

Gas Refrigerator Troubleshooting and Diagnostics

Problem

Refrigerator does not cool as well in summer heat after working fine over winter.

Discussion

1. Check the ventilation around the refrigerator. If it is installed in a tight cabinet, it must have a floor register as well as an opening on the top and out the back of the cabinet for adequate air flow. If the cabinet temperature exceeds 100° F at the back of the refrigerator, the appliance will not cool.
2. Check for excess liquids being cooled or frozen. Liquids require more cooling than solids, and a refrigerator loaded with liquids will tend to warm in the summer heat.
3. Check to see if the tube in back of the refrigerator is frosting. If this is the case, coolant is going through the unit too fast and is not transferring heat any longer. To fix this, turn the refrigerator off for 10 minutes and then relight it. This will allow the fluid to slow down and start transferring heat. Also, do not set the thermostat to max or above 3 for long periods of time, as this can cause the coolant to flow too fast.

Courtesy of Clarence Imhoff, Hardware Service Tech