

# How long can the national frozen meat be stored





## Overview

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When properly stored at 0°F (-18°C) or below, frozen meat remains safe to eat indefinitely. The USDA confirms that freezing at these temperatures prevents the growth of microorganisms like bacteria, yeasts, and molds that cause food spoilage and foodborne illness. The short time limits for home-refrigerated foods will help keep them from spoiling or becoming dangerous to eat. That's why many of us freeze raw meat for later use — but how long is "later," and when does it become too late?

Uncooked beef, such as steak, can stay in the freezer for between four months to a year, while ground beef should only be kept for up to four months. Every year, thousands of callers to the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline aren't sure about the safety of items stored in their own home freezers.



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### How Long Can You Store Meat in the Freezer? Ultimate Guide (2025)

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### Cooked Meat Refrigerator Shelf Life: Essential Storage Guide

Knowing how long cooked meat lasts in your refrigerator, along with storage best practices, can empower you to manage your meals more effectively. In so doing, you contribute to safe eating ...



### How long can meat and poultry be stored in various packaging?

Unopened packages of hot dogs and lunch meats can be stored two weeks. If processed meat and poultry products bear use-by dates, observe them. Canned meats should be stored in a ...

### Cold Food Storage Chart

Follow the guidelines below for storing food in the refrigerator and freezer. The short time limits for home-refrigerated foods will help keep them from spoiling or becoming dangerous to eat.



## 2018-03-06-FoodStorageCharts-English

**REFRIGERATOR & FREEZER STORAGE CHART**  
 These short but safe time limits will help keep refrigerated food 40° F (4° C) from spoiling or becoming dangerous. Since product dates aren't a ...

### Frozen Food Storage Guide: How Long Can You Freeze Foods For?

See this frozen food storage chart to find out whether you can freeze cheese, how long you can freeze chicken, how long uncooked meat keeps in the freezer, and much more.

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### Storing Raw Meat: Maximize Freshness & Shelf Life Tips

**Packaging Matters:** Store meat in its original packaging if you'll consume it quickly; otherwise, consider vacuum sealing or airtight storage solutions to extend freshness. **Prevent Cross-Contamination:** ...



## How Long Can You Store Meat in the Freezer?

Processed Meats (hot dogs, lunchmeat): 1-2 months These timelines are guidelines for maintaining the best quality. Meat stored beyond these durations is still safe to consume as long as it was frozen ...



## 2018-03-06-FoodStorageCharts-English

Keep meat and poultry in its package until just before using. If freezing meat and poultry in its original package longer than 2 months, overwrap these packages with airtight heavy-duty foil,



## Toss Your Frozen Ground Beef Immediately if You See This

According to the FDA's freezer storage guidelines, the optimal storage time for frozen ground beef is 3 to 4 months. However, as long as your freezer temperature is set at 0 degrees F or ...



## Storing and freezing food safely (food banks and charities)

Freezing food to extend life You can extend the life of ambient or chilled foods by freezing them, if the food is suitable for freezing. Food must be frozen before ...



## Lets Talk Turkey

Frozen Turkeys Allow 1 pound of turkey per person. Keep frozen until you're ready to thaw it. Turkeys can be kept frozen in the freezer indefinitely; however, cook within 1 year for best quality. See ...

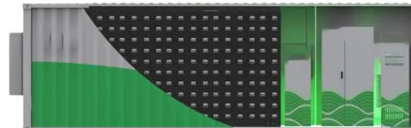


## Freezing and Food Safety , Food Safety and Inspection ...

Is Frozen Food Safe? Food stored constantly at 0 °F will always be safe. Only the quality suffers with lengthy freezer storage. Freezing keeps food ...

## Freezing and Food Safety

Because freezing keeps food safe almost indefinitely, recommended storage times are for quality only. Refer to the freezer storage chart at the end of this document, which lists optimum ...



## How Long Can Meat Be Stored In The Freezer?

It's important to note that meat will actually remain safe to eat indefinitely in the freezer; the super-cold temperatures make it impossible for bacteria to grow and thrive. However, these time ...



## Travel Tips , Transportation Security Administration

The TSA Travel Tips page provides essential guidance for air travelers, covering topics such as packing smart, understanding security screening procedures, and ...



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