



# BEST PRACTICES

## Freezers and refrigerators

### Preventive maintenance

- ✓ Regularly defrost freezer door and seals.
- ✓ Defrost entire freezer at least once a year.
- ✓ Remove dust from air inlets and filters once a year.

### Matériel management

- ✓ Maintain an up-to-date inventory of samples and eliminate unnecessary ones.
- ✓ Optimize space with high-density racks and storage systems (e.g. 13X13 freezer boxes).
- ✓ Fill freezers three-quarters full for greater energy efficiency.

### Adjust temperature

- ✓ From  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$  = 30% energy saving.
- ✓ Store your samples (e.g. DNA) at  $-20$  rather than  $-80$  (80% energy saving).
- ✓ Use cold rooms rather than refrigerators and freezers to store solutions and biological materials.

**Share equipment in a common room. Group freezers in a cool room.  
Leave 8 inches of space from the wall and 5 inches between appliances.  
Replace older models with Energy Star-certified units.**

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