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Whirlpool 481232058132

Whirlpool Refrigerator Freezer Bimetallic Sensor Instruction Manual

Model: 481232058132 | Brand: Whirlpool

1. INTRODUCTION

This instruction manual provides comprehensive guidance for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the Whirlpool Evaporator Thermostat Cut-off Bimetallic Sensor, part number 481232058132. This genuine Whirlpool replacement part is designed to restore proper temperature regulation and defrost functionality in compatible Whirlpool refrigerator freezer models. Please read this manual thoroughly before attempting any installation or repair to ensure safe and correct procedures.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when working with electrical appliances. Failure to follow these safety guidelines may result in electric shock, injury, or damage to the appliance.

- **Disconnect Power:** Before beginning any installation or maintenance, always unplug the refrigerator freezer from the power outlet or turn off the circuit breaker supplying power to the appliance.
- **Professional Installation Recommended:** Installation of this part may require specialized tools and knowledge. If you are not comfortable performing the repair, it is highly recommended to seek assistance from a qualified appliance technician.
- **Wear Protective Gear:** Use appropriate personal protective equipment, such as gloves and eye protection, to prevent injury.
- **Handle with Care:** The sensor contains delicate components. Handle the part carefully to avoid damage.
- **Verify Compatibility:** Ensure this part is the correct replacement for your specific refrigerator freezer model before installation.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Whirlpool Evaporator Thermostat Cut-off Bimetallic Sensor (Part No. 481232058132) is a critical component in your refrigerator freezer's defrost system. It monitors the temperature of the evaporator coils and signals the defrost heater to activate when ice buildup is detected. It also acts as a safety cut-off, preventing the heater from overheating.

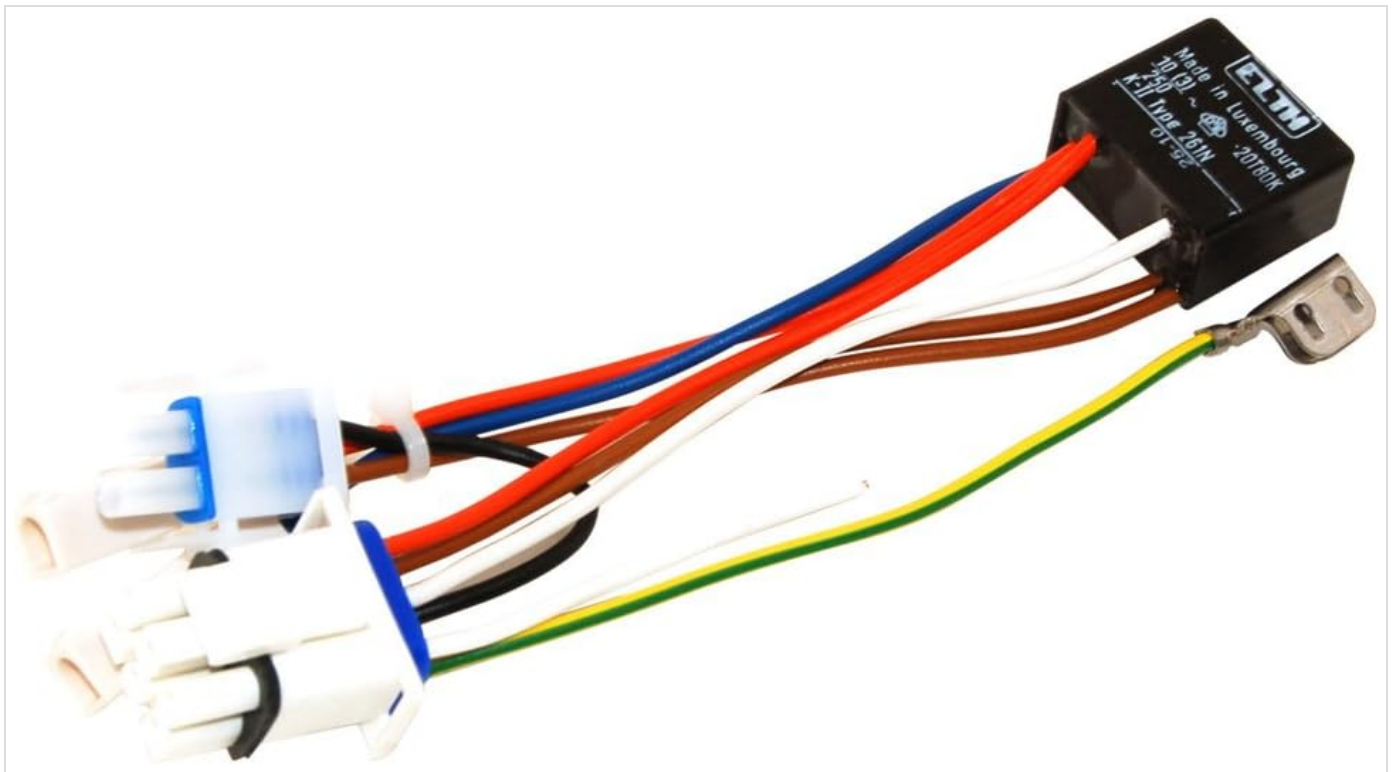


Image: The Whirlpool Evaporator Thermostat Cut-off Bimetallic Sensor, showing its wiring harness and connectors. This component is essential for regulating defrost cycles in compatible Whirlpool refrigerator freezers.

Key Features:

- Genuine Whirlpool replacement sensor.
- Ensures proper defrost cycle operation.
- Acts as a safety cut-off to prevent overheating.
- Manufacturer Reference: 481232058132.

Compatible Models:

This sensor is compatible with a wide range of Whirlpool refrigerator freezer models, including but not limited to: WHIRLPOOL 20RB-D3SF, 20RB-D4APT, 20RI-D3SF, 20RI-D4APT, 20RU-D3SF, 20RU-D4APT, 20RW-D3SF, 20SI-L4APG, 20TB-L4 A, 20TM-L4 A, FRAA36AF20/2, FFWW2VAF20/0, FRBB2VAF20/0, FRBB36AF20/2, FRSB36AF20, FRSS36AF25/3/2, FRSS2VAF20/0, FRUU2VAF20/0, FRWW2VAF20/0, FTSB36AF20/3, FRUU36AF20/2, GRBB2 V20/0, GRSS2 V20/0WP, GRUU2 V20/0, S20BRBB20-A/G, S20BRBB22-A/G, S20BRSB21-A/G, S20BRSS31-A/G, S20BRWW20-A/G, S20BRWW22-A/G, S20BTB21-A/G, S20CCBB31-A, S20CCSS31-A/UK, S20CFWW20-A/G, S20CRWW10-A/G, S20DFBB20-A/G, S20DFSS10-A/G, S20DRBB32-A/G, S20DRSB33-A/G, S20DRSS10-A/G, S20DRSS33-A/G, S20DTSB33-A/G, S20EFII23-A, S20DRWW30-A/G, S20ERAA1 V-A/G, S20ERAA2 V-A/G, S20ERAA32-A/G, S20ERBB2 V-A/G, S20ERSS2 V-A/G, S20ERWW1 V-A/G, S20ERWW2 V-A/G, S22DFSS30-A/G, S25BIHS, S25BRBB20-A/G, S25BRSS31-A/G, S25BRWW20-A/G, S25CCSS31-A/UK, S25DRBB33-A/G, S25DRSS33-A/G. Always cross-reference with your appliance's service manual or existing part number.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The following steps outline a general procedure for replacing the evaporator thermostat cut-off bimetallic sensor. Specific steps may vary depending on your refrigerator freezer model. Refer to your appliance's service manual for detailed instructions.

1. Prepare the Appliance:

- Disconnect the refrigerator freezer from the main power supply.

- Empty the freezer compartment of all food items and remove any shelves or drawers that obstruct access to the evaporator cover.
- Allow any ice buildup on the evaporator coils to melt completely, or manually defrost the freezer.

2. Access the Evaporator:

- Locate and carefully remove the screws or clips securing the evaporator cover panel, typically found at the back of the freezer compartment.
- Gently pull the cover away to expose the evaporator coils and associated components.

3. Locate and Remove the Old Sensor:

- Identify the existing bimetallic sensor, which is usually clipped onto a fin of the evaporator coil or secured nearby.
- Carefully disconnect the electrical connectors attached to the old sensor. Note the orientation and wiring for correct reinstallation.
- Unclip or unfasten the old sensor from its mounting location.

4. Install the New Sensor:

- Attach the new Whirlpool 481232058132 sensor to the same location on the evaporator coil or mounting bracket. Ensure it is securely fastened.
- Connect the electrical connectors to the new sensor, ensuring a firm and correct connection. Refer to your notes or the appliance's wiring diagram if unsure.

5. Reassemble and Test:

- Carefully replace the evaporator cover panel and secure it with its screws or clips.
- Reconnect the refrigerator freezer to the power supply.
- Monitor the appliance for proper operation, including cooling and defrost cycles, over the next 24-48 hours.

If you encounter any difficulties or are unsure about any step, consult a professional appliance technician.

5. OPERATION

Once installed, the bimetallic sensor operates automatically as part of the refrigerator freezer's defrost system. It continuously monitors the temperature of the evaporator coils. When the coils reach a specific temperature (indicating ice buildup), the sensor closes a circuit, activating the defrost heater. Once the ice has melted and the coil temperature rises to a predetermined point, the sensor opens the circuit, deactivating the heater. This cycle ensures efficient cooling and prevents excessive ice accumulation, which can impede airflow and reduce appliance efficiency.

6. MAINTENANCE

The bimetallic sensor itself typically requires no routine maintenance. Its function is passive and automatic. However, regular maintenance of the overall refrigerator freezer can help ensure the longevity and proper operation of all its components, including the sensor.

- **Keep Coils Clean:** Ensure the condenser coils (usually at the back or bottom of the refrigerator) are clean and free of dust and debris. Dirty coils can cause the compressor to work harder, potentially affecting the overall system.
- **Monitor Defrost Cycles:** Pay attention to whether your refrigerator freezer is defrosting properly. Signs of a malfunctioning defrost system include excessive ice buildup in the freezer compartment or food spoilage due to inconsistent temperatures.
- **Regular Inspections:** During routine cleaning or when accessing the freezer's interior, visually inspect the sensor

and its wiring for any signs of damage, corrosion, or loose connections.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If your refrigerator freezer is experiencing issues related to defrosting or temperature regulation after replacing the bimetallic sensor, consider the following common problems and potential solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Excessive ice buildup in freezer.	Defrost heater failure, defrost timer issue, or faulty defrost thermostat (if not the bimetallic sensor).	Test the defrost heater and defrost timer. Ensure the bimetallic sensor is correctly installed and connected.
Freezer too warm, refrigerator too warm.	Poor air circulation due to ice buildup, faulty fan motor, or refrigerant leak.	Check for ice buildup on evaporator coils. Ensure evaporator fan is operating. Consult a technician for refrigerant issues.
Defrost heater runs continuously.	Faulty bimetallic sensor (stuck closed) or defrost timer issue.	Verify the bimetallic sensor's continuity at different temperatures. Check the defrost timer for proper cycling.
New sensor does not resolve original issue.	The original problem was not the bimetallic sensor, or there are multiple issues.	Perform a full diagnostic of the defrost system, including the defrost heater, defrost timer, and main control board.

For complex issues or if troubleshooting steps do not resolve the problem, it is advisable to contact a certified appliance repair technician.

8. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Value
Brand	Whirlpool
Model Number	481232058132
Voltage	220 Volts, 240 Volts
Item Weight	50 g
Manufacturer Reference	481232058132
ASIN	B00COPOLZY

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This Whirlpool genuine replacement part is typically covered by a manufacturer's warranty. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or contact Whirlpool customer service directly. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance, or to inquire about authorized service centers, please visit the official Whirlpool website or contact their customer support line. When contacting support, have your appliance's model and serial numbers, as well as the part number (481232058132), readily available.

Whirlpool Official Website: www.whirlpool.com

Note: Website address is for general reference and may vary by region. Please search for your local Whirlpool support website.

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