

Lanark Outdoor Beer Fridge Modification.

To stop beer from freezing in the winter simply override the light in the fridge to come on when the temperature in the fridge gets cold enough to freeze the beer. I found the door switch is usually located near the light. The door switch is connected in the normal closed position so when the door is open the light comes on. Just short the switch when it is cold; the light (40 watt heater) comes on to keep the beer from freezing. Here are the steps required:

Step 1: Find a 240V wall mount thermostat (not 24V!). The one shown is a model CT60A. Modify it if required to turn on just below freezing. I had to cut off a low end tab on this one to allow it to switch below freezing.



Step 2: Find an old power cord (preferable white) and connect it to the thermostat with a couple of Marrettes. Install into an outlet box for optimum safety. Strain relief the wires. For this demo I protected the wires with some duct tape after wrapping the wires around the thermostat a couple of times.



Step 3: Pull out the panel that houses the light. The panel on this fridge snaps in to/out of place.



Step 4: Drill a hole in the panel and insert a grommet so the wire does not get damaged.



Step 5: Insert wire and strain relief with a little knot.



Step 6: Connect up the wires so the thermostat is connected in parallel with switch so that either the door switch or the thermostat completes the circuit allowing the light to turn on.



Here is a bigger picture.



Step7: Install the switch housing and tape the wire out of the wife's view. I finally got to use the white hockey tape. I am not a big fan of white hockey tape on the stick!



Step 8: Plug in the fridge, ensure the light goes on and off as it is supposed to. Adjust the thermostat to turn the light just below freezing and enjoy cold beer year round without worrying about it freezing.

WARNING: To avoid the risk of electrical shock, death or fire, have a qualified electrician or serviceman install this modification to your fridge.

WARNING: Not all fridges are the same so this solution may not be possible on all fridges.

WARNING: Excessive visits the beer fridge may cause drunkenness.