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Whirlpool W11162040

Whirlpool

W11162040 Refrigerator Water Filter Inlet Water Tubing Instruction Manual

Model: W11162040

1. Product Overview

The Whirlpool W11162040 is a genuine Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) water inlet tubing designed for Whirlpool and affiliated brand refrigerators. This component is crucial for delivering water from the external supply to the refrigerator's internal water filter system. It ensures a consistent and reliable water flow to the ice maker and water dispenser functions of your appliance.

This part directly replaces model W10900449, ensuring compatibility and proper function within your refrigerator's water system.



Image 1.1: The Whirlpool W11162040 Refrigerator Water Filter Inlet Water Tubing. This image displays the complete tubing assembly, highlighting its flexible design and connection points.



Image 1.2: A detailed view of the Whirlpool W11162040 water tubing, showing the specific design of one of its connection ends, which typically features a brass fitting for secure attachment.

2. Important Safety Information

WARNING:

- Always disconnect power to the refrigerator before attempting any installation or repair.
- Turn off the water supply to the refrigerator before disconnecting any water lines.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and eye protection, during installation.
- If you are unsure about any step, consult a qualified appliance technician.
- Ensure all connections are secure and leak-free before restoring power and water supply.

3. Compatibility and Model Verification

This water inlet tubing (W11162040) is designed for specific Whirlpool and affiliated brand refrigerator models. It is crucial to verify that this part is compatible with your appliance before installation.

How to Verify Compatibility:

1. Locate your refrigerator's model number. This is typically found on a label inside the refrigerator compartment, behind the kick plate, or on the back of the unit.
2. Cross-reference your refrigerator's model number with the compatibility list provided by Whirlpool or your appliance documentation.
3. Confirm that the part number W11162040 (or its predecessor W10900449) is listed as the correct replacement part for your model.



Image 3.1: Important reminder to verify part compatibility. Many replacement parts may appear similar but are not interchangeable across all models. Always check your refrigerator's model number.

4. Installation Instructions

This section provides general guidance for replacing the water inlet tubing. Specific steps may vary slightly depending on your refrigerator model. Refer to your appliance's service manual for detailed instructions if available.

Tools and Materials Required:

- New Whirlpool W11162040 Water Filter Inlet Water Tubing
- Bucket or towels to catch water
- Pliers or adjustable wrench (if connections are threaded)
- Screwdriver (if access panels need removal)

Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare the Refrigerator:**
    - Unplug the refrigerator from the electrical outlet to disconnect power.
    - Turn off the main water supply valve to the refrigerator. This valve is usually located behind the refrigerator or under the sink.
    - Dispense any remaining water from the refrigerator's dispenser to relieve pressure in the water line.
    - Place towels or a shallow pan under the refrigerator's water inlet area to catch any residual water.
2. **Access the Existing Tubing:**
    - Carefully pull the refrigerator away from the wall to access the back panel.
    - Depending on your model, you may need to remove a rear access panel to expose the water inlet valve and tubing connections.
    - Identify the water inlet tubing that connects to the water filter system.
3. **Remove the Old Tubing:**
    - Disconnect the old tubing from both the water inlet valve and the water filter housing. Connections are typically push-to-connect fittings or threaded brass fittings. For push-to-connect, push in the collar and pull the tube out. For threaded, use a wrench.
    - Be prepared for a small amount of water to drain from the lines.
    - Carefully remove the old tubing from the refrigerator.
4. **Install the New Tubing:**
    - Take the new Whirlpool W11162040 tubing. Ensure the brass connection is at the correct end for your refrigerator's setup.
    - Connect one end of the new tubing securely to the water inlet valve. If it's a push-to-connect fitting, push the tube firmly until it seats. If threaded, hand-tighten, then use a wrench for a final snug turn (do not overtighten).
    - Route the tubing carefully, avoiding kinks or sharp bends, to the water filter housing.
    - Connect the other end of the new tubing to the water filter housing. Ensure a secure connection.
5. **Test for Leaks and Restore Operation:**
    - Slowly turn on the main water supply valve to the refrigerator.
    - Carefully inspect all new connections for any signs of leaks. Tighten connections slightly if necessary.
    - Once no leaks are detected, plug the refrigerator back into the electrical outlet.
    - Allow the water system to fill and purge any air by dispensing water from the refrigerator's dispenser for a few minutes until the water flows smoothly without sputtering.
    - Check for leaks again after a few minutes of operation.
    - If an access panel was removed, reattach it. Push the refrigerator back into its position.

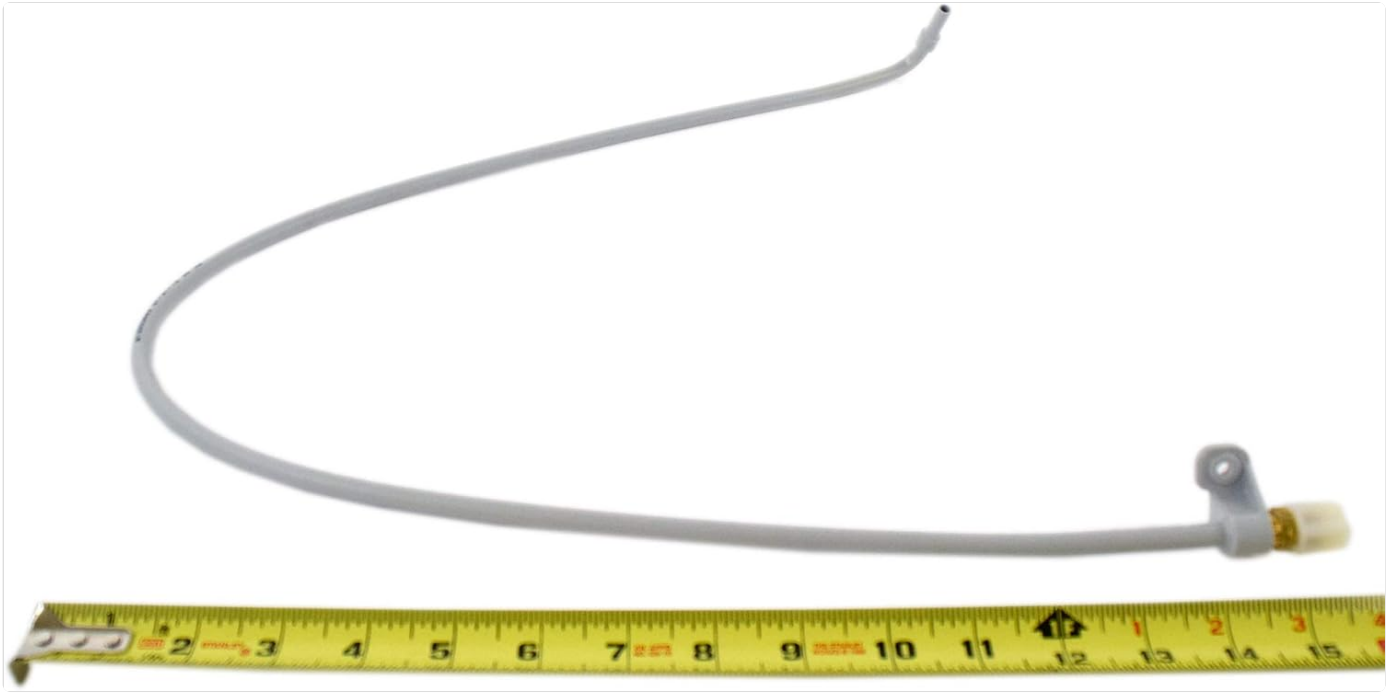


Image 4.1: The Whirlpool W11162040 tubing shown with a measuring tape, indicating its approximate length and size for installation reference.

5. Operation

The Whirlpool W11162040 water inlet tubing is a passive component designed to facilitate water flow. Once correctly installed, it operates continuously as part of your refrigerator's water delivery system. Its primary function is to transport water from the external supply to the internal water filter, and then onward to the ice maker and water dispenser. Proper installation ensures uninterrupted water supply and optimal performance of your refrigerator's water-related features.

6. Maintenance

The W11162040 water inlet tubing requires minimal maintenance. However, periodic checks can help ensure its longevity and prevent potential issues:

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically inspect the tubing for any visible signs of wear, cracks, kinks, or damage. Check the connections for any signs of corrosion or leaks.
- **Leak Checks:** If you notice any puddles or moisture around the back of your refrigerator or near the water connections, immediately investigate the source. Tighten any loose connections or replace the tubing if it is damaged.
- **Water Filter Replacement:** While not directly related to the tubing's maintenance, regularly replacing your refrigerator's water filter as recommended by the manufacturer helps maintain water quality and ensures proper flow through the system, reducing strain on the tubing.

7. Troubleshooting

If you experience issues with your refrigerator's water supply after installing or while using the W11162040 tubing, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **No Water from Dispenser/Ice Maker:**
    - Ensure the main water supply valve to the refrigerator is fully open.

- Check if the refrigerator is plugged in and receiving power.
- Verify that the water filter is correctly installed and not clogged. Replace if necessary.
- Inspect the W11162040 tubing for severe kinks or blockages.
- Check for frozen water in the line, especially if the refrigerator is in a cold environment.

- **Water Leaks:**
  - Immediately turn off the water supply to the refrigerator.
  - Inspect all connections (at the water inlet valve, filter housing, and any other junctions) for looseness or damage. Tighten or re-seat connections.
  - Examine the tubing itself for any cracks, punctures, or signs of wear. If the tubing is damaged, it must be replaced.
  - Ensure O-rings or seals at connections are properly seated and not damaged.
- **Slow Water Flow:**
  - Check the water filter; a clogged filter is a common cause of slow flow.
  - Ensure the water supply valve is fully open.
  - Inspect the tubing for partial kinks or obstructions.

If troubleshooting steps do not resolve the issue, contact Whirlpool customer support or a qualified service technician.

8. Product Specifications

Part Number	W11162040
Replaces Part Number	W10900449
Brand	Whirlpool
Material	Brass (connections)
Product Dimensions	Approximately 16.75"L x 1"W (as per product data)
Specific Use	Supplies water from source to internal filter in compatible Whirlpool refrigerators.

9. Warranty and Support

For information regarding the warranty of your Whirlpool W11162040 Refrigerator Water Filter Inlet Water Tubing, please refer to the documentation included with your original refrigerator purchase or visit the official Whirlpool website.
Whirlpool Customer Support:
If you require further assistance, have questions about installation, or need to report a defective part, please contact Whirlpool customer support directly. Contact information can typically be found on the Whirlpool website or in your appliance's user manual.
You can also visit the Whirlpool Store on Amazon for more product information and support resources.

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