Coffee, Tea and Hot Drinks Storage Chart

How long coffee, tea and hot-drink ingredients last: what the USDA says · built 2 Nov 2026 · drinkstype.com

How to read this chart. Every row is from the USDA FoodKeeper (FSIS data version 128, file dated 2018): generic products, not brands. "From purchase" means counted from the date of purchase. The USDA gives no figure for some cells: they say "No time given". We do not fill gaps with guesses. Check the package date and label first.

Coffee and tea

Item	Unopened	Opened	Freezer	Source and date read
Coffee (whole beans)	Pantry: 3 to 5 months from purchase	Pantry: 3 to 5 months; Fridge: 3 to 4 months	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Coffee (home ground, non-vacuum)	Pantry: 3 to 5 months from purchase	Pantry: 3 to 5 weeks	1 to 2 years	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Coffee (commercial ground, non-vacuum)	Pantry: 2 years from purchase	Pantry: 2 weeks; Fridge: 1 month	6 to 12 months	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Coffee (instant)	Pantry: 1 year from purchase	Pantry: 2 to 3 months	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Tea (bags)	Pantry: 18 to 36 months from purchase	Pantry: 6 to 12 months	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Tea (loose)	Pantry: 2 years from purchase	Pantry: 6 to 12 months	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Tea (instant)	Pantry: 2 to 3 years from purchase	Pantry: 6 to 12 months	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026

Cocoa, syrup and creamers

Item	Unopened	Opened	Freezer	Source and date read
Cocoa and cocoa mixes	Pantry: indefinitely	Pantry: 1 year	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Chocolate syrup	Pantry: 2 years from purchase	Pantry: not recommended; Fridge: 6 months	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Coffee creamer (liquid refrigerated)	Fridge: 3 weeks from purchase	No time given.	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Coffee creamer (powdered)	Pantry: 2 years from purchase	Pantry: 2 to 3 months	No time given.	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026

Print tip. Letter or A4, landscape. Stick it inside the cabinet or fridge door and write the date on every container you open.

More free charts on drinkstype.com: Home Bar Storage, Milk and Dairy, Juice, Soda and Water, Coffee and Tea, Strength, Calories and Units.

Sources (web addresses)
USDA FoodKeeper: https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/fsis-foodkeeper-data