

Flower shops can reduce cooler energy use by keeping doors closed, maintaining clean equipment, and setting temperatures to suit the flowers inside. Regular checks help staff catch problems before the cooler has to work harder than necessary.

Keep cold air inside

Every door opening lets cold air escape and warmer air enter. Plan trips to the cooler so staff can collect several items at once. Put frequently used flowers where they are easy to reach, and avoid leaving the door open while making decisions or preparing buckets.

Check door gaskets for gaps, cracks, and dirt. A damaged seal can let air leak even when the door looks shut. Clean gaskets according to the equipment instructions and arrange a replacement if they no longer seal properly.

Keep the area around the door clear. Buckets, boxes, and loose wrapping can prevent a door from closing fully. Make sure staff know how to check that it has latched at the end of a busy shift.

Maintain the cooler and monitor its settings

Use a thermometer to check the cooler temperature rather than relying only on the control display. Choose a setting suited to the flowers in storage. Some tropical flowers are sensitive to low temperatures, so they may need different conditions from other cut flowers.

Do not set the cooler colder than necessary. Follow flower supplier guidance and the equipment manufacturer's instructions, and check temperatures at different points inside if storage conditions seem uneven.

1. **Check the temperature daily.** Record readings at a consistent time and investigate changes that do not have an obvious cause, such as a recent delivery.
2. **Inspect the door and seals.** Look for damage and make sure the door closes without obstruction.
3. **Keep airflow paths clear.** Do not pack flowers or supplies against vents. Leave space for air to circulate around stored buckets.
4. **Schedule equipment maintenance.** Have a qualified technician inspect and service the refrigeration system as recommended by its manufacturer.
5. **Review the results.** Compare electricity bills over time, while allowing for changes in weather, opening hours, and the amount of stock held.

Dirty condenser coils can make refrigeration equipment less efficient. Follow the manufacturer's cleaning instructions, and use a qualified technician when the work involves electrical or refrigeration components. Report unusual noises, ice buildup, or a cooler that runs constantly rather than waiting for a breakdown.

Switch off cooler lights when they are not needed, if the equipment allows it. If bulbs need replacing, check which efficient lamps are compatible with the fixture and suitable for cooler use.

Questions about flower cooler energy use

Should a cooler be turned off overnight?

Not if flowers inside require refrigeration. Turning it off can expose stock to unsuitable temperatures. Focus instead on secure doors, suitable settings, and maintenance.

Does a fuller cooler always use less energy?

Not necessarily. Loading, airflow, equipment condition, and door use all matter. Avoid overcrowding, because blocked airflow can make temperatures uneven.

How can staff spot an air leak?

Look for visible gaps or damaged seals and check that the door closes evenly. Ask a technician to inspect the door if the seal appears loose or the cooler struggles to hold its temperature.

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