

Repair or Replace Your Refrigerator?

A short worksheet to bring some order to the decision

Questions to work through first

1 How old is the fridge?

Many appliance technicians treat a unit that is getting well past the middle of its typical service life as a candidate for replacement rather than another repair. Ask a technician to weigh in on your specific model.

2 Is this the first repair, or the third?

One isolated repair on an otherwise reliable fridge is a different situation than a unit that keeps coming back with new problems.

3 Is one part clearly at fault, or is the whole system struggling?

A single failed part (a fan, a switch, a seal) is usually a straightforward fix. Inconsistent cooling across multiple areas points to a bigger issue.

4 How does the repair estimate compare to a new unit?

Ask for a written repair quote and compare it against current pricing on a similar replacement before deciding either way.

5 Has your energy bill crept up?

An aging compressor can run less efficiently over time. It is worth asking a technician whether that is a factor in your case.

A simple way to frame the decision

Leaning toward repair

Newer unit, first time you've had an issue, one identifiable part at fault, and the repair estimate is modest next to the cost of a comparable new fridge.

Leaning toward replace

Older unit, repeat repair calls, inconsistent cooling, and a repair estimate that starts to approach a meaningful share of what a new fridge would cost.

Still not sure?

A same-day diagnostic from a technician usually settles it. You get a specific answer for your specific fridge instead of a general rule of thumb.

Express Appliances offers same-day repair diagnostics and a wide refrigerator selection.

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