Refrigerator Storage Chart

Always store ready-to-eat foods on the top shelf! Arrange other shelves by cooking temperature (highest cooking temperature on the bottom).

Ready-to-Eat Foods (Top Shelf)

Lowest Cooking Temperature

135°F (57°C)
Any food that will be hot held that is not in other categories

145°F (63°C)
Whole seafood; beef, pork, veal, lamb (steaks and chops); roasts; eggs that will be served immediately

155°F (68°C)
Ground, injected, marinated, or tenderized meats; eggs that will be hot held

165°F (74°C)
All poultry (chicken, turkey, duck, fowl); stuffing made with foods that require temperature control; dishes with previously cooked foods (casseroles)

Highest Cooking Temperature