



JULY 2023

FOOD SAFETY RATING SYSTEM

Why restaurant window signs?

Restaurant window signs provide customers with information on how well restaurants practice food safety. King County residents have asked for more information about restaurant inspections. Window signs with ratings are posted in restaurants.

The ratings:



NEEDS TO IMPROVE

The restaurant was either closed by Public Health within the last year or needed multiple return inspections to correct unsafe food handling practices.

This category has multiple violations.



OKAY

The restaurant has had several unsafe food handling practices over the last four inspections.

This category has an average of more than 16.25 violation points.



GOOD

The restaurant has had a few unsafe food handling practices over the last four inspections.

This category has an average between 3.76 and 16.25 violation points.



EXCELLENT

The restaurant has had no or minor unsafe food handling practices over the last four inspections.

This category has an average of 3.75 or less violation points.

How often is my food safety rating updated?

The food safety rating is updated after each routine inspection. Restaurants in King County typically receive two inspections per year and one unscored educational visit.

How can I improve my food safety practices?

Good food safety prevents foodborne illness. See other side for detailed information.

How is the food safety rating on the restaurant window sign calculated?

A restaurant's food safety rating will be determined by the average score of unsafe food handling practices from a restaurant's last four routine inspections.

HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY FOOD SAFETY PRACTICES AND PREVENT FOODBORNE ILLNESS?

1 Only work if you are healthy.



Do not work if you are vomiting, have diarrhea, or been diagnosed with an infectious disease that can be spread through food.

2 Wash hands.

Wash hands before beginning work, after using restroom, after handling raw meat, poultry or fish; after cleaning, after dumping garbage, sneezing, coughing, touching face, etc.



3 Keep paper towels & soap at sinks.

Make sure all your handsinks are working properly and stocked with soap and paper towels.



4 Use utensils or gloves.

Use utensils and/or disposable gloves to handle ready-to-eat food (food that is not going to be washed or cooked after handling).



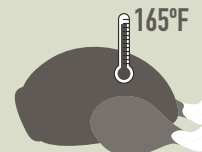
5 Keep food at the right temperature.

Keep potentially hazardous foods hot (above 135°F) or cold (below 41°F) at all times. Do not store potentially hazardous foods (meat, dairy, fish, cooked starches) at room temperature.



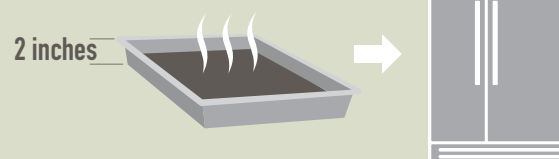
6 Cook foods to the right temperature.

Cook foods to proper temperatures. (Poultry 165°F, ground beef 158°F, fish, meat, eggs 145°F).



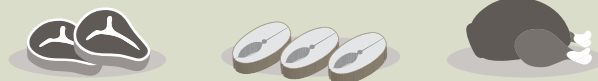
7 Cooling hot foods.

Cool hot foods using the shallow pan method (uncovered, 2 inches or less in the refrigerator).



8 Storing raw meat.

Store raw meat below and away from other food. Handle raw meat, fish, poultry in separate areas from other foods.



9 Clean and sanitize.

Properly clean utensils, dishes and all food-contact surfaces: wash, rinse, sanitize, air dry.



10 Train your staff.

Train all your staff on the above items and monitor the above food safety practices daily.



If you need help or have questions on how to improve your food safety practices or would like to schedule an educational visit, please contact your health inspector. They are here to help you succeed.