

# **Storing Frozen Meals**

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water when handling food.
- Keep as much of the food in the freezer as you can to prevent spoilage.
- Meals can be taken out of the freezer and refrigerated to thaw up to 3 days.
- Never refreeze a frozen meal once it has been thawed.
- It is recommended to eat the meals within 30 days of receiving them. Remember to rotate meals. Discard food after the expiration date.
- Refrigerators and freezers should be kept clean and in good repair. All refrigerators should be kept at 41 degrees Fahrenheit or below. All freezers should be kept at 0 degrees Fahrenheit or below.

## **Heating Frozen Meals from the Freezer**

- Do Not Use a Toaster Oven to Reheat Meals.
- Reheat according to the directions so that food is heated all the way through.
- Once meals have been heated, any leftovers should be thrown away.
- Meals can be heated in a microwave oven or in a conventional oven.

#### **Microwave Oven Instructions**

- Poke holes in the film covering each section of your meal, or loosen the film from each corner of the container.
- Heat the meal on high for 4 7 minutes. If the microwave does not have a turntable, turn the meal halfway through heating.
- Very slowly and carefully remove the film. Caution the steam will be hot!
- Let stand for 2 minutes. Stir before eating.

#### **Conventional Oven Instructions**

- Preheat oven to 300 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Leave film seal over meal. Place meal on a cookie sheet in the middle of the oven.
- Heat for 35 40 minutes or until hot.
- To prevent burns, let your food stand for 2 3 minutes after heating before you eat.

Thawed meal heating instructions on reverse page.



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## **Heating Thawed Meals from the Refrigerator**

- Do Not Use a Toaster Oven to Reheat Meals.
- Reheat according to the directions so that food is heated all the way through.
- Once meals have been heated, any leftovers should be thrown away.
- Meals can be heated in a microwave oven or in a conventional oven.

### **Microwave Oven Instructions**

- Poke holes in the film covering each section of your meal, or loosen the film from each corner of the container.
- Heat the meal on high for 2 3 minutes or until the food reaches 165 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Very slowly and carefully remove the film. Caution the steam will be hot!
- Let stand for 2 minutes. Stir before eating.

#### **Conventional Oven Instructions**

- Preheat oven to 300 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Leave film seal over meal. Place meal on a cookie sheet in the middle of the oven.
- Heat for 15 20 minutes or until hot.
- To prevent burns, let your food stand for 2 3 minutes after heating before you eat.

Frozen meal heating instructions on reverse page.