

## DID YOU KNOW THESE CHILLING FACTS?

ADRIN SARWAR

Refrigerators are much more than just cold boxes. They have some truly bizarre "hidden" features. Here are the most interesting and unknown facts about them:

### 1. Cars have true refrigerators!

While many cars have "cool boxes" (which just blow cold A/C air into a compartment), several luxury vehicles feature true compressor-based refrigerators that can reach freezing temperatures regardless of the cabin's heat. The Cadillac Escalade has a centre console fridge that can chill six bottles to -5°C. Other models with built-in fridges include the Rolls-Royce Ghost, Bentley Bentayga, Land Rover Defender, and the Toyota Land Cruiser.

### 2. No more "Death Traps"

Before 1958, refrigerators had mechanical latches. There was a handle to pull them open from outside. Like today, children used to play hide and seek in refrigerator out of curiosity even

then. The issue wasn't with them playing, because the doors were airtight and soundproof, they couldn't escape or be heard getting trapped. This led to the Federal Refrigerator Safety Act of 1956, which mandated that all fridges must be openable from the inside



with a light push. This is why modern fridges use magnetic seals instead of latches.



### 3. The coldest fridge in space?

Standard refrigerators don't work in space because they rely on gravity to move oil and liquids through the system. NASA and Purdue University recently developed a "Cold Atom Lab" fridge for the International Space Station. It can reach temperatures 100 times colder than the vacuum of space (nearly absolute zero) to study quantum physics.

### 4. The "Forgotten" features

In the 1940s and 50s, refrigerator design was often more innovative than it is today. Many mid-century GE fridges had "Lazy Susan" shelves that rotated 360 degrees, so you never lost a jar of pickles at the back.

To prove how sturdy their new airtight seals were, the company Frigidaire had a 4-ton elephant stand on top of a refrigerator in 1939 while someone opened and closed the door.

### 5. Weird tidbits

» The World's Largest Fridge is at the Large Hadron Collider (CERN) in Switzerland. It weighs over 10,000 tons and is used to keep the particle accelerator's magnets at -271°C.

» The Dirtiest Part of fridge is the handle. Studies show fridge handles are one of the top spots for bacteria like E. coli because they are touched constantly but rarely wiped down.

» Haunted Refrigerator Night: Believe it or not, October 30th is officially designated as "Haunted Refrigerator Night," a day meant for cleaning out the "frightening" expired leftovers at the back of the fridge.

## BUILT FOR BANGLADESH CONDITIONS: ELECTRO MART LTD.

FARHAN MUSFIQUE

In Bangladesh, heat, humidity and voltage instability make dependable refrigeration a necessity rather than a convenience. Performance is increasingly judged not by basic function but by consistency under real-world conditions.

Against this backdrop, Electro Mart's KONKA refrigerator range reflects a design approach centred on practical household realities. Speaking to The Daily Star, Md. Nurul Afser, Deputy Managing Director of Electro Mart Group, said KONKA's strongest selling refrigerators are concentrated in the 180 to 240 litre segment, particularly models such as KRT-180 and KRT-200, which align with household needs for dependable cooling, low energy use and space-efficient design. These refrigerators typically support storage of daily groceries such as fish, meat and fresh produce while fitting into compact kitchen environments.

For consumers seeking additional flexibility, selected models incorporate smart inverter technology alongside convertible storage modes, digital controls and alerts designed to support evolving usage patterns. Such features are increasingly relevant as households manage busier routines and more diverse food storage needs.

Local operating conditions remain a defining consideration in appliance engineering. KONKA refrigerators are built with wide voltage range compatibility between 120V and 265V, enabling stable compressor performance without external stabilisers and reducing risks linked



to electrical fluctuations. Smart inverter compressor systems further improve efficiency by adjusting cooling output according to demand, supporting quieter operation and lower power

**Wide voltage tolerance and efficiency are becoming baseline expectations.**  
MD. NURUL AFSER  
Deputy Managing Director  
Electro Mart Group

consumption under typical usage patterns that include frequent door openings. Hygiene and preservation are addressed through food-grade interior materials, anti-fungal door gaskets and humidity-balancing fresh keeping systems designed to maintain produce quality for longer.

After-sales support remains central to buyer confidence. Electro Mart says it supports KONKA customers through 80+ showrooms, a nationwide network of 2,000+ dealers and partners, and 4,500+ trained technicians, backed by a dedicated call centre and the TechBondhu app, with service response targeted within 72 hours.

Environmental considerations are also influencing appliance development. KONKA refrigerators utilise R600 refrigerant alongside energy-saving compressor systems and recyclable materials where feasible, reflecting efforts to reduce lifecycle environmental impact. Md. Nurul Afser emphasised that extending appliance lifespan itself contributes to sustainability by distributing production-related environmental costs over longer periods of use.

As refrigeration technology evolves, efficiency is increasingly defined by adaptability to everyday realities, with modern designs prioritising reliability, responsible energy use and practical convenience for contemporary households.

## THREE STATEMENTS OF ELEGANCE

### INNOVATION. INTELLIGENCE. LUXURY

Capacity: 524 L  
4 Door-Family Innovation

Capacity: 578 L  
Side by Side-Luxury Capacity

Capacity: 608 L  
T Shape-Smart Urban Cooling

- Digi Touch Display
- Super Cooling Plus
- Fast Ice Making

- AI Inverter
- Door Alarm
- Moist N Fresh
- 10 Years Compressor Warranty

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