

History of Refrigeration

1000bc

1748

1805

1851

1911

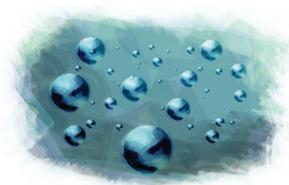
1920's

1937

1955

2005

2008



CHINA

The Chinese cut and store ice for food preservation. Through the ages, the seasonal harvesting of snow and ice was a regular practice of most of the ancient cultures: Chinese, Hebrews, Greeks, Romans, Persians. Ice and snow were stored in caves or dugouts lined with straw or other insulating materials. Icehouses remained in use into the 20th century.

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

The first known artificial refrigeration is demonstrated when William Cullen lets ethyl ether boil into a partial vacuum; he does not, however, use the result to any practical purpose.

USA

American inventor, Oliver Evans, designs the first refrigeration machine that uses vapor instead of liquid. Evans never constructs his machine.

USA

American physician, John Gorrie is granted the first U.S. patent for mechanical refrigeration.

USA

Domestic mechanical refrigerators become available. Pictured is the Seeger dry-air siphon refrigerator, circa 1900.

General Electric unveils a refrigerator invented by a French monk, Abbe Audiffren.

A number of synthetic refrigerants called halocarbons or CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) are developed by Frigidaire.

There are 200 different models of refrigerator on the market.

More than 2 million Americans own refrigerators.

80% of American homes now have refrigerators

A domestic refrigerator is present in 99.5% of American homes

ENERGY STAR® Recycle My Old Fridge Campaign launched to help consumers save energy, money, save valuable natural resources, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The campaign launch coincided with new ENERGY STAR criteria, requiring new qualified refrigerators to be at least 20% more energy efficient than the minimum federal standard.

