

# Calibrating a Thermometer

Thermometers should be calibrated regularly to ensure accurate temperatures.

The ice-point method is the most widely used method to calibrate a dial and digital thermometer.

Fill a large container *with crushed ice*, and then add clean cold tap water until container is full. Stir.

Place the thermometer stem/probe into the ice water. *Make sure the thermometer is not touching bottom or sides of the glass*. Hold the thermometer by its top for 30 seconds or until the reading stays steady.

Adjust the thermometer to 32° F (0° C)

- Dial thermometers: *With the thermometer still in the ice water*, use a wrench to securely hold the nut below dial head, (the thermometer sleeve may be equipped with an internal wrench) then rotate the thermometer until the needle points to 32° F (0° C).
- Digital thermometers: *With the thermometer still in the ice water*, push the reset button and adjust to read 32° F. If there is no reset or calibration button, try changing the battery or replacing the thermometer.

