

# Best Buy monitor

The cheapest places to shop for our Best Buy freezers

## FREEZERS

All freezers keep food frozen but there are important differences that you need to think about before deciding which to buy.

### STYLE

Chest freezers give large storage capacity but take up a lot of room, and it can be awkward to retrieve food from the bottom of them. Tall and worktop-height models are easier to access. Larger freezers tend to be a bit noisier than worktop-height models.

Transparent drawers are useful, as are large drawers if you freeze big, odd-shaped items, such as a turkey.

Frost-free models avoid the hassle of defrosting. But ice will build up if you overfill them and you need to wrap food carefully, as it may dry out more than in standard models.

### LOCATION

Makers warn that freezers in unheated sheds or garages can break down. If you risk this, buy a freezer with an audible temperature alert or use a portable thermometer with an alarm.

Last test: Oct 2004

### next report

● July 2006

## TALL



### HOTPOINT RZA51P

£330 from Comet

We tested this as the RXZA50P – changes are cosmetic. It's easy to use, did well in our temperature tests, and is quiet. It freezes 16kg a day and requires manual defrosting.

**SCORE 66%**



### HOTPOINT FZA84

£400 from Comet

Tested as the FZA80 – cosmetic changes only. It performed well in our temperature tests, and flexible storage makes it easy to organise and retrieve food. Frost free.

**SCORE 59%**



### WHIRLPOOL AFG 3680

£400 from Currys

Another frost-free model which, like the Hotpoint FZA84, is easy to use, did well in our temperature tests and has flexible storage. On the noisy side. Can freeze 24kg in a day.

**SCORE 59%**

## WORKTOP HEIGHT



### SIEMENS GS12S493GB

£360 from Comet

A good all-rounder, this model can freeze a decent 18kg of food a day, though its design means it's quite tricky to cram everything in. Cheap to run – £10 a year.

**SCORE 75%**

## CHEST



### ELECTROLUX 3070

£349 from John Lewis and Iceland

The UK's first frost-free chest freezer excelled in all our tests. It can freeze 16.5kg of food a day and its four grid baskets make for easy organising. Noisy.

**SCORE 80%**



### NORFROST Aura C6AEW-H

£180 from Currys

The Aura performed well, has lots of space and can freeze 11.5kg of food a day. Its two baskets help you sort food inside. But it's not the easiest freezer to use and it's noisy.

**SCORE 59%**



### NORFROST Aura C2BES

£110 from Currys

Just as noisy as its stable mate (left), this Norfrost is more versatile, though harder to defrost. It can freeze just 4kg a day but with yearly running costs of £11, it is economical.

**SCORE 58%**



### BOSCH GSL14425GB

£248 from Miller Brother

This is a revamped version of the GSL14424GB we tested. It's identical to the Siemens, above, in all respects, apart from being slightly noisier.

**SCORE 74%**

## WHICH? EXTRA

Our Which? Extra website is exclusive to Which? readers. It has 40 easy-to-use buying guides on key areas, with price and stockist information updated monthly. On it you'll find full test results for:

- around 33 freezers, including tall, worktop-height and chest models
- around 27 fridge-freezers, including American-style models
- around 49 fridges, including tall, worktop-height and built-in models

[www.which.co.uk/whicheextra](http://www.which.co.uk/whicheextra)

