and guidelines when using with R-134a.

### **Caution**

**If you use a vacuum pump with mineral oil to evacuate an R-134a system, it is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL to have a shut-off valve between pump and your manifold gauge set as shown on page 4-11. The hand valve must be closed during all times when vacuum pump is not operating. This will prevent migration of mineral oil vapor into R134a/Ester oil system. If vacuum pump should stop during evacuation for any reason, the hand pump shut-off valve must be closed immediately.**

## Refrigerant Leaks

A system with R-134a and Ester oil will become saturated with moisture much faster than a system with R-12 and mineral oil. If your leak was in the low side of the refrigeration system when the compressor is running the pressure in the low side will go into a vacuum. As additional refrigerant leaks out the system will go deeper into a vacuum. The system running in this vacuum will allow air and moisture to be pulled into the sealed system. The moisture pulled in can then be mixed in to the Ester oil in the compressor.

If the product has had a low side leak you will need to install the two stage service dryer filter part number 5303918288. You must heat the crankcase area of the compressor using a heat gun on the high heat setting throughout the 30 minutes you are running your vacuum pump to pull a vacuum on the system. Every 4 to 5 minutes while you are running your vacuum pump and heating the crankcase area, shake the compressor. By heating the crankcase you are heating the oil in the compressor. This will drive the moisture out of the oil. By shaking the compressor this will allow the moisture to come to the top of the oil faster so the vacuum pump can remove the moisture from the system.

Electrolux Home Products does not approve the use of the Sweep Charge for sealed system repair. This method of servicing sealed systems is often used to repair products in the field. The Sweep Charge does not adequately remove moisture from the oil in the compressor. In a R-134a system you will need to replace the compressor if the product has had a low side leak and you are servicing with the Sweep Charge procedure.

R-134a refrigerant molecules are smaller than R-12 molecules. This means that R-134a will pass more minor leaks and the rate of flow will be greater than for R-12. Therefore, it is now more important than ever to follow good brazing practices. Use a good grade of silver solder. A 45% silver solder is recommended.

**Leak Detection**

R-134a system leaks can be pinpointed by means of an electronic leak detector or by bubble solution.

Electronic leak detectors for R-134a service are currently available from several manufacturers. The least expensive models are non-selective detectors that will detect any type of emission or vapor present, regardless of its chemical composition. Some non-selective detectors designed for use with R-12 may have a much lower sensitivity when used with R-134a. However, newly designed detectors with good R-134a sensitivity are now available. Be sure to consult with the manufacturer before selecting or using a non-selective detector with R-134a.

Halogen-specific detectors use a specialized sensor that allows detection of compounds containing chlorine, fluorine, bromine, and iodine without being activated by other species. The major advantage of this type of detector is a reduction in the number of “nuisance alarms”. Halogen-specific detectors are generally more expensive than non-selective detectors but feature higher sensitivity.

**R-134a properties**

The properties of R-134a are very similar to those of R12. The principal data for the two refrigerants are shown in the chart below.

	REFRIGERANTS	
	R-12	R-134a
NAME	Dichlorodifluoromethane	1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoromethane
Formula	CCl <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> F-CF <sub>3</sub>
Molecular Weight (g/mol)	120.93	102.3
Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP)	1	0
Global Warming Potential (GWP)	3.1	0.3
Boiling Point °F	-21.6	-15.7
Vapor Pressure (77°F)	80 psig	82 psig
Flammability	None	None
Solubility of Water in Refrigerant (wt% @ 77°F)	0.009	0.11

# Refrigeration System



HFC-134a, CFC-12 Pressure Temperature Chart

°F	°C	HFC-134a	CFC-12		°F	°C	HFC-134a	CFC-12
-60	-51.1	21.8*	19.0*		55	12.8	51.1	52.0
-55	-48.3	20.4*	17.3*		60	15.6	57.3	57.7
-50	-45.6	18.7*	15.4*		65	18.3	63.9	63.8
-45	-42.8	16.9*	13.3*		70	21.1	70.9	70.2
-40	-40.0	14.8*	11.0*		75	23.9	78.4	77.0
-35	-37.2	12.5*	8.4*		80	26.7	86.4	84.2
-30	-34.4	9.8*	5.5*		85	29.4	94.9	91.8
-25	-31.7	6.9*	2.3*		90	32.2	103.9	99.8
-20	-28.9	3.7*	0.6		95	35.0	113.5	108.3
-15	-26.1	0.0	2.4		100	37.8	123.6	117.2
-10	-23.3	1.9	4.5		105	40.6	134.3	126.6
-5	-20.6	4.1	6.7		110	43.3	145.6	136.4
0	-17.8	6.5	9.2		115	46.1	157.6	146.8
5	-15.0	9.1	11.8		120	48.9	170.3	157.7
10	-12.2	12.0	14.6		125	51.7	183.6	169.1
15	-9.4	15.0	17.7		130	54.4	197.6	181.0
20	-6.7	18.4	21.0		135	57.2	212.4	193.5
25	-3.9	22.1	24.6		140	60.0	227.9	206.6
30	-1.1	26.1	28.5		145	62.8	244.3	220.3
35	1.7	30.4	32.6		150	65.6	261.4	234.6
40	4.4	35.0	37.0		155	68.3	279.5	249.5
45	7.2	40.0	41.7		160	71.1	298.4	265.1
50	10.0	45.3	46.7		165	73.9	318.3	281.4

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## Inhalation Toxicity

HFC-134a poses no acute or chronic hazard when it is handled in accordance with DuPont recommendations and when exposures are maintained at or below the DuPont Acceptable Exposure Limit (AEL) of 1,000 ppm (8 and 12 hour Time-Weighted Average or TWA).

An AEL is an airborne exposure limit established by DuPont scientists that specifies time-weighted average (TWA) airborne concentrations to which nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed without adverse effects. The AEL for HFC-134a has the same value as the Threshold Limit Values (TLVs) established for CFC-12 and HCFC-22. TLVs are established by the American Conference of Governmental and Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH).

However, inhaling high concentrations of HFC-134a vapor may cause temporary central nervous system depression with narcosis, lethargy and anesthetic effects. Other effects that may occur include dizziness, a feeling of intoxication and a loss of coordination. Continued breathing of high concentrations of HFC-134a vapors may produce cardiac irregularities (cardiac sensitization), unconsciousness, and with gross overexposure, death. Intentional misuse or deliberate inhalation of HFC-134a may cause death without warning. This practice is extremely dangerous.

If you experience any of the initial symptoms, move to fresh air and seek medical attention.

## Cardiac Sensitization

If vapors are inhaled at a concentration of 75,000 ppm, which is well above the AEL, the heart may become sensitized to adrenaline, leading to cardiac irregularities and, possibly, to cardiac arrest. The likelihood of these cardiac problems increases if you are under physical or emotional stress.

Medical attention must be given immediately if exposed to high concentrations of HFC-134a. DO NOT treat with adrenaline (epinephrine) or similar drugs. These drugs may increase the risk of cardiac arrhythmia and cardiac arrest. If the person is having difficulty breathing, administer oxygen. If breathing has stopped, give artificial respiration.

## Spills or Leaks

If a large release of vapor occurs, such as from a large spill or leak, the vapors may concentrate near the floor or low spots and displace the oxygen available for breathing, causing suffocation.

Evacuate everyone until the area has been ventilated. Use blowers or fans to circulate the air at floor level. DO NOT re-enter the affected area unless you are equipped with a self-contained breathing apparatus or unless an area monitor indicates that the concentration of HFC-134a vapors in the area is below the AEL.

Always use self-contained breathing apparatus or an air-line mask when entering tanks or other areas where vapors might exist. Use the buddy system and a lifeline. Refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for HFC-134a for more information.

HFC-134a vapors have a slightly sweet odor that can be difficult to detect. Therefore, frequent leak checks and the installation of permanent area monitors may be necessary in enclosed spaces. Refer to ASHRAE Standards 15 and 34 for refrigeration machinery rooms.

To ensure safety when working with HFC-134a in enclosed areas:

1. Route relief and purge vent piping (if present) outdoors, away from air intakes.
2. Make certain area is well ventilated, using auxiliary ventilation if needed to move vapors.
3. Make sure area is clear of vapors prior to beginning work.
4. Install air monitoring equipment to detect leaks.

## Skin and Eye Contact

At room temperature, HFC-134a vapors have little or no effect on the skin or eyes. However, in liquid form, HFC-134a can freeze skin or eyes on contact, causing frostbite. Following contact, soak the exposed area in lukewarm water, not cold or hot. If medical treatment cannot begin immediately, apply a light coat of a nonmedicated ointment, such as petroleum jelly. If the exposed area is in a location where the presence of the ointment would be awkward, such as on the eye, apply a light bandage. In all cases of frostbite, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Always wear protective clothing when there is a risk of exposure to liquid HFC-134a. Where splashing is possible, always wear eye protection and a face shield.

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## Combustibility of HFC-134a

HFC-134a is nonflammable at ambient temperatures and atmospheric pressure. However, tests have shown HFC-134a to be combustible at pressures as low as 5.5 psig (139.3 kPa absolute) at 177°C (350°F) when mixed with air at concentrations generally greater than 60% volume air. At lower temperatures, higher pressures are required for combustibility. (HCFC-22 is also combustible at pressures above atmospheric in the presence of high air concentrations). Test results and calculations have shown:

- At ambient temperature, all concentrations of HFC-134a in air are nonflammable at pressures below 15 psig (205 kPa absolute).
- Combustible mixtures of air and HFC-134a will not form when liquid HFC-134a is pumped into closed vessel if initial air pressure in vessel is limited to one atmosphere absolute and final pressure is limited to 300 psig (2,170 kPa absolute). If initial air pressure is greater than one atmosphere, combustible mixtures may form as tank is filled.

**Based on above information, the following operating practices are recommended:**

### Leak Testing

- Equipment should NEVER be leak tested with a pressurized mixture of HFC-134a and air. HFC-134a may be safely pressured with dry nitrogen.

### Bulk Delivery and Storage

- Tanks should normally be evacuated at start of filling, and should never be filled while under positive air pressure.
- Tank pressure should never be allowed to exceed 300 psig (2,170 kPa) when filling with HFC-134a. Relief devices on either tanks or HFC-134a supply system usually prevent this.
- Tank pressures should be monitored routinely.
- Air lines should never be connected to storage tanks.

## Filling and Charging Operations

- Before evacuating cylinders or refrigeration equipment, any remaining refrigerant should be removed by recovery system.
- Vacuum pump discharge lines should be free of restrictions that could increase discharge pressures above 15 psig (205 kPa) and result in formation of combustible mixtures.
- Cylinders or refrigeration equipment should normally be evacuated at start of filling, and should never be filled while under positive air pressure.
- Final pressures should not exceed 300 psig (2,170 kPa).
- Filled cylinders should periodically be analyzed for air (nonabsorbable gas or NAG).

## Refrigerant Recovery Systems

Efficient recovery of refrigerant from equipment or containers requires evacuation at the end of the recovery cycle. Suction lines to a recovery compressor should be periodically checked for leaks to prevent compressing air into the recovery cylinder during evacuation. In addition, the recovery cylinder pressure should be monitored, and evacuation stopped in the event of a rapid pressure rise indicating the presence of noncondensable air. The recovery cylinder contents should then be analyzed for NAG, and the recovery system leak checked if air is present. **DO NOT** continue to evacuate a refrigeration system that has a major leak.

## Thermal Decomposition

HFC-134a vapors will decompose when exposed to high temperatures from flames or electric resistance heaters. Decomposition may produce toxic and irritating compounds, such as hydrogen fluoride. The pungent odors released will irritate the nose and throat and generally force people to evacuate the area. Therefore, it is important to prevent decomposition by avoiding exposure to high temperatures.

# Section 4

## Component Teardown

## COMPONENT TEARDOWN

This section explains how to access and remove components from a Frigidaire Refrigerator/Freezer, and has been arranged in such a way as to simulate which components would need to be removed first in order to gain access to other components. When following a component removal procedure, it may be necessary to reference another component removal procedure listed earlier in this section.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Before continuing, please take note of the **WARNINGS** and **CAUTIONS** below.

### **WARNING**

- IF IT IS NECESSARY TO REMOVE AN REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER UNIT FROM ITS INSTALLATION, USE PROPER LIFTING TECHNIQUES AS UNITS ARE HEAVY AND COULD FALL RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. PULLING A UNIT FROM ITS INSTALLATION SHOULD ONLY BE PERFORMED BY A TRAINED AUTHORIZED SERVICE TECHNICIAN OR INSTALLER.
- TO AVOID ELECTRIC SHOCK, POWER TO A REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER UNIT MUST BE DISCONNECTED WHENEVER ACCESSING AND/OR REMOVING COMPONENTS POWERED BY ELECTRICITY OR COMPONENTS NEAR OTHER ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS.
- AFTER SERVICE IS COMPLETED, BE SURE ALL SAFETY-GROUNDING CIRCUITS ARE COMPLETE, ALL ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS ARE SECURE, AND ALL ACCESS PANELS ARE IN PLACE.
- IF UNIT WAS USED PRIOR TO SERVICE, THE COMPRESSOR ASSEMBLY WILL BE HOT. WEAR PROTECTIVE GLOVES AND THE APPROPRIATE SAFETY GEAR WHEN WORKING WITH COMPRESSORS.
- IF REMOVING A DOOR FROM A UNIT, REMEMBER THAT DOORS ARE HEAVY. IF THEY WERE TO FALL, THEY COULD CAUSE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY.

### **Caution**

- Metal edges may be sharp. Use caution and wear appropriate safety equipment when servicing evaporators and condensers to avoid personal injury.
- If working in the compressor area, remember that compressor and tubing may be hot.

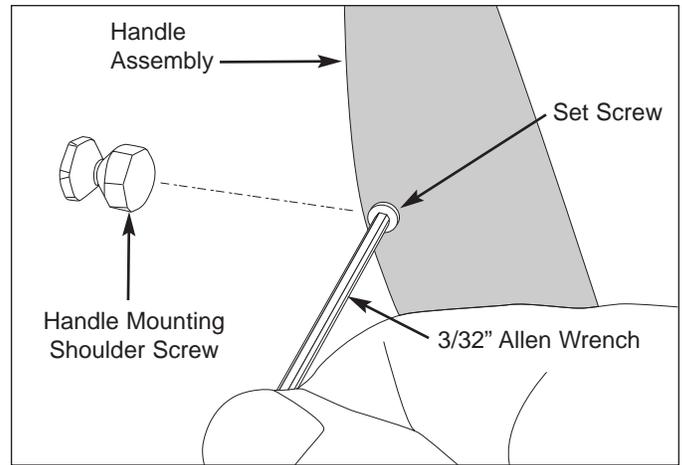
**Exterior Components**

**Door Handle Removal**

The door handle is secured to the door assembly with two set screws in the door handle that clamp the door handle to the handle mounting shoulder screws mounted on the door assembly. (See Figure 5-1)

To remove the door handle:

1. Using a 3/32" allen wrench, extract the set screw from each end of the door handle.
2. Pull door handle off handle mounting shoulder screws.

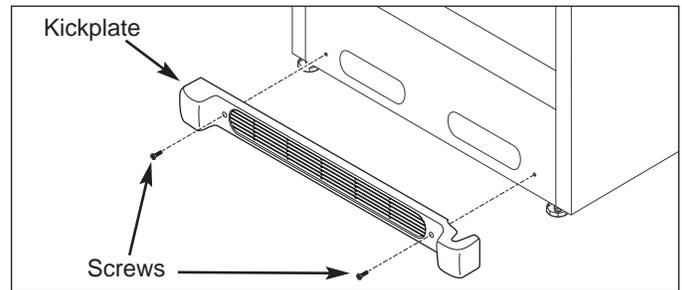


**Figure 5-1. Handle Removal**

**Kickplate Removal**

The kickplate is secured with two screws to the lower front of the unit.

To remove the kickplate, extract the screw from each end of the kickplate with a phillips head screwdriver. (See Figure 5-2)



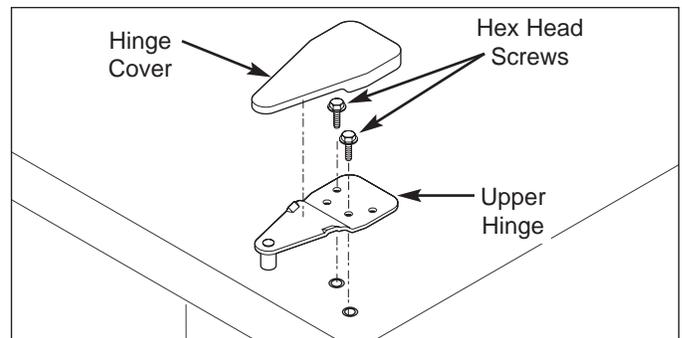
**Figure 5-2. Kickplate Removal**

**Door Hinge and Door Assembly Removal**

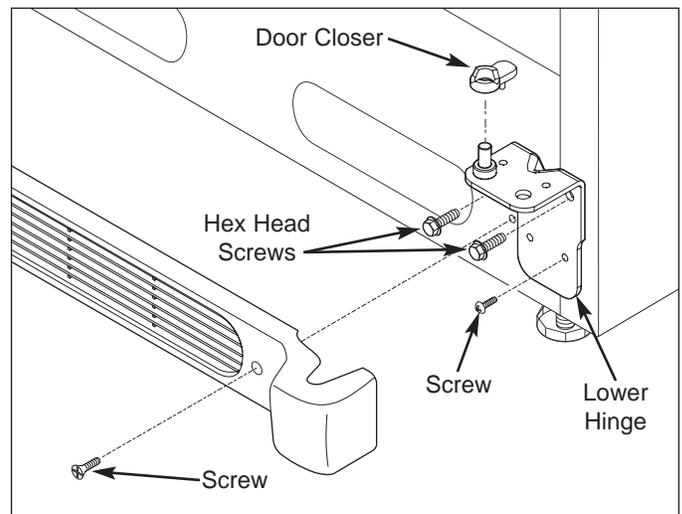
The door assembly is secured to the unit frame by an upper and lower hinge assembly.

To remove the door assembly:

1. Make sure electrical plug is disconnected from the wall outlet.
2. Gently lay freezer on its back on a soft clean surface.
3. Lift plastic cover off upper hinge assembly. (See Figure 5-3)
4. Using a 3/8" socket or wrench, extract hex head screws securing the upper hinge to the unit frame.
5. Remove the grille/kickplate by extracting the screws from each end of the grille/kickplate. (See Figure 5-2)
6. Using a 3/8" socket or wrench, extract hex head screws securing the lower hinge to the unit frame. Use a phillips head screwdriver to extract the remaining screw from the lower hinge assembly. (See Figure 5-4)
7. Lift the door assembly off of the unit frame.



**Figure 5-3. Upper Hinge Removal**



**Figure 5-4. Lower Hinge Removal**

# Component Teardown

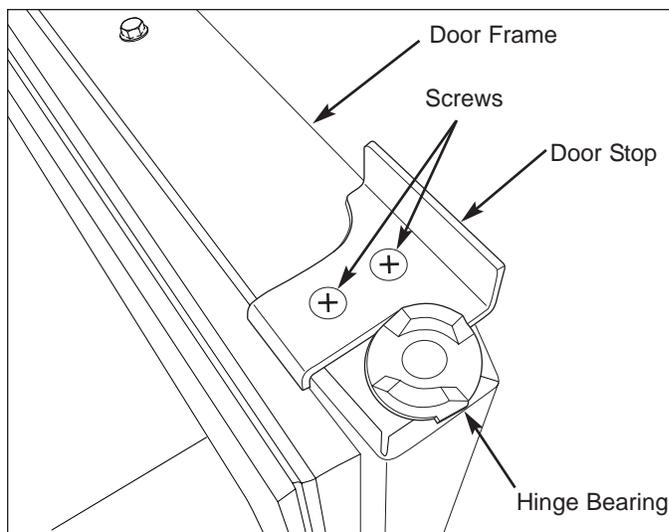
*Frigidaire*

## Door Stop Removal

The door stop is mounted to the underside of the door assembly and secured in position with two flat head screws.

To remove the door stop:

1. Remove door from unit.
2. Extract the two screws securing the door stop to the bottom of the door assembly. (See Figure 5-5)



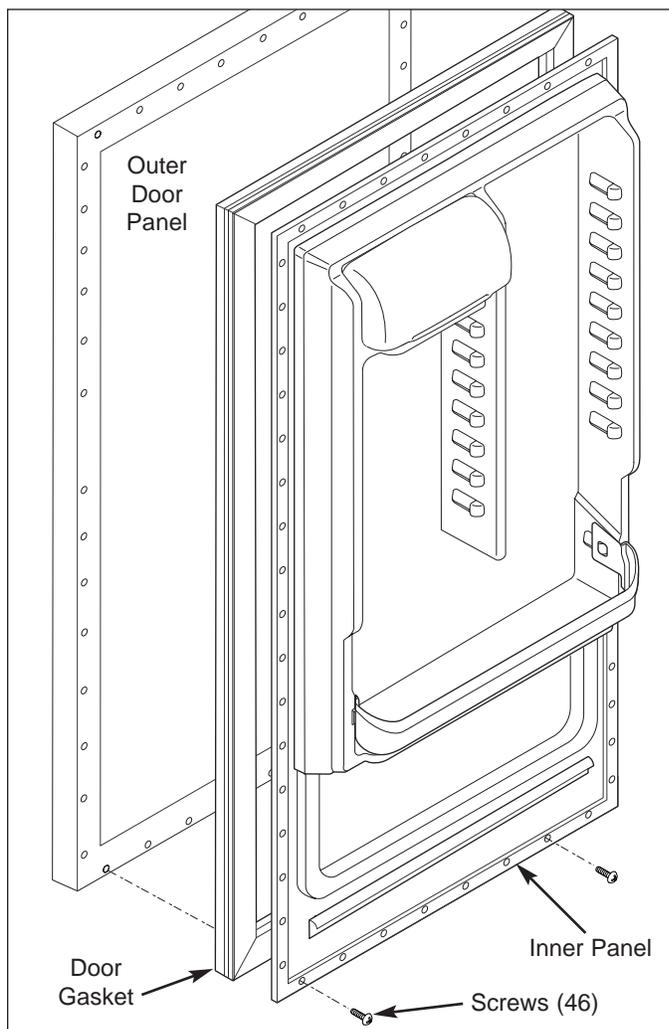
**Figure 5-5. Door Stop Removal**

## Door Gasket and Inner Panel Removal

The inner panel of the door assembly is secured with screws that pass through the inner panel and fasten into the door assembly. The door gasket has an inner lip that is pressed between the inner panel and the door assembly and is secured in position when the inner panel screws are fastened to the door assembly. The inner panel does not have to be removed to extract the door gasket from the door assembly.

To remove the door gasket:

1. Lift the inside edge of the door gasket to access the inner panel screws.
2. Loosen the inner panel screws until the door gasket can be pulled out from under the inner panel. (See Figure 5-6)
3. Continue around door assembly until door gasket is free.
4. To remove the inner panel, extract all screws from the outside edge of the inner panel and remove from unit.



**Figure 5-6. Inner Panel and Door Gasket Removal**

### Gallon Door Bin Removal

The gallon door bin has slots on each end that fit over molded slots in the door liner.

To remove the gallon door bin, bend the inside lip of the gallon door bin away from the supports molded into the door liner while pulling out of the door. (See Figure 5-7)

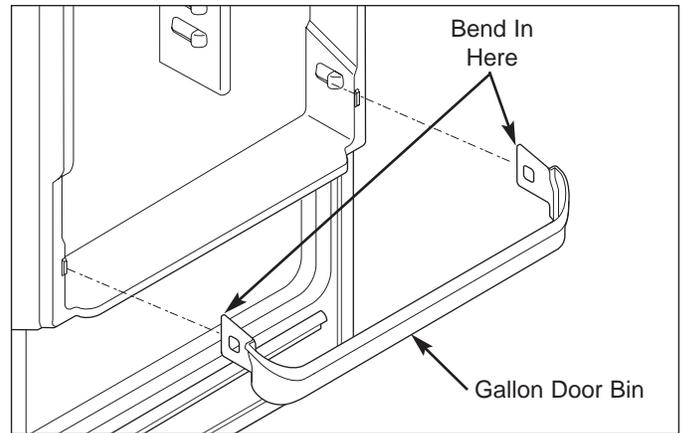


Figure 5-7. Gallon Door Bin Removal

### Two Liter Door Bin Removal

There are four two liter door bins that can be arranged as needed by the user.

To remove a two liter door bin, lift the bin straight up until it is free of the supports molded into the door liner, then pull from unit. (See Figure 5-8)

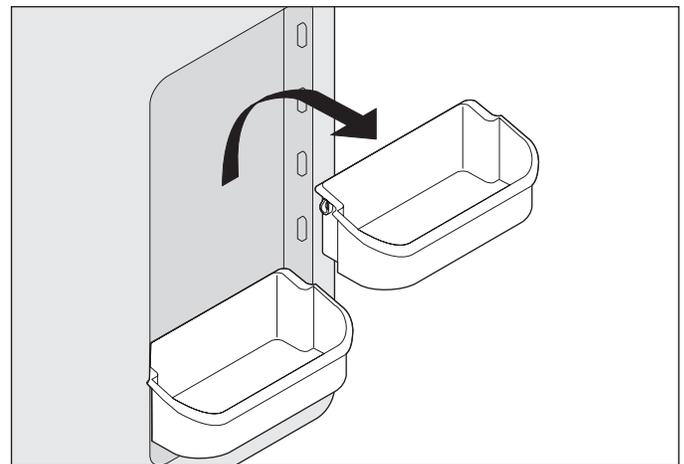


Figure 5-8. Control Removal

### Dairy Door Removal

The dairy door has a hole on each side that fits over molded pins in the door liner.

To remove the dairy door:

1. Open dairy door.
2. Grab the dairy door on each side and flex the outer edge inwards until the door is free of the pins in the door liner, then pull from door. (See Figure 5-9)

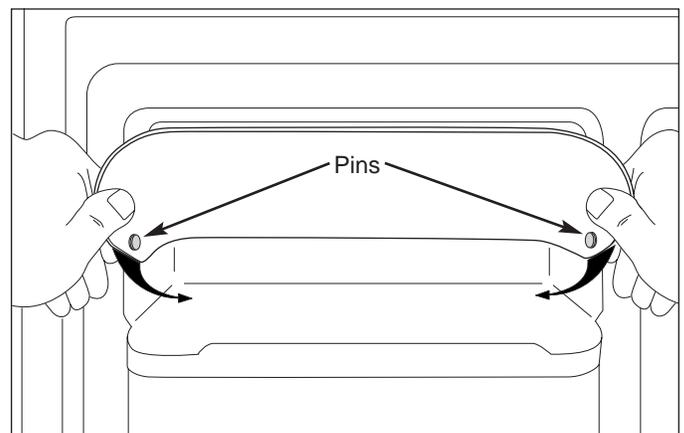


Figure 5-9. Door Shelf Guard Removal

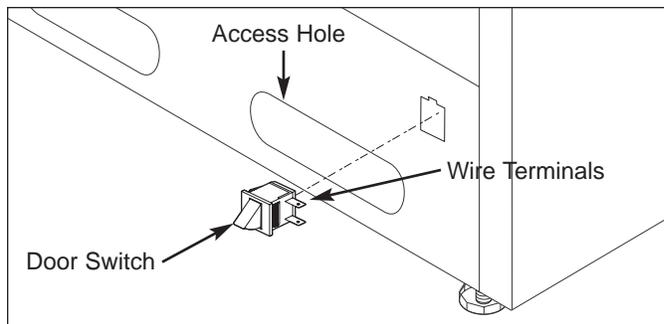
## Component Teardown

### Door Switch Removal

The door switch is mounted inside a hole in the cabinet base along the lower right hand side. (See Figure 5-10)

To remove the door switch:

1. Remove kickplate.
2. Reach into the access hole next to the door switch and disconnect the electrical leads from the door switch terminals.
3. Press in on the retaining latch on the switch body and push switch through hole in cabinet base.



**Figure 5-10. Door Switch Removal**

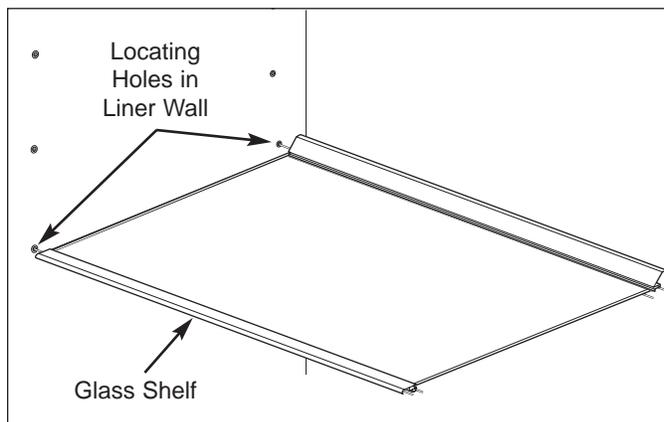
### Interior Components

#### Glass Shelf Assembly Removal

The glass shelf assemblies have metal bars that slide into holes in the cabinet interior liner walls. Rubber bumpers are attached to the metal bars to prevent side to side movement within the cabinet. (See Figure 5-11)

To remove the shelf assemblies:

1. Remove rubber bumpers from right side of shelf assembly.
2. Remove shelf assembly by pushing to the right until the metal bars are free from the left side liner wall. Then tilt down or up until the shelf can be removed from the right side liner wall.

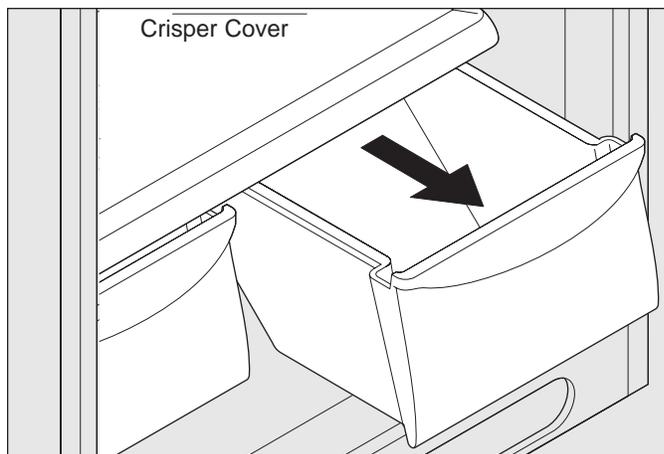


**Figure 5-11. Glass Shelf Assembly Removal**

#### Crisper Drawer Removal

The crisper drawers are removed by grabbing the drawer by the handle and pulling the drawers out of the unit. (See Figure 5-12)

To replace the crisper drawers, line up the plastic lip on the outside edge of the crisper drawer with the slots located under the crisper cover, then slide crisper drawers back into unit.



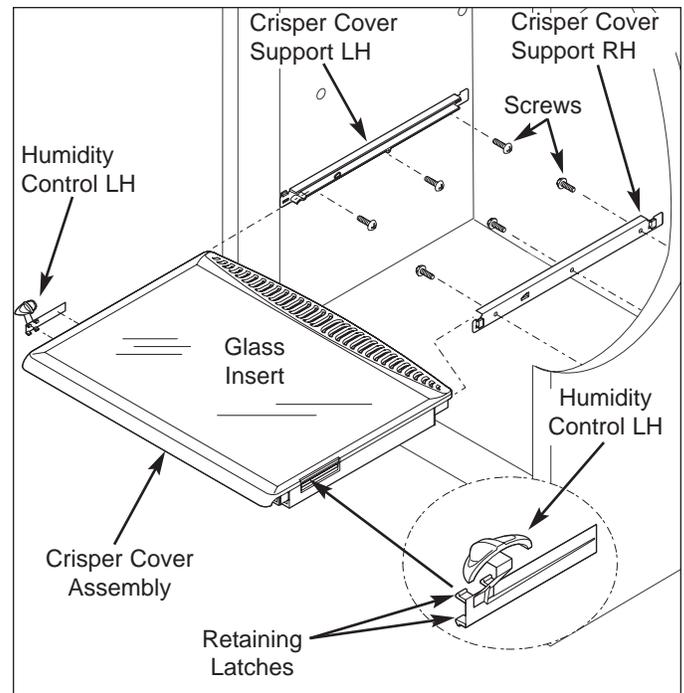
**Figure 5-12. Crisper Removal**

**Crisper Cover Assembly Removal**

The crisper cover assembly slides into a slot formed in the left and right hand supports that are secured with screws to the liner sidewall.

To remove the crisper cover assembly:

1. Remove crisper drawers from unit.
2. Reach under the crisper cover and lift up on the crisper cover glass insert. Remove glass insert from unit. (See Figure 5-13)
3. Grab the crisper cover assembly from the front, lift upwards until front of crisper cover clears the front lip of the crisper cover supports then pull straight out.
4. The humidity damper control is separated from the crisper cover by using a flat bladed screwdriver from the inside of the crisper cover, and prying the top retaining latches of the damper control off of the crisper cover. Push the retaining latches through until the damper control is free from the crisper cover.
5. To remove the crisper cover supports, extract the three screws securing each crisper cover support to the liner sidewall.



**Figure 5-13. Light Shield and Fixture Removal**

**Light Shield Removal**

The light shield is secured with retaining tabs that locate in slots cut in the interior cabinet ceiling. (See Figure 5-14)

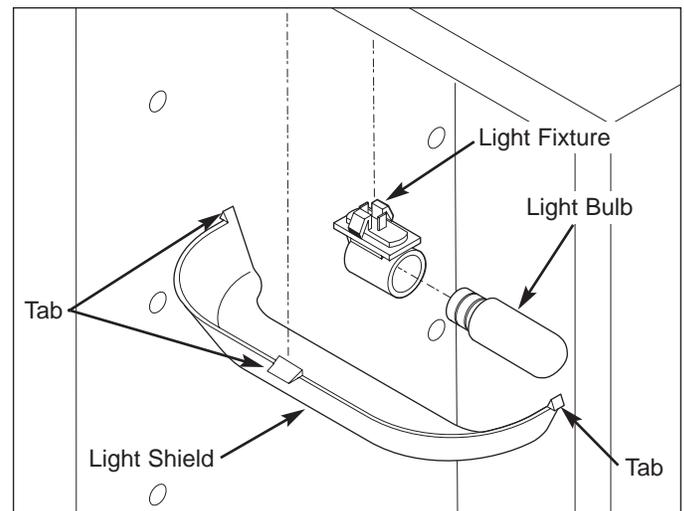
To remove the light shield, grab the light shield and push in near the retaining tabs until the retaining tabs release from the slots in the compartment ceiling.

**Light Fixture Removal**

The light fixture is secured with retaining latches into the interior cabinet ceiling behind the light shield. (See Figure 5-14)

To remove the light fixture:

1. Remove light bulb by turning counter-clockwise.
2. Pull down on the front of the light fixture while turning the fixture a quarter turn to release the retaining latches.
3. Disconnect wire leads from light fixture terminals.



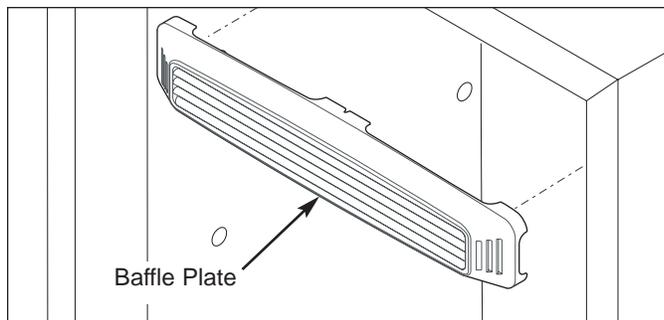
**Figure 5-14. Light Shield and Fixture Removal**

## Component Teardown

### Baffle Plate Removal

The baffle plate is secured with four retaining latches to slots in the compartment upper back wall. (See Figure 5-15)

To remove the baffle plate, with one hand grab the baffle plate from the center and pull back while with the other hand, reach behind to disengage the retaining latches.



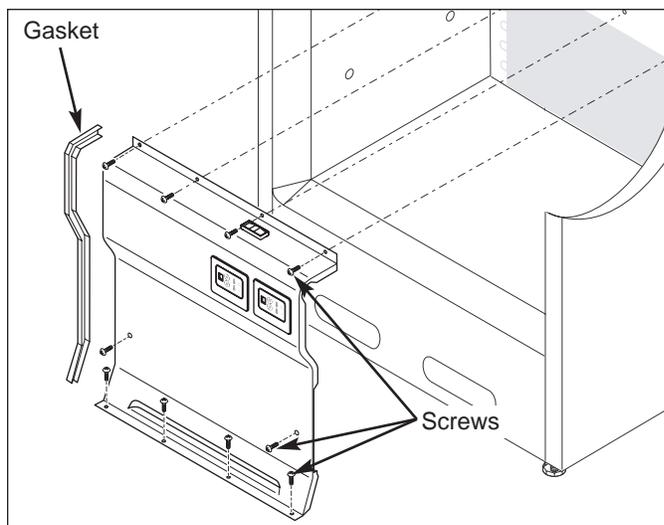
**Figure 5-15. Baffle Plate Removal**

### Evaporator Cover Removal

The evaporator cover is secured with screws to the back wall and bottom of the freezer compartment. The evaporator cover has a gasket on each side to create proper airflow in the compartment. The electronic control is mounted to the evaporator cover and must be disconnected before the evaporator cover can be completely removed from the unit. (See Figure 5-16)

To remove the evaporator cover:

1. Remove the bottom two glass shelf assemblies.
2. Remove crisper drawers, crisper cover and crisper supports.
3. Using a phillips head screwdriver, extract the ten (10) screws securing the evaporator cover to the freezer compartment.
4. Carefully pull the evaporator cover away from the back wall far enough to access the electronic control electrical connection behind the evaporator cover, using caution not to damage the gaskets on both sides of the evaporator cover.
5. Reach behind evaporator cover and disconnect electronic control electrical connection from wire harness. (See Figure 5-17)
6. The evaporator cover may now be removed from the unit.



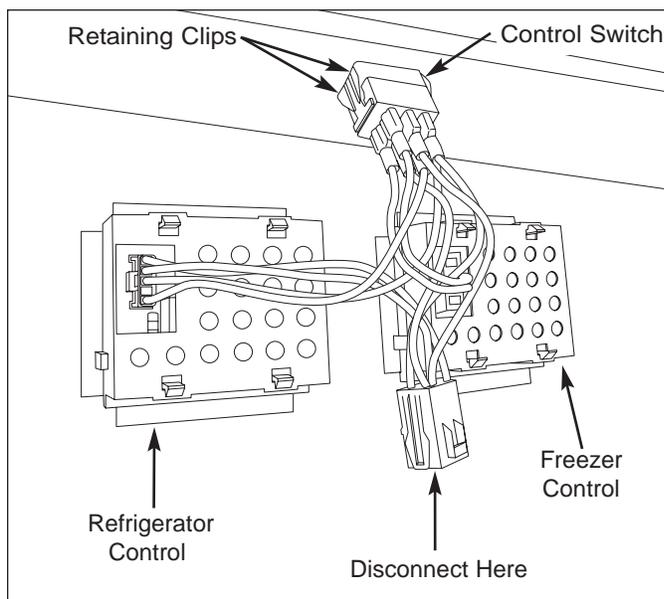
**Figure 5-16. Evaporator Cover Removal**

### Control Switch Removal

The control switch is secured to the evaporator cover by retaining clips mounted on the control switch body.

To remove the control switch:

1. Remove or pull back evaporator cover to access the controls.
2. Disconnect the electrical leads from the back of the control switch. Label wire leads to assure proper reconnection. (See Figure 5-17)
3. Press in the retaining clips and push control switch through evaporator cover.



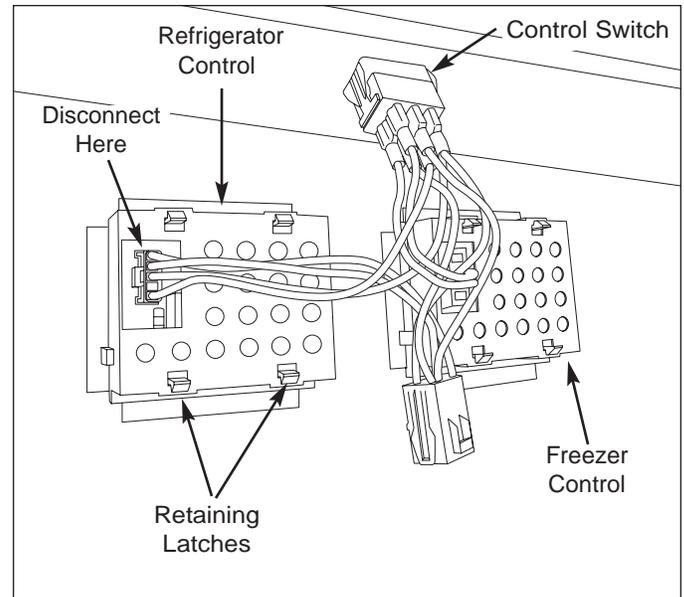
**Figure 5-17. Electronic Control Components Viewed From the Inside of the Evaporator Panel**

**Electronic Control Removal**

The electronic control is secured to a housing with four retaining latches on the inside of the evaporator cover. The housing has air holes for the thermistors mounted on the circuit board.

To remove the electronic controls:

1. Remove or pull back evaporator cover to access the controls.
2. From the backside of the evaporator cover, disconnect the electrical leads from the back of the electronic control being removed. (See Figure 5-18)
3. Hold on to the electronic control from the front of the evaporator cover while releasing the four retaining latches securing the electronic control to the housing. Pull electronic control from evaporator panel. The housing is also free of the evaporator cover and wire harness once the retaining latches are released.



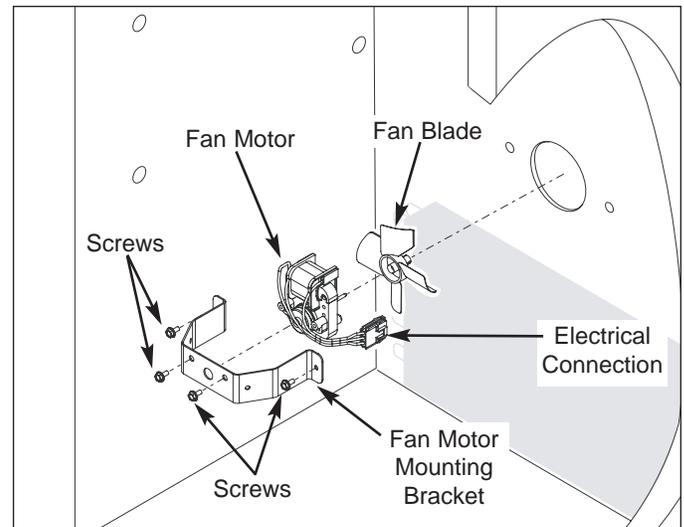
**Figure 5-18. Removing Electronic Control Components Viewed From the Inside of the Evaporator Panel**

**Evaporator Fan Assembly Removal**

The evaporator fan assembly consists of the fan motor mount bracket, fan motor and fan blade. Two screws secure the fan motor to the fan motor mount bracket. The evaporator fan assembly is then secured with two screws to the back wall of the freezer compartment. (See Figure 5-19)

To remove the evaporator fan assembly:

1. Remove the bottom two glass shelf assemblies.
2. Remove crisper drawers, crisper cover and supports.
3. Remove the evaporator cover.
4. Remove wires from retaining clips. Disconnect the electrical leads of fan motor at quick disconnect.
5. Using a 5/16" socket or nut driver, extract the two hex head screws securing the fan motor mounting bracket to the back wall of the unit.
6. Separate the fan motor from the mounting bracket by extracting the two hex head screws securing the fan motor to mounting bracket.
7. Pull fan blade from fan motor shaft.



**Figure 5-19. Evaporator Fan Assembly Removal**

## Component Teardown

### Defrost Thermostat Removal

The defrost thermostat is secured with a retaining clip to the upper left corner of the evaporator assembly.

To remove the defrost thermostat:

1. Remove the evaporator cover.
2. Disconnect the defrost thermostat wire leads from the wire harness. (See Figure 5-20)
3. Pull the defrost thermostat off of the evaporator tubing.

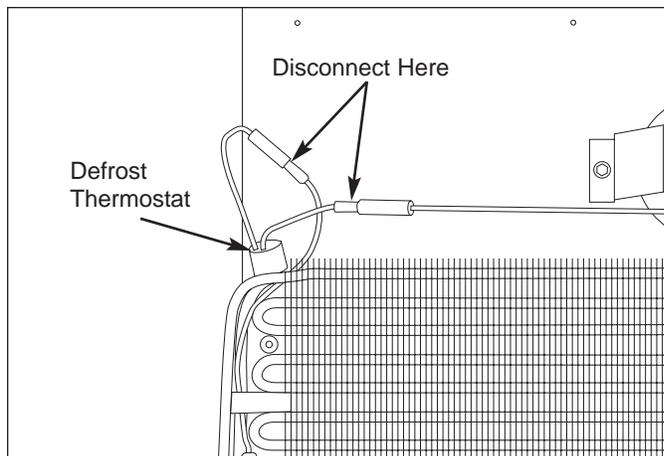


Figure 5-20. Defrost Thermostat Removal

### Defrost Heater Removal

The defrost heater is secured with two aluminum straps to the bottom tube of the evaporator assembly.

To remove the defrost heater:

1. Remove the evaporator cover.
2. Disconnect the defrost heater wire leads from the wire harness. (See Figure 5-21)
3. Release the aluminum straps securing the defrost heater to the bottom of the evaporator assembly.
4. Remove the styrofoam insulators from both sides of the evaporator.
5. Pull defrost heater from evaporator assembly.

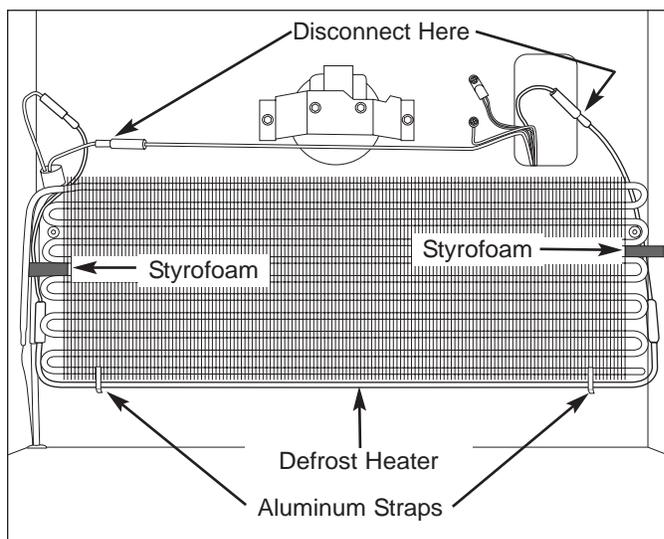


Figure 5-21. Defrost Heater Removal

### Evaporator Removal

The evaporator sets upon the two screw standoffs mounted to the back wall of the freezer compartment. Two pieces of styrofoam are pressed between the evaporator assembly and the sidewalls of the unit, securing the assembly in position. (See Figure 5-22)

To remove the evaporator:

1. Remove the evaporator cover.
2. Remove the styrofoam insulators from both sides of the evaporator.
3. Remove the defrost thermostat and defrost heater.
4. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.

**NOTE:** Whenever the sealed system is opened the filter-drier must be replaced.

5. Remove the filter-drier.
6. Cut suction line about 1" from compressor.
7. Straighten the tubing, remove the foam sleeve, and carefully feed the heat exchanger through the cabinet while pulling up on the evaporator.

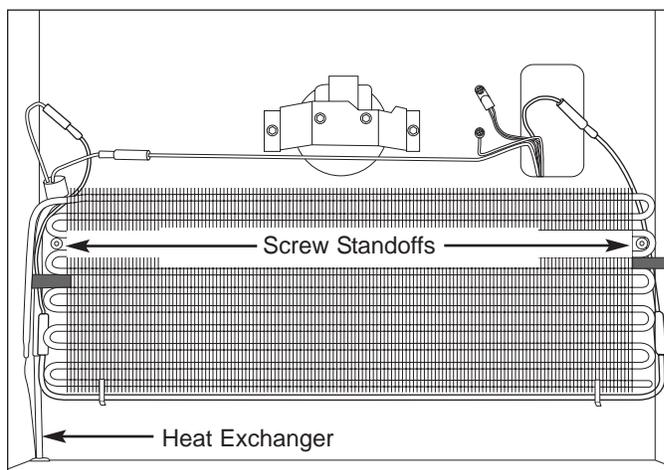


Figure 5-22. Evaporator Removal

### Compressor Area Components

#### Power Cord Removal

The power cord enters the compressor area on the lower left side and is secured to the compressor mounting plate with a P-clamp and screw.

To remove the power cord:

1. Pull unit from its installation position to access the rear compressor area.
2. Using a phillips head screwdriver, extract the four screws securing the compressor area shield to the rear of the unit. Remove shield.
3. Using a 1/4" socket or wrench, extract the screw securing the P-clamp to the compressor mounting plate. (See Figure 5-23)
4. Using a 1/4" socket or wrench, extract the screw securing the ground wires to the compressor mounting plate.
5. Disconnect power cord from the wire harness at the quick disconnect. Remove power cord from unit.

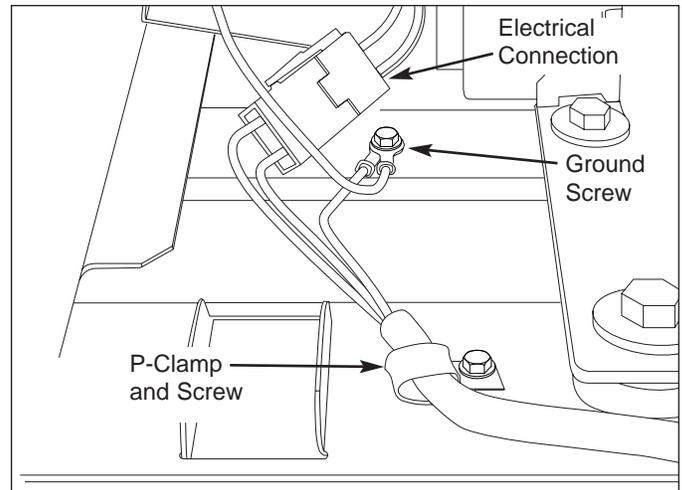


Figure 5-23. Power Cord Removal

#### Filter-Drier Removal

The filter-drier is located in the compressor area on the left side of the compressor. (See Figure 5-24)

To remove the filter-drier:

1. Pull unit from its installation position.
2. Extract the screws securing the fiber board cover to the unit frame and remove from unit.
3. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
4. Using a 3 cornered file, score a groove around capillary tube as close to old filter-drier as possible. Break capillary tube along score mark from filter-drier.
5. Cut condenser outlet tube at filter-drier. Discard filter-drier.
6. Thoroughly clean condenser outlet tube and capillary tube.
7. Place inlet connection of filter-drier over condenser tube approximately 1/4" and solder.
8. Insert capillary tube input end into filter-drier outlet. Do not allow tube to bottom against screen. Solder carefully so that solder does not plug capillary tube.
9. Install process tube adapter to filter-drier.
10. Evacuate and charge system using the recommended procedure described under Evacuating and Recharging in the Refrigeration section.
11. Reassemble unit.

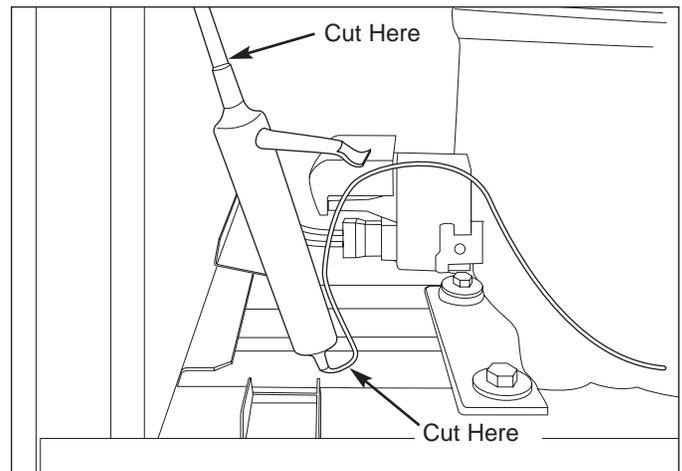


Figure 5-24. Filter-Drier Removal

#### ⚠ Caution

On R-134a systems, the system must NOT be left open to the atmosphere for more than 10 minutes to prevent moisture contamination of compressor oil.

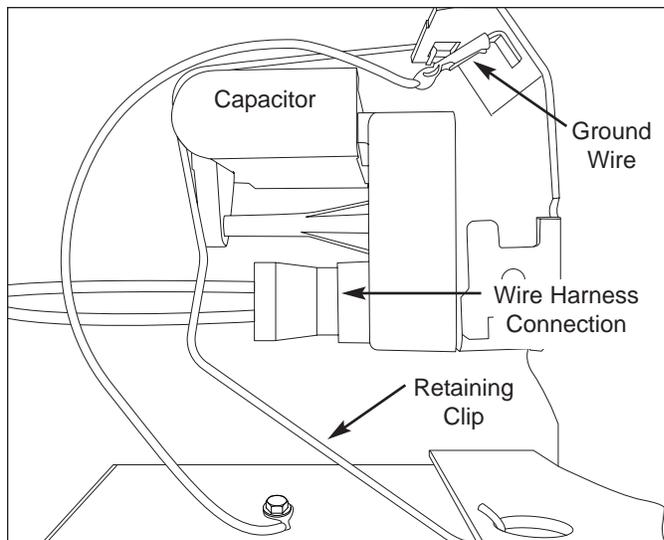
# Component Teardown

## Compressor Removal

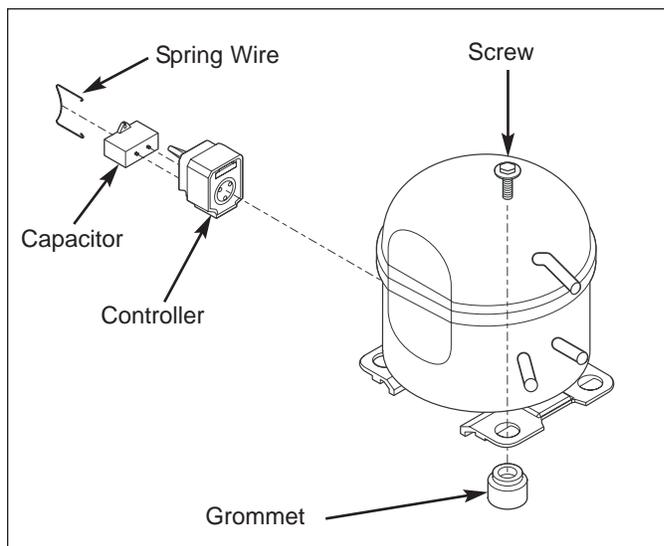
The compressor sits on four grommets and is secured with four screws to the compressor mounting plate. (See Figure 5-25 & 5-26 )

To remove the filter-drier:

1. Pull unit from its installation position.
2. Extract the screws securing the compressor shield to the unit frame and remove from unit.
3. Using a small flat bladed screwdriver, release the locking tab from the wire harness connection and disconnect from compressor controller.
4. Using a needlenose pliers, remove spring wire holding the controller to the compressor.
5. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
6. Using a 7/16" socket, remove the (4) bolts, one in each corner, holding the compressor to the base. (See Figure 5-24)
7. After refrigerant is completely recovered, cut suction and discharge lines as close to compressor as possible. Leave only enough tubing to pinch off and seal defective compressor. Plug or tape any open system tubing to avoid entrance of moisture and air into system. Remove inoperable compressor and transfer mounting parts to new compressor.
8. Install new compressor inexact same manner as original compressor.
9. Reform both suction and discharge lines to align with new compressor. If they are too short, use additional lengths of tubing. Joints should overlap 0.5" to provide sufficient area for good solder joint. Clean and mark area where tubing should be cut.
10. Cut tubing with tubing cutter. Work as quickly as possible to avoid letting moisture and air into system.
11. Reassemble unit.



**Figure 5-25. Compressor Electrical Component Removal**



**Figure 5-26. Compressor Components**

### Drain Pan and Drain Pan Heater Loop Removal

The drain pan heater loop is clamped to the drain pan with two brackets and secured with screws. The drain pan is secured with four screws to the underside of the unit frame.

To remove the drain pan heater loop:

1. Pull unit from its installation position.
2. Using a short phillips head screwdriver, extract the four screws securing the drain pan heater loop brackets to the drain pan. (See Figure 5-27)
3. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
4. Disconnect inlet and outlet lines of drain pan heater loop.
5. Replace old filter-drier after installing the new drain pan heater loop.

To remove the drain pan:

1. Pull unit from its installation position.
2. Using a short phillips head screwdriver, extract the four screws securing the drain pan heater loop brackets to the drain pan. Lift drain pan heater loop out of drain pan.
3. Pull drain tube from drain pan.
4. The front of the unit will need to be raised to access the drain pan screws.

#### **⚠ Caution**

**Use caution when tilting a freezer unit. Use sturdy blocking materials that will not allow the freezer to rock or tip over when servicing the unit.**

4. Using a short phillips head screwdriver, or socket with a phillips head bit, extract the four screws securing the drain pan to the bottom of the unit frame. (See Figure 5-28)

**NOTE:** The back screws securing the drain pan to the underside of the unit frame, may require the back of the unit to be raised in order to access the screw heads.

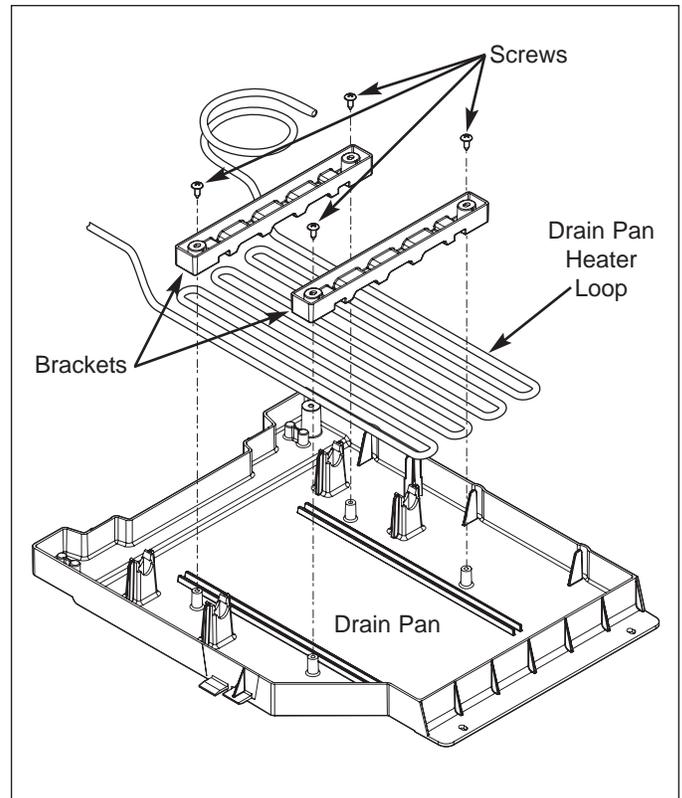


Figure 5-27. Drain Pan Heater Loop Removal

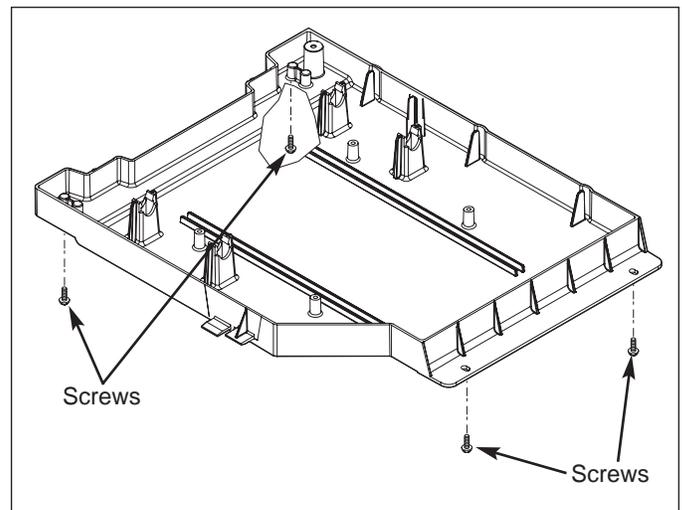


Figure 5-28. Drain Pan Removal

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## Condenser Service

The condenser is foamed in place and is not accessible for repair. However, repair can be made by installing a service replacement condenser kit. Refer to the part list of the model being serviced for the correct kit part number.

Each service replacement condenser kit consists of a condenser assembly that can be installed on the back of the cabinet, mounting hardware, replacement filter-drier and a complete installation instructions.

To install, use the following procedure:

1. Disconnect unit from source of power.
2. Recover refrigerant by using EPA approved recovery system.
3. Installed the replacement condenser in accordance with the instructions included with the kit.
4. Evacuate and charge a system using the recommended procedure described under evacuation and recharging found in section 4.

# **Section 5**

## **Troubleshooting**

# Troubleshooting



Problem	Cause	Correction
Refrigerator/Freezer compressor does not run.	Refrigerator/Freezer is plugged into a circuit that has a ground fault interrupt.	Use another circuit. Check circuit for proper voltage.
	Temperature control is in the "OFF" position.	Set control to a temperature setting. Instruct customer.
	Refrigerator/Freezer may not be plugged in, or plug may be loose.	Ensure plug is tightly pushed into outlet.
	House fuse blown or tripped circuit breaker.	Check/replace fuse with a 15 amp time delay fuse. Reset circuit breaker.
	Power outage.	Check house lights. Call local Electric Company.
Refrigerator/Freezer runs too much or too long.	Room or outside weather is hot.	It's normal for the Refrigerator/Freezer to work harder under these conditions.
	Freezer has recently been disconnected for a period of time.	It takes 24 hours for the Refrigerator/Freezer to cool down completely.
	Large amount of warm or hot food have been stored recently.	Warm food will cause Refrigerator/Freezer to run more until the desired temperature is reached.
	Door is opened too frequently or kept open too long.	Warm air entering the Refrigerator/Freezer causes it to run more. Open the door less often.
	Refrigerator/Freezer door may be slightly open.	See Problem section "Door will not close".
	Temperature control is set too low.	Set control to a warmer setting. Allow several hours for the temperature to stabilize.
	Freezer gaskets are dirty, worn, cracked or poorly fitted.	Clean or change gasket. Leaks in the door seal will cause Freezer to run longer in order to maintain desired temperature.
Interior refrigerator/freezer temperature is too cold.	Temperature control is set too low.	Set control to a warmer setting. Allow several hours for the temperature to stabilize.
Interior refrigerator/freezer temperature is too warm.	Temperature control is set too warm.	Set control to a colder setting. Allow several hours for the temperature to stabilize.
	Door is opened too frequently or kept open too long.	Warm air entering the Freezer causes it to run more. Open the door less often.
	Freezer door may be slightly open.	See Problem section "Door will not close".
	Large amount of warm or hot food have been stored recently.	Wait until the Refrigerator/Freezer has had a chance to reach its selected temperature.
	Refrigerator/Freezer has recently been disconnected for a period of time.	Refrigerator/Freezer requires 24 hours to cool down completely.
Freezer external surface temperature is warm.	The external Refrigerator/Freezer 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 Refrigerator/Freezer cabinet.

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Correction</b>
Louder sound levels whenever Refrigerator/Freezer is on.	Modern Freezers have increased storage capacity and more stable temperatures. They require heavy duty compressors.	This is normal. When the surrounding noise level is low, you might hear the compressor running while it cools the interior.
Louder sound levels when compressor comes on.	Refrigerator/Freezer operates at higher pressures during the start of the ON cycle.	This is normal. Sound will level off or disappear as Refrigerator/Freezer 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 Refrigerator/Freezer continues to run.
Bubbling or gurgling sound.	Refrigerant used to cool Refrigerator/Freezer is circulating throughout system.	This is normal.
Vibrating or rattling noise.	Refrigerator/Freezer is not level. It rocks on the floor when it is moved slightly.	Level the Refrigerator/Freezer.
	Floor is uneven or weak.	Ensure floor can adequately support unit. Level the unit by putting wood or metal shims under part of the Refrigerator/Freezer.
	Freezer is touching the wall.	Re-level unit or move unit away from wall.
Moisture forms on inside Freezer walls.	Weather is hot and humid, which increases internal rate of frost build-up.	This is normal.
	Door is slightly open.	See Problem section "Door will not close".
	Door is opened too frequently or kept open too long.	Open the door less often.
Odors in Freezer.	Interior needs to be cleaned.	Clean interior with sponge, warm water, and baking soda. Replace air filter.
	Foods with strong odors are in the Refrigerator/Freezer.	Cover the food tightly.
Door will not close.	Refrigerator/Freezer is not level. It rocks on the floor when it is moved slightly.	This condition can force the cabinet out of square and misalign the door. Level unit.
	Floor is uneven or weak.	Ensure floor can adequately support unit. Level the unit by putting wood or metal shims under part of the Refrigerator/Freezer.
Light bulb is not on.	The fluorescent lamp or light bulb is burned out.	Replace lamp or light bulb.
	No electric current is reaching the unit.	See Problem section "Refrigerator/Freezer compressor does not run" on previous page.

# Troubleshooting



The following table relates to troubleshooting the electronic control and associated components.

Problem	Cause	Correction
Compressor and evaporator fan motor does not run.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Do any of the LED's on the control illuminate?</li> <li>2. Is the selector (rocker) switch on the evaporator panel set to the middle position.</li> <li>3. Is the temperature control set to off?</li> <li>4. Measure the input voltage to the electronic control. Is line to neutral voltage being applied?</li> <li>5. Disconnect the wiring harness from the compressor controller and measure the voltage drop between the two wires in the harness. Does the meter read line to neutral voltage?</li> </ol>	<p>Yes. Go to step 2. No. Check power to freezer and make sure unit is plugged in. Check rocker switch.</p> <p>Yes. Select refrigerator or freezer on switch. The middle position disables cooling. No. Go to step 3</p> <p>Yes. Set control from 1 to 7 No. Go to step 4.</p> <p>Yes. Replace defective electronic control. No. Defective wire harness.</p> <p>Yes. Replace defective compressor controller or compressor and evaporator fan motor. No. Replace defective electronic control.</p>
Compressor does not run, but the evaporator fan motor does.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defective compressor or compressor controller.</li> </ol>	Replace compressor controller. If problem is not corrected replace compressor.
Evaporator fan motor does not run, but the compressor operates.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is there something blocking the fan blade?</li> </ol>	<p>Yes. Remove restriction from fan blade. No. Replace defective fan motor.</p>
Electronic control display does not illuminate, but the freezer operates.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defective electronic control.</li> </ol>	Replace defective electronic control.
The electronic control does not respond when the upper or down arrows are pushed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the control set to zero?</li> </ol>	<p>Yes. The down arrow must be pushed (3) times to advance the control from "0" to "1". No. Replace defective electronic control.</p>
Interior light does not glow when door is opened.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check the light bulb with an ohmmeter. Is the bulb good?</li> </ol>	<p>Yes. Replace defective door switch. No. Replace light bulb.</p>
Compressor runs continuously, but freezer is not cold.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Connect a low side gauge to the processing tube on the compressor. Is the pressure in a vacuum or lower than normal?</li> </ol>	<p>Yes. System low on refrigerant, check for leak in system before adding refrigerant. No. Replace defective compressor.</p>
Compressor runs continuously and the freezer is too cold.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defective electronic control.</li> </ol>	Replace defective electronic control.
Freezer temperatures do not correspond with temperature control settings, but compressor operation is normal.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defective electronic control.</li> </ol>	Replace defective electronic control.

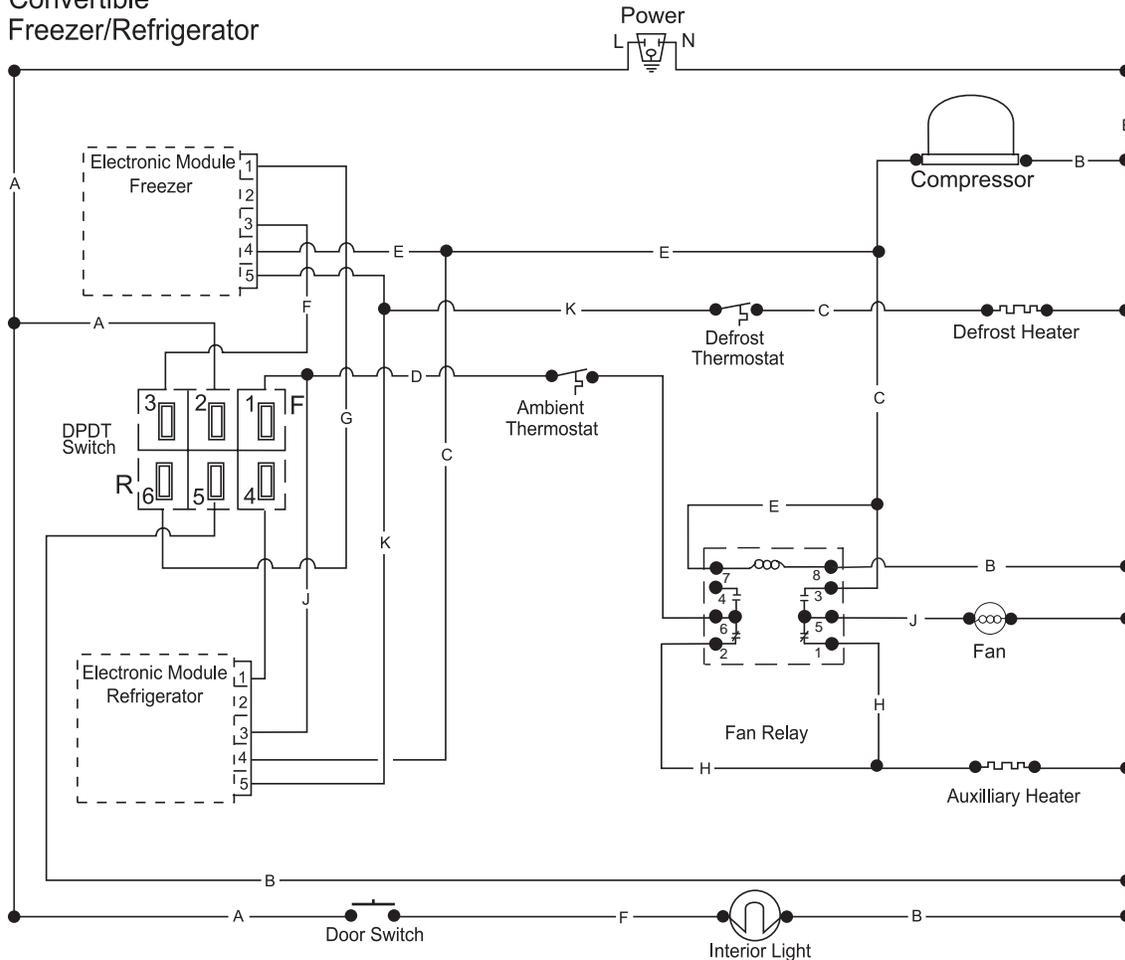
Problem	Cause	Correction
Freezer does not automatically defrost.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Program the control for a manual defrost. Does the defrost operate?</li> <li>2. Disconnect the orange wire from the defrost thermostat and the white wire from the defrost heater. Measure the resistance between the wire on the thermostat and the wire at the end of the heater. Is the reading about 25 omhs?</li> <li>3. Disconnect defrost thermostat from the defrost heater and measure the resistance of the defrost heater. Is the reading about 25 omhs?</li> </ol>	<p>Yes. Replace electronic control. No. Go to step 2.</p> <p>Yes. Replace electronic control. No. Go to step 3.</p> <p>Yes. Replace defrost thermostat. No. Replace defrost heater.</p>



# Section 6

## Wiring Diagrams

# 297252100 OR #297252101  
 Service Data Sheet  
 Convertible  
 Freezer/Refrigerator



Specifications subject to change without notice.  
 Options shown are not necessarily part of model.

### Important Safety Notice

The information provided herein is designed to assist qualified repair personnel only. Untrained persons should not attempt to make repairs due to the possibility of electrical shock. Disconnect power cord before servicing.

### Important

If any green grounding wires are removed during servicing, they must be returned to their original position and properly secured.

- A...Black
- B...White
- C...Yellow
- D...Red
- E...Blue
- F...Brown
- G...Gray
- H...Purple
- J...Pink
- K...Orange

### Defrost Control

An automatic 30 minute defrosting period is initiated after every 12 hours of compressor running time. During the defrosting period a thermostat will switch the defrost heater off after the frost on the evaporator has melted. The defrost thermostat closes at 25F and opens at 40F.

### Refrigerant and electrical specifications

Refer to serial plate.

### Freeze control for refrigerator mode only

When the external temperature falls below 35F ° ±3° a 40 watt auxiliary heater and evaporator fan will turn on until either:

- A) The interior cabinet reaches the temperature selected by the temperature control, causing the auxiliary heater to turn off and the compressor fan to run.
- B) The external temperature reaches 45F±5°F and the fan and auxiliary heater turns off.

**Thermistor Resistance Chart**

Temp °C	Temp °F	Nominal Resistance Ohms	Max. Ohms	Min. Ohms	Tolerance % +/-
0°	32°	32,654	33,604.72	31703.29	2.91
-15°	5°	72,940	75,283.21	70,596.79	3.21
-20°	-4°	97,060	100,283.44	93,836.56	3.32
-30°	-22°	177,000	183,293.70	170,706.30	3.55
-40°	-40°	336,000	349,139.51	322,860.49	3.91

# Section 7

## Installation Information

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## IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

### Safety Precautions

Do not attempt to install or operate this appliance until you read the safety precautions in this guide. Safety items throughout this guide are labeled with a Warning or Caution based on the risk type.

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

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

### **⚠ WARNING**

**ELECTROLUX CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY OR INJURY TO PERSONS CAUSED BY FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN THIS SERVICE MANUAL.**

### **⚠ WARNING**

**TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE, ELECTRICAL SHOCK, OR INJURY WHEN USING YOUR REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER, FOLLOW BASIC SAFETY PRECAUTIONS INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:**

- **READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE OPERATING THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER.**
- **BEFORE PERFORMING ANY TYPE OF SERVICE OR INSTALLATION, MAKE SURE THAT ELECTRIC POWER TO THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER IS DISCONNECTED.**
- **TO AVOID THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPLOSION OR FIRE, DO NOT STORE OR USE COMBUSTIBLE, FLAMMABLE, OR EXPLOSIVE LIQUIDS OR VAPORS (SUCH AS GASOLINE) INSIDE OR IN THE VICINITY OF THIS OR ANY OTHER APPLIANCE.**
- **THIS APPLIANCE IS EQUIPPED WITH A THREE-PRONG GROUNDING PLUG FOR PROTECTION AGAINST POSSIBLE ELECTRIC SHOCK HAZARDS. PLUG IT ONLY INTO A DEDICATED, GROUNDED ELECTRICAL OUTLET. WHEN ONLY A STANDARD TWO-PRONG ELECTRICAL OUTLET IS AVAILABLE, THE CUSTOMER MUST HAVE IT REPLACED WITH A DEDICATED, PROPERLY GROUNDED THREE-PRONG ELECTRICAL OUTLET BEFORE USING THIS APPLIANCE. DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, CUT OR REMOVE THE THIRD (GROUND) PRONG FROM THE POWER CORD. DO NOT USE AN ADAPTER PLUG. DO NOT USE AN EXTENSION CORD. DO NOT USE A POWER CORD THAT IS FRAYED OR DAMAGED. THE USE OF A GROUND FAULT INTERRUPTER (GFI) IS NOT RECOMMENDED.**
- **DO NOT INSTALL OR USE A DAMAGED APPLIANCE. IF YOU RECEIVE A DAMAGED APPLIANCE, IMMEDIATELY CONTACT YOUR DEALER OR BUILDER.**
- **DO NOT USE THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER UNTIL IT HAS BEEN PROPERLY INSTALLED BY A QUALIFIED INSTALLER ACCORDING TO THESE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS. THE INSTALLER MUST SHOW THE CUSTOMER THE LOCATION OF THE POWER PLUG SO THAT THEY KNOW WHERE AND HOW TO DISCONNECT POWER TO THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER.**
- **DO NOT INSTALL, REPAIR, OR REPLACE ANY PART OF THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER UNLESS SPECIFICALLY RECOMMENDED IN THE LITERATURE ACCOMPANYING IT. A QUALIFIED SERVICE TECHNICIAN SHOULD PERFORM ALL OTHER SERVICE.**

**▲ WARNING**

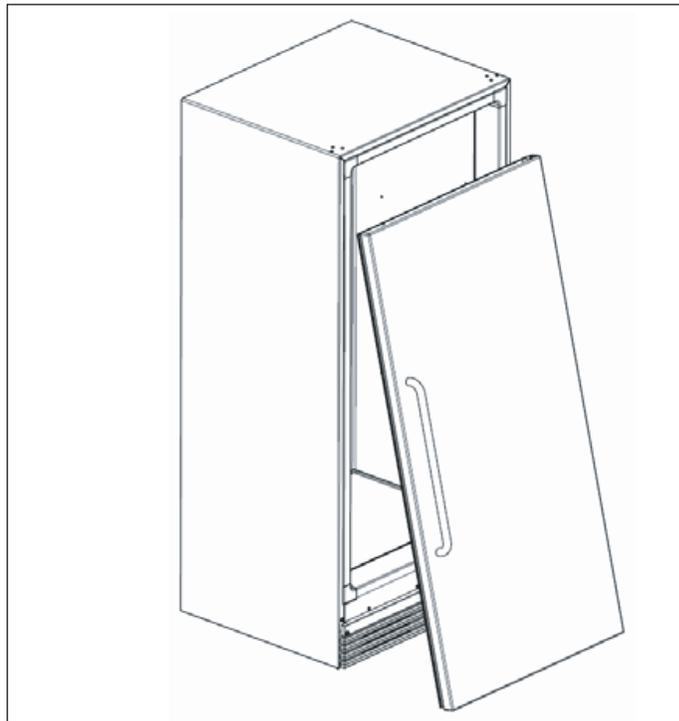
DESTROY CARTON, PLASTIC BAGS, AND ANY EXTERIOR WRAPPING MATERIAL IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER IS UNPACKED. CHILDREN SHOULD NEVER USE THESE ITEMS FOR PLAY. CARTONS COVERED WITH RUGS, BEDSPREADS, PLASTIC SHEETS OR STRETCH WRAP MAY BECOME AIR TIGHT CHAMBERS AND CAN QUICKLY CAUSE SUFFOCATION.

A CHILD MIGHT SUFFOCATE IF HE CRAWLS INTO THE FREEZER TO HIDE OR PLAY. REMOVE THE DOOR/LID OF THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER WHEN NOT IN USE, EVEN IF YOU PLAN TO DISCARD THE FREEZER. MANY COMMUNITIES HAVE LAWS REQUIRING YOU TO TAKE THIS SAFETY PRECAUTION.

REMOVE OR DISCARD ANY SPACERS USED TO SECURE THE SHELVES DURING SHIPPING. SMALL OBJECTS ARE A CHOKE HAZARD TO CHILDREN.

CHILD ENTRAPMENT AND SUFFOCATION ARE NOT PROBLEMS OF THE PAST. JUNKED OR ABANDONED REFRIGERATORS OR FREEZERS ARE STILL DANGEROUS- EVEN IF THEY WILL SIT FOR "JUST A FEW DAYS". IF YOU ARE GETTING RID OF YOUR OLD REFRIGERATOR OR FREEZER, PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW TO HELP PREVENT ACCIDENTS:

- REMOVE THE DOOR/LID.
- LEAVE SHELVES IN PLACE SO CHILDREN MAY NOT EASILY CLIMB INSIDE.
- HAVE THE REFRIGERANT REMOVED BY A QUALIFIED TECHNICIAN.



## Installation Information

### Location

1. Choose a place that is near a grounded electrical outlet. Do Not use an extension cord or an adapter plug.
2. If possible, place the refrigerator/freezer out of direct sunlight and away from the range, dishwasher or other heat sources.
3. The refrigerator/freezer must be installed on a floor that is level and strong enough to support a fully loaded refrigerator/freezer.
4. Consider water supply availability for models equipped with an automatic ice maker.
5. The refrigerator/freezer should be located where surrounding temperature will not exceed 110°F (43°C) or drop below 10°F (-12°C).
6. For ease of installation, proper air circulation and electrical connections, see Figure 7-1 for recommended clearances.
7. For dynamic condenser models, DO NOT block the toe grille on the lower front of your freezer. Sufficient air circulation is essential for the proper operation of your freezer.

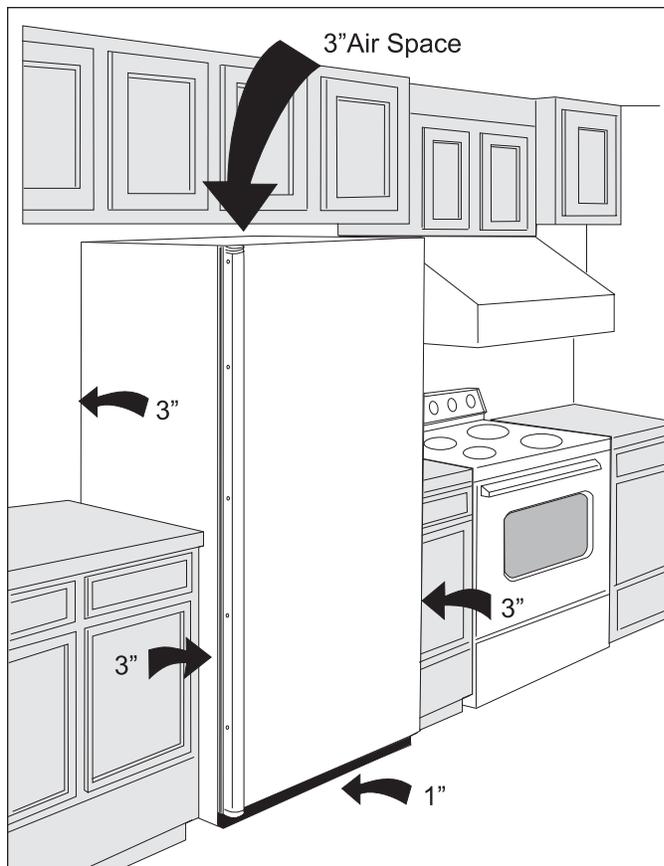


Figure 7-1. Installation Clearances

**NOTE:** The exterior walls of the refrigerator/freezer may become quite warm as the compressor works to transfer heat from the inside. Temperatures as much as 30°F warmer than room temperatures can be expected.

### Leveling

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

It is VERY IMPORTANT for your refrigerator/freezer to be level in order to function properly. If the refrigerator/freezer is not leveled during installation, the door/lid may be misaligned and not close or seal properly, causing cooling, frost or moisture problems.

### To Level Unit:

After discarding crating screws and wood base, use a carpenter's level to level the refrigerator/freezer from front to back. Adjust the plastic leveling feet in front, ½ bubble higher, so that the door closes easily when left half way open. (See Figure 7-2)

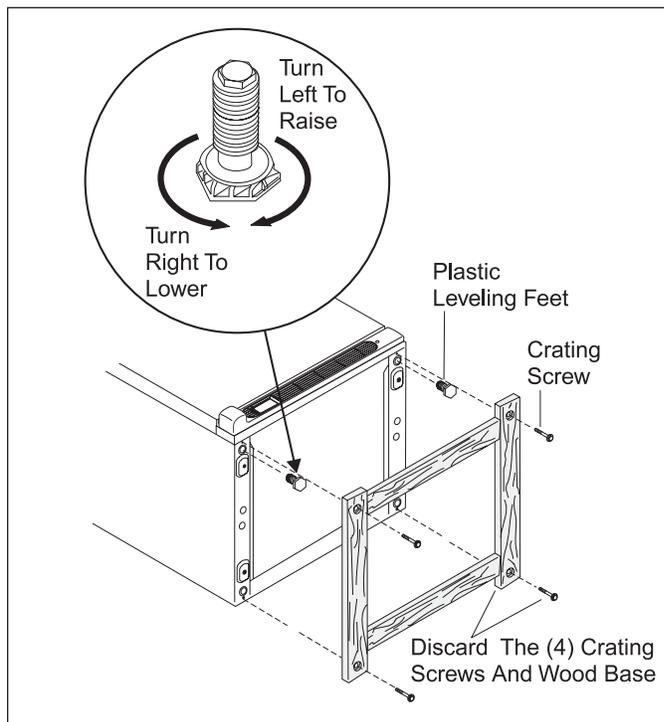


Figure 7-2. Leveling Unit

### Electrical Information

These guidelines must be followed to ensure that safety mechanisms in the design of this refrigerator/freezer will operate properly.

Refer to the serial plate for correct electrical rating. The power cord of the freezer is equipped with a three-prong grounding plug for protection against shock hazards. It must be plugged directly in to its own properly grounded three-prong receptacle, protected with a 15 amp time delay fuse or circuit breaker. The receptacle must be installed in accordance with the local codes and ordinances. Consult a qualified electrician. Receptacles with Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) are NOT RECOMMENDED. DO NOT USE AN EXTENSION CORD OR AN ADAPTER PLUG.

If the voltage varies by 10 percent or more, refrigerator/freezer performance may be affected. Operating the refrigerator/freezer with insufficient power can damage the motor. Such damage is not covered under the warranty. If you suspect your voltage is high or low, consult your power company for testing.

To prevent the refrigerator/freezer from being turned off accidentally, do not plug the unit in to an outlet controlled by a wall switch or pull cord.

Do not pinch, knot, or bend the power cord in any manner.

### ⚠ 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.

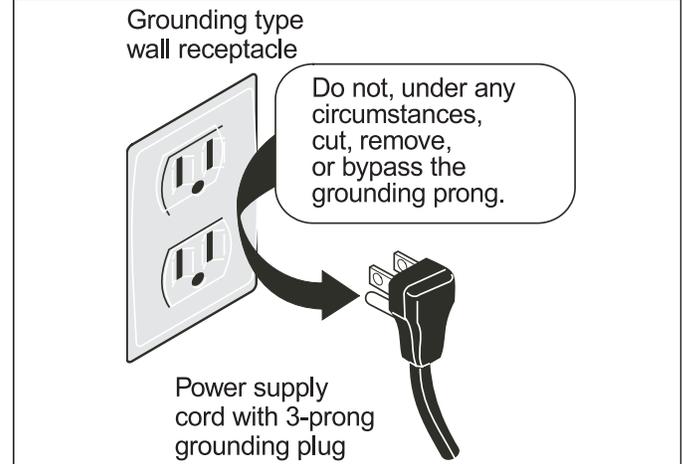


Figure 7-3. Electrical Receptacle

### ⚠ WARNING

**NEVER UNPLUG THE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER BY PULLING ON THE POWER CORD. ALWAYS GRIP THE PLUG FIRMLY AND PULL STRAIGHT OUT FROM THE RECEPTACLE.**

**TURNING THE CONTROL TO "OFF" TURNS OFF THE COMPRESSOR BUT DOES NOT DISCONNECT POWER TO OTHER ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS.**

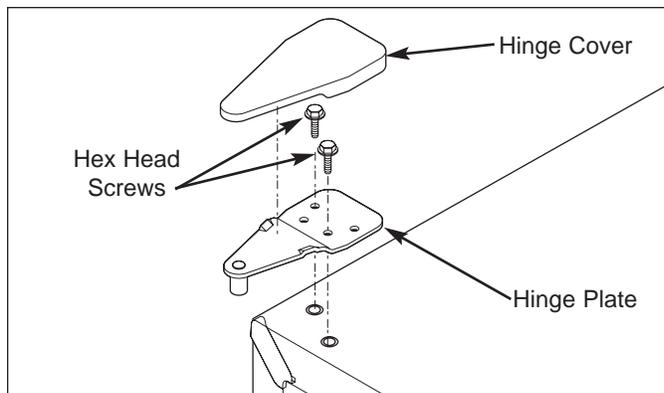
# Installation Information

## Door Removal

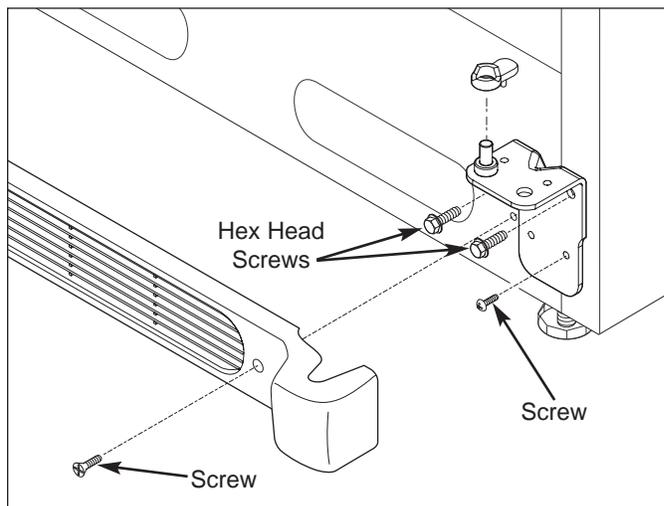
For some installations it may be necessary to remove the door to fit through the entrance of the installation site.

To remove the door, follow the steps below.

1. Make sure electrical plug is disconnected from the wall outlet.
2. Gently lay freezer on its back on a soft clean surface.
3. Lift plastic cover off upper hinge assembly. (See Figure 7-4)
4. Using a 3/8" socket or wrench, extract hex head screws securing the upper hinge to the unit frame.
5. Remove the grille/kickplate by extracting the screws from each end of the grille/kickplate. (See Figure 7-5)
6. Using a 3/8" socket or wrench, extract hex head screws securing the lower hinge to the unit frame. Use a phillips head screwdriver to extract the remaining screw from the lower hinge assembly.
7. Lift the door assembly off of the unit frame.



**Figure 7-4. Top Hinge Removal**

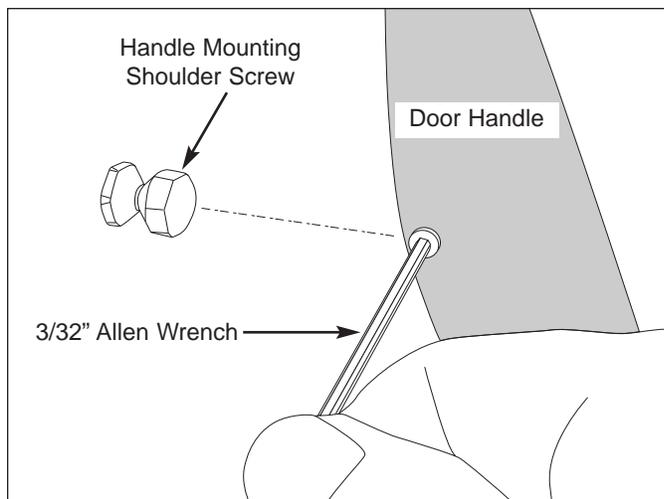


**Figure 7-5. Bottom Hinge Removal**

## Door Handle Mounting Instructions

For some installations the door handle may need to be removed. (See Figure 7-6)

To remove the door handle, use a 3/32" allen wrench and extract the setscrew from each end of the handle until handle slides off the handle mounting shoulder screw.



**Figure 7-6. Handle Removal**

Model FKCH17F7HW Unit Dimensions

