



NOVA SCHOOL OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IPM Assignment 1

Samsung Fridge



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Bad Design:

My new Samsung fridge has been my and my sister's everyday struggle and probably someone else's too!



To open the fridge the user must reach for the gap between the fridge and freezer door, for people above 175 cm, you will have to lean to reach it, unless you have long arms, either way the ergonomics are so bad that you probably won't use it.

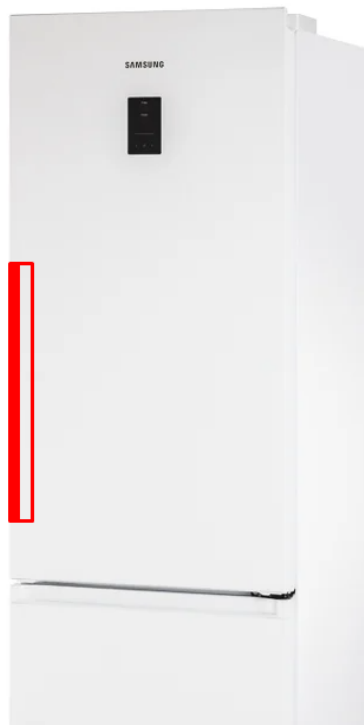


Instead we end up opening the fridge from the side, using the seal groove.

Usually fridges that don't have a door handle are cheap ones and built in fridges and this isn't advertised as such, so the only reason I see for this design is to make it flush with the kitchen cabinets as shown on the website.



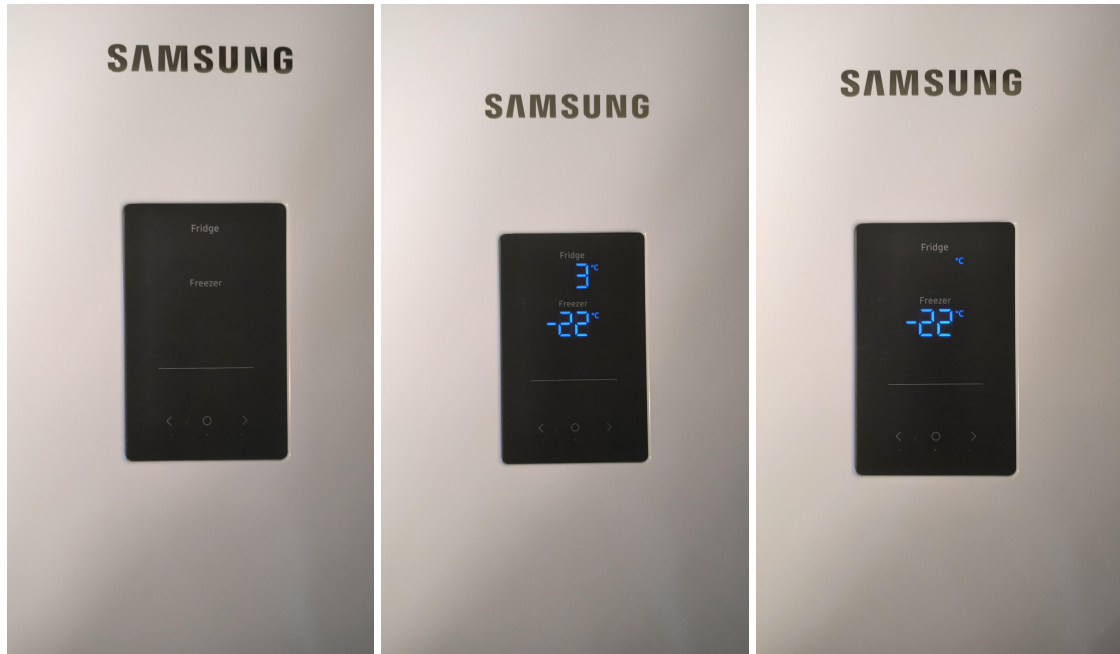
A solution to the problem is keeping the traditional side door handle but if the purpose is keeping it flush, a built-in handle on the side of the door would do it, like this:



Good design:

It is not all bad! The temperature screen is well thought out and simple to use.

The screen is kept off unless the door is open or one of the buttons is pressed, after that the screen stays on for a few seconds if not used.



The user can alternate between the fridge and freezer temperature with the middle button (the selected one will blink its temperature) and change the temperature up or down with the side arrows, as simple as that and I don't have to open the fridge like the one at my parents house to be able to reach the temperature screen buttons and also they don't even have a label and are not positioned intuitively.

The only possible improvement that can be made in my point of view is change the side arrows for a plus and a minus.