Whirlpool WPW10383615

Whirlpool WPW10383615 Refrigerator Temperature Sensor: Instruction Manual

Genuine OEM Replacement Part

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, function, and care of your Whirlpool WPW10383615 Refrigerator Temperature Sensor. This genuine OEM part is designed to accurately measure the temperature inside your refrigerator or freezer and relay this data to the electronic control board, which then regulates the compressor operation.
Accurate temperature sensing is crucial for maintaining optimal food preservation conditions and energy efficiency in your appliance.

2. Safety Information

WARNING: Before attempting any installation or repair, always disconnect power to the appliance. Unplug the refrigerator from the electrical outlet or shut off the house circuit breaker to prevent electrical shock or injury.

- Ensure you have basic hand tools, such as a multi-screwdriver and wire splicers, and possess novice repair experience before proceeding.
- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) during installation.
- Keep children and pets away from the work area.

3. Package Contents

Your package should contain the following item:

- 1x Whirlpool WPW10383615 Genuine OEM Refrigerator Temperature Sensor Replacement



Image 1: The Whirlpool WPW10383615 Refrigerator Temperature Sensor. This image shows the sensor with its wiring and connector, ready for installation.

4. Specifications

Attribute	Value
Brand	Whirlpool
Model Number	WPW10383615
Replaces Part Number	W10383615
Dimensions (L x W x H)	3.25 x 0.5 x 0.5 inches
Material	Ceramic or Polymer
Mounting Type	Flange Mount

Upper Temperature Rating	250 Degrees Celsius
Item Weight	Approximately 50 Pounds (Note: This weight seems unusually high for a sensor and may be a data entry error. Actual sensor weight is minimal.)

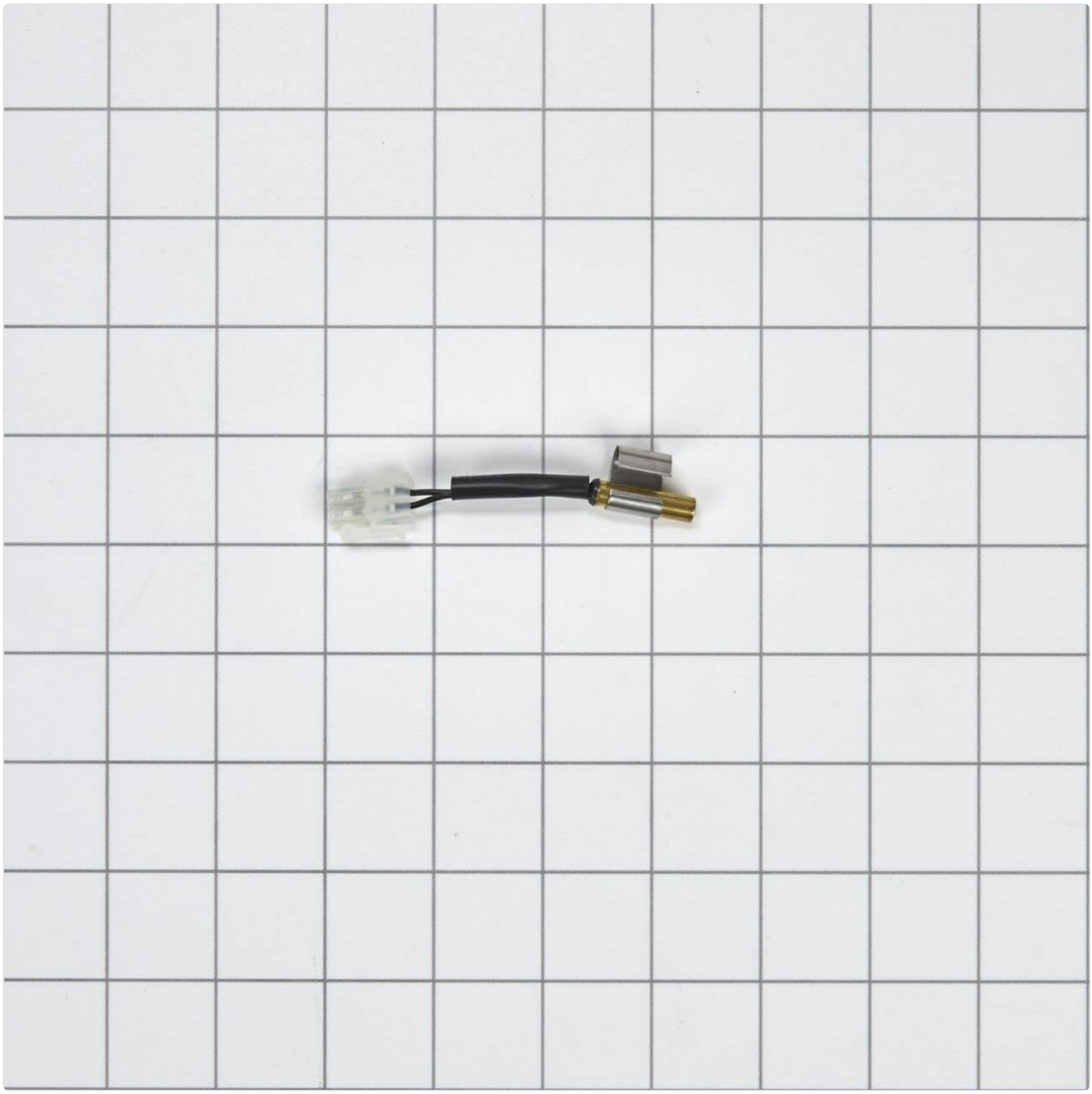


Image 2: The temperature sensor displayed on a grid background, providing a clear view of its size and form factor.

5. Setup and Installation

Replacing the refrigerator temperature sensor requires some disassembly of the appliance and novice repair experience. If you are unsure about any step, it is recommended to consult a qualified appliance technician.

Required Tools:

- Multi-screwdriver
- Wire splicers (if necessary for your specific appliance model)

- Pliers (optional, for removing clips or fasteners)

Installation Steps:

1. **Safety First:** Unplug the refrigerator or shut off the house circuit breaker to ensure no power is supplied to the appliance.
2. **Access the Sensor:** Depending on your refrigerator model, you may need to remove shelves, drawers, or interior panels to access the existing temperature sensor. Refer to your appliance's specific service manual for exact access procedures.
3. **Locate the Old Sensor:** Your appliance typically has two temperature sensors (thermistors): one in the fresh food compartment and one in the freezer. Identify the sensor that needs replacement.
4. **Disconnect the Old Sensor:** Carefully disconnect the wiring harness from the old sensor. Note the orientation and connection points.
5. **Remove the Old Sensor:** Unmount the old sensor from its position. It may be held by clips, screws, or a flange mount.
6. **Install the New Sensor:** Mount the new Whirlpool WPW10383615 sensor in the exact location and orientation as the old one.
7. **Connect Wiring:** Connect the wiring harness to the new sensor. Ensure a secure and correct connection. If wire splicing is required, ensure connections are insulated properly.
8. **Reassemble Appliance:** Reinstall any panels, shelves, or drawers that were removed.
9. **Restore Power:** Plug the refrigerator back in or turn on the house circuit breaker.
10. **Test Operation:** Monitor the refrigerator's temperature over the next few hours to ensure it is cooling correctly and maintaining the desired temperature.

6. Operating Principles

The Whirlpool WPW10383615 temperature sensor is a thermistor, a type of resistor whose resistance is highly dependent on temperature. As the temperature inside the refrigerator or freezer changes, the sensor's electrical resistance changes accordingly.
This change in resistance is detected by the refrigerator's electronic control board. The control board interprets this signal to determine the current temperature. Based on this information and the user-set temperature, the control board activates or deactivates the compressor and other cooling components to maintain the desired temperature range.
A properly functioning sensor ensures that your refrigerator operates efficiently, preventing issues like excessive cooling (freezing food in the fresh food compartment) or insufficient cooling (food spoilage).

7. Maintenance

The Whirlpool WPW10383615 temperature sensor is a sealed component and generally requires no routine maintenance. However, to ensure its longevity and accurate operation:

- **Keep Area Clean:** Ensure the area around the sensor is free from ice buildup or debris that could obstruct its ability to accurately read air temperature.
- **Avoid Physical Damage:** Be careful not to bend, crimp, or otherwise damage the sensor or its wiring during cleaning or when moving items within the refrigerator.
- **Regular Appliance Cleaning:** Periodically clean your refrigerator's interior according to your appliance's user manual to prevent conditions that might affect sensor performance.

8. Troubleshooting

If your refrigerator is experiencing temperature-related issues after sensor replacement, consider the following:

- **Appliance Too Cold or Not Cold Enough:** If the appliance is consistently too cold (e.g., freezing items in the fresh food section) or not cold enough, the temperature sensor may be faulty or incorrectly installed. This sensor is a common replacement for such issues.
- **Error Codes:** Consult your refrigerator's user manual for any error codes displayed on the control panel. These codes can often point to specific component failures, including the temperature sensor.
- **Wiring Issues:** Double-check all wiring connections to the sensor. Loose or improperly spliced wires can lead to intermittent or incorrect readings.
- **Other Components:** While the sensor is a critical component, temperature issues can also stem from other parts like the control board, compressor, or defrost system. If replacing the sensor does not resolve the issue, further diagnosis by a qualified technician may be necessary.

Note: Your appliance has two temperature sensors (thermistors): one in the fresh food compartment and one in the freezer. Ensure you are replacing the correct sensor for the compartment experiencing issues.

9. Warranty and Support

Warranty Information:

Whirlpool offers a **one-year manufacturer's warranty** on this genuine OEM replacement part. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Customer Support:

For technical assistance, warranty claims, or further inquiries, please contact Whirlpool Customer Service. You can typically find contact information on the official Whirlpool website or within your appliance's main user manual.
For more information about Whirlpool genuine OEM parts, visit the officialWhirlpool Store on Amazon.



Image 3: An illustration highlighting Whirlpool's commitment to Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) parts, featuring logos of associated brands like Maytag and KitchenAid.

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