



## How to properly use Garbage Disposal

1. Ensure provided basket is in the sink at all times to catch food particles.
2. Any food that slips thru this basket is fine to go down the garbage disposal
  - a. Turn COLD water on first
  - b. Then turn on the garbage disposal
  - c. After grinding is complete, turn disposal off
  - d. Then turn the water off

**DO NOT EVER RUN GARBAGE DISPOSAL WITHOUT THE COLD WATER ON**

## When the Garbage Disposal Won't Turn On

**Safety reminder:** Never put your hand down into the garbage disposal (grinding chamber). Use a wooden spoon or another tool to dislodge anything stuck.

Your garbage disposal is smarter than you think. It is designed to turn off automatically when the disposal gets clogged, if it overheats, or if there is something wrong with the motor. The simple fix you probably didn't know about is the little red reset button on the bottom of your disposal.

First, make sure the disposal is turned off. Look for a red button underneath the disposal. If it has popped out about a quarter of an inch, simply press it back in and try running the disposal. Sometimes this is all it takes. Don't forget to check the electrical panel to see if the breaker needs to be flipped back on.

If the garbage disposal reset button still will not stay in, or if you have to repeatedly reset the breaker, the disposal may be jammed.

If the disposal is jammed and you have followed all of the above steps, submit a maintenance request. If any of the NO items (see attached list) are found in your garbage disposal, you will be charged \$200.00+ per visit to unjam the disposal.

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# What Can I Put In the Garbage Disposal?

**GOOD**

**BAD**



## COLD WATER (NOT HOT)

Water should be running the whole time the garbage disposal is on. Cold water is best because it solidifies grease and fatty foods.  
**HOT WATER CAN CAUSE OVERHEATING**



## SMALL BITS OF FOOD

Small scraps of food left over on your plate after a meal is what a garbage disposal is intended for. Grind Away!  
**AVOID LARGE AMOUNTS OR BIG CHUNKS**



## BREADS

Breads break up easily and dissolve quickly in water. Use plenty of water to avoid turning to paste  
**AVOID USING THE WHOLE LOAF**



## COOKED VEGETABLES AND MEAT

Most cooked vegetables and meats are soft enough to grind up in the disposal with ease  
**AVOID BONES AND STRINGY VEGGIES**



## EGG SHELLS

This is a controversial subject, but they break up easily and are not heavy so they won't sit in your drain and build up. So go for it!  
**THE CARTON THEY COME IN IS NOT OK**



## ICE CUBES AND/OR ROCK SALT

Yes, it makes a horrible noise but ice will beat the rock salt around the blades and will help scrape things off and keep things clean.  
**THIS WILL NOT SHARPEN THE BLADES**



## BONES, FRUIT PITS, SMALL PEBBLES

Generally speaking if it is something that you can not chew up yourself then it should probably not go into your garbage disposal  
**CAUSES: BLADE DAMAGE AND CLOGS**



## GREASE, OIL, GREASY FOODS

Grease and oil do not mix well with water, just ask your mechanic. It hardens when cooled and is very bad for septic systems  
**CAUSES: CLOGS AND GUMS UP BLADES**



## PASTA OR RICE

Large quantities of rice and pasta will soak up the water and expand in your pipes  
**CAUSES: CLOGS IN THE PIPES**



## STRINGY VEGETABLES

Things like celery or asparagus can wrap around the blades and stop them from spinning  
**CAUSES: IMPEDE FUNCTIONALITY**



## VEGETABLE AND FRUIT PEELS

The exteriors of most fruits and vegetables are harder than you think. A little at a time would be ok but avoid a whole fruit salad  
**CAUSES: BLADE DAMAGE AND CLOGS**



## OTHER ITEMS TO AVOID

Stems, Shrimp Shells, Cigarette Butts, Glass, Plastic, Banana Peels, Onion Skins, Nut Shells, Artichokes, Silverware, Rocks, Jewelry, Wood  
**NEVER PUT YOUR HAND IN THE DISPOSAL**