



# WWW.TRUCKFRIDGE.com

Built tough....Built to last!

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

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**Thank you for choosing TruckFridge!**

## ENGLISH - GENERAL INFORMATION

This refrigerator has been designed and tested to give many years of performance and reliability . The 12 volt DC power system makes

them especially versatile. This power source can either be a battery, a surge protected DC transformer or a photo-voltaic panel. (Never connect a battery charger directly to the refrigerator. A battery must be used inline to protect the compressor electronic control module.)

Your TruckFridge is equipped with a specially designed DC compressor that uses minimal power consumption and very low noise level. Installation trim frames are included on the refrigerator cabinet making the TruckFridge models extremely easy to install. In order to make sure that your refrigerator works as efficiently as possible, please pay attention to the following general instructions:

- Opening the door of the refrigerator uselessly increases the consumption of energy;
- Proper ventilation of the compressor and condenser unit reduces the energy consumption. Occasionally clean / vacuum dust and dirty from the condenser to insure good cooling and ventilation.
- Check that the wiring system of the vehicle is in proper condition. Routinely check the batteries and the charge level.

Follow the instructions about the cable cross sections and the fuse connections strictly;

- Keep the inside of the refrigerator clean and dry. Remove any condensate water which might gather in the tray under the freezer compartment;
- When not in use for long periods of time, turn off the refrigerator, dry out the inside and keep the door of the refrigerator slightly open in order to air it out. The door latch is designed with a special catch to allow the door to be secured in the open position. (fig. 1-2).

## NOTICE

Insure there is adequate ventilation into and out of the cabinet the fridge is being installed. Do not install the refrigerator near heat sources.

## INSTALLATION

The refrigerators from TruckFridge are assembled to be installed in a standard factory cabinet. In some cases, if the truck was not equipped with a fridge from the truck factory, the cabinet may be slightly different and require a slight modification to install a fridge. Note any additional instructions included with the packing list when purchasing the fridge new. The fridge weight must always be sitting on it's feet to support the weight. In some cases, a block may be needed under the bottom of the fridge to lift it off the floor of some cabinets to fill in gaps at the top. This allows air to enter the cabinet from the bottom. In other cases, a filler strip may be needed to make up gaps in the side of some truck cabinets that were not originally designed for fridges. Consult with a TruckFridge salesperson for advise.

Most models from TruckFridge can be installed by attaching the fridge installation trim frame to the trucks cabinet using the appropriate screws required for the material of the truck cabinet.

It is very important for the refrigerating unit, consisting of the compressor and the condenser, to be well ventilated, with the cool air coming in from the bottom and going out from the top. You must ensure proper ventilation of the refrigerating unit. The air inlets and outlets must have a free cross section of at least 10 square inches total. (see ventilation diagrams in Fig. 3-4 ).

Take great care when handling the fridge and avoid handling the refrigeration tubes in order to prevent breakages (Fig. 5). The compressor

must normally stand in a vertical position. If the fridge has been leaned over prior to installation, it must sit upright for at least 4 hours prior to connecting power and turning on. **FAILURE TO ALLOW FRIDGE TO STAND UPRIGHT MAY DESTROY COMPRESSOR AND WILL VOID THE WARRANTY!**

## WIRING SYSTEM: FUNCTIONS AND FEATURES

The Electronic control module of the compressor is a piece of electronic equipment which carries out all the controls and electrical protection of the compressor system. Its main features are the following:

- a) Protection of the battery with automatic turning off of the compressor when the feeding voltage reaches the minimum threshold (cut out) typically 10. volts. The compressor will start up automatically again when the voltage goes back to normal values (cut in). typically 11. volts.
- b.) Thermal overload protection cut out. The compressor will shut down when temperatures exceed 125 deg F ambient to protect the compressor from overheating. It will cut in automatically when temperatures drop below this.
- c.) Cooling fan operation will begin automatically when compressor starts and stop when compressor shuts off in normal operation.

## WIRING CONNECTIONS

Typically your TruckFridge will have the correct gauge wire and connector installed on the fridge to connect to the standard truck factory wiring. If the truck was not equipped with a fridge from the factory, the manufacturer would often connect the fridge wire to the a 12v cigarette type receptacle. In these cases, unplug the connector from the rear of this receptacle and plug this into the connector on the fridge wires. **NOTE:** There are proper wire connectors available from TruckFridge for most truck wiring installations.

When you connect the refrigerator, you must remember the following:

- 1.) Use wires having the proper cross section (see the table) to make the supply lines. If possible, such wires should be without any joints on the leads which could lead to voltage drops. If the wiring system of the vehicle is insufficient or not properly sized for the refrigerator, we suggest you connect it directly to the battery utilizing an inline 15 amp fuse on the positive wire.

- 2.) **Note** The use of cables having an insufficient size may lead to the compressor stopping even when the battery is charged.

**Wire gauge sizes - Maximum length of cables in feet of stranded copper. DO NOT USE SOLID COPPER WIRE!**

**12 V**

8 feet – 12 gauge AWG

12 feet – 10 gauge AWG

3.) Any switches must have a breaking load not less than 15 Amp (10 A if powered at 24 Volt).

4.) Make sure the polarity is right: connect the red cable to the positive terminal (+) and the black cable to the negative terminal (-). NOTE: Even if the polarity is incorrect, the light may come on inside the fridge, but the compressor and fan will not run. This will not damage the fridge if corrected promptly. Merely correct the polarity and the fridge should run properly.

**Attention!** Never connect bare electric wires, and use only connectors of a size suitable to the gauge of the wire being used.

5.) Protect the supply line with a maximum 15 A fuse. – Remember - fuses protect against wire overheating!

## **REPLACING THE DOOR PANEL**

On the Truck Fridge 49-65 models, you can replace the door panel by proceeding as follows:

Remove the strip which anchors the panel, located at the bottom of the door, using a screwdriver as a lever as shown on Fig 6. Take out the three screws which hold the handle in place (fig. 8), fit in the new panel, letting it slide, and put back the fastening strip and the handle.

## **REVERSING THE OPENING DIRECTION OF THE DOOR**

On the Truck Fridge 49-65 models, the door normally opens towards the right. To change the side, move the hinges, the support (A, B and C in fig. 7) and the handle (fig. 8).

## **SETTING THE INSIDE TEMPERATURE**

The refrigerators are provided with a manual thermostat. Turn it clockwise to lower the temperature, and turn it counter clockwise to raise the temperature and activate the ON-OFF switch in its end position. In the models 49 and 65, refrigerators, the knob of the thermostat is located inside the refrigerator.

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## **FILLING**

Do not put hot food into the refrigerator. Place the products in a position where they do not hit each other or break while the vehicle is moving. Make sure the door is always securely closed, and reduce opening time to a minimum.

## **DEFROSTING**

Defrosting must be carried out when the ice layer is thicker than 1/8". This is necessary to guarantee efficient refrigeration and to avoid excessive power consumption. Excess frost buildup will effect the appliance's performance.

Set the thermostat at the OFF position. . Keep the door/lid open to minimize the defrosting time. Ice will release from the freezer evaporator within a few minutes or faster when the ambient temperature is high. While defrosting, keep food and beverages in a cool place. **NEVER USE SHARP OBJECT TO REMOVE ICE OR FROST!** Do not start the refrigerator up again until it is completely defrosted and dry. Also empty the tray under the freezer compartment.

## **MAINTENANCE:**

The refrigerators have a completely watertight cooling system, and do not need any maintenance or recharging of the refrigerant. The compressor is highly efficient and has an extraordinary long life.

Maintenance merely consists in routinely cleaning the condenser from dust, at least once a year. Use a soft brush and no hard object. Keep the refrigerator clean inside. Clean the interior using warm water mixed with baking soda or vinegar. Rinse and dry carefully with a soft cloth.

When you are not using the refrigerator, keep its door slightly open. To do so, release the lock of the door using a coin or a small screwdriver (fig. 1 and 2).

## **USEFUL CHECKLIST – ADVICE**

If your TruckFridge does not work, or works incorrectly, before referring to service, make sure that:

- a) Proper power is not supplied.
- b) The voltage which reaches the Electronic control module is a minimum of 11 volts and maximum of 14 volts DC
- c) The connections have proper polarity.
- d) The condenser fan is not jammed.
- e) The refrigerating unit is not near a source of heat.
- f) The fuse mounted on the supply line is not blown.

If you have any questions regarding your TruckFridge, please contact us immediately. Often diagnosis can be accomplished over the telephone saving you time, money while providing you with the best service!