

Baking powder

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Baking powder

Sodium bicarbonate with an acid salt and a starch buffer. It keeps 18 months unopened and loses strength once air reaches it — test it in hot water before trusting a cake to it.

How long it keeps

Unopened, this keeps **a year** — which is what puts it on [the long shelf](#).

As sold	Unopened, in the cupboard	Once opened
as sold	6–18 months	3–6 months

Counted from the day you bought it. Figures are the **USDA FSIS FoodKeeper** table's, for unopened storage at room temperature; FoodKeeper counts a month as 30 days.

The table was not pulled from USDA — fsis.usda.gov answers 403 to non-browser clients from this machine — so it came from a mirror of the data.gov dataset and its vintage is unverified. Treat a single figure as indicative, not as a use-by date.

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