



Outdoor Temperatures and Lockbox Specimen Storage

Maintaining proper specimen integrity is vital to producing quality laboratory results. Each test and specimen type have storage requirements that can be found in CompuNet's Directory of Service (DOS) by visiting <https://dos.compunetlab.com/tests>

Room Temperature (68-77°F): Most specimens are acceptable at room temperature during transportation until tested. The human body operates at 98.6°F to which specimen integrity is maintained even at these higher temperatures. No ice packs are required, but it is recommended if outside temperatures go above 90°F a cold pack is placed in the lockbox.

Refrigerated Temperature (36-46°F): If specimen requirements state the specimen must be refrigerated it is required for an ice pack to be placed in the lockbox with the specimen(s).

- Ice packs should not be placed against a specimen, there should always be space or a barrier between the icepack and specimens to prevent freezing of the specimens.
- When outside temperatures are below freezing wrap specimens in a towel or paper towels to insulate them from freezing.

Frozen Temperature (below 32°F): Frozen specimens stored in a lock box need to be placed in a CompuNet approved freezer storage pack. Both container and specimen should be frozen separately.

Please contact the CompuNet Dispatcher at (937) 297-8262 if you need frozen containers. You may also contact us for any other concerns about the use of your lockbox or transport needs.