



# ADVICE ON TEMPERATURE PROBE THERMOMETERS

## WHAT TYPE OF THERMOMETER SHOULD I USE?

You must be able to rely on the temperature readings so accuracy is very important. Digital probe thermometers are recommended. Not only are they accurate but different attachments are available for taking the temperatures of hot and cold food, as well as air temperatures.

## WHAT PROBE ATTACHMENTS ARE AVAILABLE?

### 1. FOOD PROBES

These are used for taking the actual temperature of hot and cold food. The probe should be inserted into the centre of the food. Remember if probes are not cleaned before and after each use, food may become contaminated so bactericidal wipes should be used.

### 2. BETWEEN PACK PROBES

These are used for taking the temperature of packaged foods. A special flat probe is sandwiched between two packs of food and gives an indication of the actual product temperature.

### 3. AIR PROBES

These are used for taking the air temperature within refrigeration units. Air temperatures will vary and may not be the same as the food. Remember not to take a reading of units when doors have been opened or when on a defrost cycle.

## WHAT TEMPERATURE SHOULD I BE AIMING FOR?

Subject to exemptions, the following applies:-

Chilled food	8°C or below
Cooking/Reheating	Centre temperature of 70°C for 2 minutes, absolute minimum of 75°C if no time is measured
Hot holding	63°C or above
Freezer	-18°C or below

## HOW CAN I ENSURE THE PROBE THERMOMETER IS ACCURATE?

The probe thermometer should be calibrated on a regular basis. This can be done inserting the probe into boiling water and checking the reading is 100°C or by melting crushed ice and checking it is reading 0°C. On an annual basis it should be professionally checked and calibrated, This may be carried out by the manufacturer or supplier.

### TEMPERATURE PROBE SUPPLIERS

Abacus Instruments  
38 Singer Way  
Woburn Road Industrial Estate  
Kempston  
Beds  
Tel: 01234 851816

Boddingtons Ltd  
Thermometer Division  
78 The Street  
Manuden  
Bishop's Stortford  
Herts CM23 1DS  
Tel: 01279 813549/01371 875101  
Fax: 01279 815191

Comark Ltd  
Swallowfields  
Welwyn Garden City  
Herts AL7 1JP  
Tel: 01707 331051

Electronic Temperature Instruments Ltd  
Dominion Way  
Worthing  
West Sussex BN14 8NW  
Tel: 01903 202151  
Fax: 01903 202445  
(Burger probes available)

The Food Trades Centre  
82-88 Sherlock Street  
Birmingham B5 6LT  
Tel: 0121 622 2137/2003/2241/3684

Klipspringer  
Rynor House  
Knightsdale Rd  
Ipswich IP1 4JJ  
01473 741500

Jepson, Bolton & Co Ltd  
Unit 33  
Moor Park Ind Centre  
Tolpits Lane  
Watford, Herts  
Tel: 01923 249492

Rynor Instruments  
Swan Court  
20-22 High Street  
Iver  
Bucks SL0 9NG  
Tel: 01753 642643

Sifman Ltd  
Digitron Sales  
Woodland Road  
Torquay  
Devon TQ2 7AY  
Tel: 01803 407693  
Fax: 01803 407740

Testo Ltd  
3 Oriel Court  
Omega Park  
Alton  
Hampshire GU34 2QE  
Tel: 01420 544433  
Fax: 01420 544434

Hanna Instruments Ltd  
Eden Way  
Pages Industrial Park  
Leighton Buzzard  
Beds LU7 8TZ  
Tel: 01525 859855  
Fax: 01525 853668

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