

GARBAGE DISPOSAL TIPS

- Don't put the wrong objects down your disposal. Your garbage disposal is designed to grind food scraps and nothing more. Some of the objects that you should avoid putting down your drain include large animal bones, grease, fat, oil and objects made of glass, plastic and metal. It's also best to avoid grinding any food that expands such as spaghetti and rice because they can clog your disposal.
- Break up large objects before grinding them. If you have large food scraps that you want to put down your disposal, give your unit a helping hand by breaking them up into smaller pieces and grinding them separately.
- Use cold water when running your disposal. While we recommend that you avoid putting any fats, oils, or grease (FOG) into your disposal, there is inevitably some fat in common food waste such as salad dressings and macaroni and cheese. By using cool water, any fat will remain solid as it passes through the disposal and your drainpipes.
- Keep your disposal clean. After using your disposal, pour a small amount of dish soap down your drain with cold running water. This will help keep your disposal clean and combat bad smells.
- Grind citrus-y fruits to help with bad smells. If your disposal begins to smell, try grinding a few lemon or orange peels to naturally freshen it up.
- Grind ice cubes to help maintain your unit. Grinding a few ice cubes once a month will help sharpen your unit's blades and clear away waste that's stuck on the walls of your disposal.
- Don't use drain cleaners on your disposal. The chemicals in drain cleaners can damage your disposal. If you have a clog, please call maintenance.
- Hand-crank the disposal to break up jams. One of the best ways to fix disposal jams is to stick an Allen wrench in the slot at the bottom of your unit and manually crank the blades to free it up.
- Don't forget about the reset button. If your disposal is acting up, check and see if the reset button at the bottom of the unit has tripped. If it's popped out, press it back down and try running it again.
- NEVER put your hand in the disposal. Call maintenance for any issues that cannot be solved with the hand-crank or reset button.