

Refrigerator Not Cooling: 5-Point Checklist

Work it from easiest to hardest, from Max Appliance Repair Barrie

The five checks, in order

1 Power and basics

Interior light on? Breaker fine? A fridge can run and still not cool.

2 Temperature settings

Aim for 4 C in the fridge and minus 18 C in the freezer. Give it 24 hours after a change.

3 Airflow

Clear items away from the vents at the back; listen for the evaporator fan.

4 Condenser coils

Unplug, then vacuum and brush the coils at the back or bottom-front.

5 Door seals

Do the dollar-bill test; clean or replace a weak gasket.

Protect your food while you work

1 Keep the doors closed

Hold whatever cold is left inside.

2 Follow the two-hour rule

Perishables above 4 C for over two hours are unsafe (Health Canada).

3 Use a cooler with ice

Move meat, dairy, and leftovers if the fridge is clearly warm.

Call a technician if

1 It still will not cool after the checklist

Likely the sealed system or an electrical part.

2 The compressor clicks on and off rapidly

Possible start relay or compressor fault.

3 You smell anything hot or electrical

Stop and unplug the fridge immediately.

Appliance trouble in Barrie and Simcoe County? We can help.

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