

Popcorn

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Popcorn

The one maize that explodes, at about 14% internal moisture. Dry kernels keep two years; popped and bagged, three months; the microwave packets sit between them because of the fat in them.

How long it keeps

Unopened, this keeps **2 years** — which is what puts it on [the long shelf](#).

As sold	Unopened, in the cupboard	Once opened
dry kernels in jar	2 years	1 year
commercially popped in bags	2–3 months	1–2 weeks
microwave packets	6–12 months	1–2 days

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.

FoodKeeper's own note: *After opening time applies to prepared product.*

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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