

## **How To Store Lipstick? You Might Be Doing It All Wrong**

Your lipstick might've already melted. If you think storing your lipstick cosmetics was as simple as ensuring they weren't missing on your makeup table, you might be surprised. If you use lipsticks all the time, you're undoubtedly looking for the best reasons to maintain your lipstick in tip-top shape.

There are numerous possibilities, but have no fear; we've included extensive explanations throughout this page. Additionally, we've included information on alternative ways to store lipstick, how to keep your lipstick sanitary, and other things you should know about lipstick maintenance.

### **How Do We Store Lipstick?**

You can store unopened and unused lipsticks in your refrigerator, particularly if you want to keep them for future use. For opened or used lipsticks, freezing them extends their shelf life, eliminates germs on their surface, and hardens them if they melt.

However, outcomes may vary between formulations, and factors such as texture and consistency may be impacted. As a result, you may wish to keep them in a cabinet, drawer, or refrigerator, as long as they are well-kept in a cool and dark location.

### **How Long do Lipsticks usually Last?**

Lipsticks do not contain many bacteria, which means they can last between 12 and 18 months. While lipstick and gloss contain preservatives such as parabens, essential oils, and vitamins to keep off bacteria, these preservatives naturally degrade after a year.

### **How Does Putting the Lipstick in the Refrigerator Help?**

When it comes to extending the life of lipsticks, a lower temperature is often preferable. This is since chemical reactions occur more rapidly at higher temperatures. (As a general rule, the rate of any reaction doubles for every 50°F rise in temperature.) Lipsticks are susceptible to oxidation reactions that can render certain oils rancid, and storing them in the refrigerator can help halt this process. The only issue that could arise is noticing beads of "sweat" on the stick. These are oil drops rising to the surface of the stick from the wax matrix. This is referred to as "syneresis." If excessive sweating happens, the lipstick will not distribute evenly across your lips.

### **How Long do Lipsticks Last When Put in the Refrigerator?**

Colder temperatures delay the process by inactivating the breakdown enzymes. When these enzymes are inactive, the shelf life of lipstick is extended.

Although lipstick freezes changes in consistency or texture slightly, depending on the stability of the wax, oil, and pigment mixture, the wax component of lipstick can become harder at freezing temperatures. This results in a more concentrated texture and a sensation of tugging on your lips as you apply it.

Fortunately, manufacturers often undertake temperature-variability studies during production to identify and correct potential adverse responses. As a result, the product should be stable in cold weather conditions, including zero degrees Fahrenheit.

### **Does freezing lipstick kill bacteria?**

Yes, freezing your lipstick will kill bacteria. Place your lipstick in the freezer overnight, and remember to remove it in the morning. However, remember that some germs can withstand the cold, which means that lipstick may not be entirely germ-free.

### **What other methods are there for sterilizing lipstick?**

If you want to keep your lipstick more sanitary, avoid sharing it with others and avoiding using it while ill. When it comes to lipsticks with applicators, some beauty artists apply the substance to the back of their sterilized hands and then pick it up with a brush. Using a lipstick brush to apply traditional bullet-style lipsticks can also help minimize contamination. Avoid applying the lipstick with your hands.

Another method of disinfecting lipsticks is to use isopropyl alcohol. This process is quick and straightforward and should not affect the lipstick's quality. Pour it into a small container, such as a shot glass, and then dip it for a few seconds in your lipstick. Some argue that three seconds is sufficient, while others advocate for a range of 15–30 seconds. Then, using a facial tissue, dab it dry or allow it to air dry. Additionally, you can use an alcohol spray for this.

Vodka would also work. However, drinking alcohol may not be as successful as rubbing alcohol at eliminating germs, so it is better to stick to that. Finally, you can remove the lipstick's top layer by rubbing or scraping it off.

### **What if You Haven't Used the Lipstick? How Will You Store It?**

There are numerous methods for storing new lipsticks. If you intend to store them in a cupboard or drawer, maintain a steady temperature in the region. Additionally, it is preferable to keep the product in its original packing or with the seal undamaged. If the filling is not vacuum packed or completely airtight, ensure that the cover is securely fastened. Protect the product from light by storing it in a container with a lid that is preferably dark in color. Finally, please place it in a cabinet or drawer.

Another option is to store leftover lipsticks in the refrigerator overnight, especially in airtight bags or containers to avoid odor absorption. Additionally, you can name the container with the time of purchase and the shades included within if you have more than one.

## **Final Thoughts**

We've all done our best to extend the life of our beauty products, particularly those that expire rapidly, such as lipstick. Therefore, feel free to experiment with any techniques offered to determine how you prefer to preserve your preferred shades. Remember to discard them when the time comes, as outdated cosmetics might not only look ugly but can also be detrimental to your health.

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):**

### **Can lipstick expire even if it hasn't been used?**

Unopened lipstick will inevitably expire. However, it will take between three and five years, depending on how well you store it. Those that do not include preservatives will often spoil more quickly, regardless of their storage location.

### **Are There Other Options?**

The ideal place to store lipstick is in a cool, dry, and dark location. This includes avoiding sunlight or heat, variable temperatures, and situations that may become damp. We should use cabinets and drawers and a freezer or refrigerator with stable temperatures for this.

While cabinets and drawers may not have the ability to maintain the same low temperatures as refrigerators or freezers, your lipstick should always be okay. While it may not last as long because, in other circumstances, you can relax knowing that the formula will not change until it expires or is subjected to extremely high temperatures.