**Fridge and Cupboard Locks for PWS**

There are various approaches to locking away food and different types of locks that are used. Some families adopt the approach of locking the whole kitchen if it is a separate room in the house; others prefer to store all foods in a lockable walk-in-pantry, whilst others may lock refrigerators and cupboards separately. Kitchen modifications can be expensive, but you may be eligible for funded modification services through Accessible or Enable NZ via a Ministry of Health Equipment and Modification Service (EMS) Assessor. Contact your DHB, NASC, OT or phone 0800 ENABLE for further information.

*(Please note a possibility that some of the locks below may not be EMS funded if not purchased from a NZ supplier.)*

**Refrigerator Locks**

One option is to have an inbuilt / integrated fridge freezer with a lockable cupboard door. Some people prefer this because the same locking system (or same key) can be used for all cupboards. However, if you want to apply a lock directly to the fridge / freezer, here are some suggestions:

If you have a side by side door fridge / freezer, a somewhat cumbersome alternative method is to wrap a lock (i.e. a bicycle lock) around the handles. There are negatives to key and combination locks – keys can be lost or taken and combination codes can be cracked, especially if they are not mixed up again after opening! A solution is a fingerprint padlock – the new Tapplock padlock is available to buy in New Zealand from Raven Imports.

**Cupboard Locks**

Many people prefer locks with keypad codes or fingerprint opening systems to avoid issues with keys or magnets. However, if you buy a code lock, ensure the code can be changed as eagle eyes are likely to be observing! (Electronic or digital versions are best.) For young children, the usual child locks or highly fixed magnetic locks sold in shops such as Baby Factory, Babycity, Mitre 10 or Bunnings can be effective until they can open, reach or climb on furniture.

It is also possible to have locking systems where multiple locks are controlled by a single programming station. For wired systems, you may need to consult both an architectural hardware specialist and electrician for advice. Another system, StealthLock, uses radio frequency technology and can be installed without the need for an electrician.

**Useful websites:**

- [www.hafele.co.nz](http://www.hafele.co.nz) > products > architectural hardware
- [www.locksonline.co.nz](http://www.locksonline.co.nz) > door hardware > locks and latches or locks electrical
- [www.assaabloy.co.nz](http://www.assaabloy.co.nz) > our products > access control or keyless entry or hinged door locks > cupboard locks or electromechanical products > electromagnetic locking
- [www.nzhardware.co.nz](http://www.nzhardware.co.nz)
- [www.dglock.co.nz](http://www.dglock.co.nz)
- [www.pws.org.nz](http://www.pws.org.nz)

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