



Garbage Disposal Best Practices

For the most part, garbage disposals are self-cleaning and virtually maintenance free. A malfunctioning garbage disposal can mean a messy headache, but one that can be avoided.

Here are some ideas to keep your unit in good working order.

1. Do **not** use your garbage disposal as a trash bin.



Scrape uneaten food into the trash can. The disposal is for small pieces of food that might be on the dish after scraping larger pieces into the trash. Use a scraper to do a really good job.

2. **Always run cold water when grinding** in order to move the waste all the way through the drain lines. Fats and grease congeal and harden in cold water which can then be flushed through the system. Don't use hot water when grinding because it can dissolve fats and grease, which may then accumulate in the drainline.

3. Do **not** throw the following down the disposal:

- clam or oyster shells
- corn husks
- potato or other vegetable/fruit peels
- other material with a high fiber content.
- Under no circumstances should you put glass, plastic or metal non-food materials through a disposal. This includes bottle caps, tin covers or aluminum foil--these are some of the items service technicians commonly find in clogged or broken disposals.



Maintenance is easy. Grinding a little ice or frozen lemon cubes is a good way to clean out deposits and get rid of odors.

Please understand that in accordance with your lease agreement, you are responsible for the cost of a plumber should your unit malfunction.