

AFRICA'S HEARTBEAT YOUR WINDOW TO THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Volume 1 Number 2

BUNDUBEAT

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WIN

Killer Deal - SnoMaster 60lt Fridge Freezer Combo



freezers. Some are a little better than others, but in reality there is not really that much to choose between them. SnoMaster's range ranks right up there with the very best of them.

SnoMaster South Africa is headed by brothers Shane and Warren Bennett. This family-run business has built up a good, reliable reputation. Their sales, distribution and marketing are complemented by a full in house technical, repair and product support centre, ensuring that the regional market enjoys a tough, affordable, reliable fridge and accessory range backed up by technical support and customer care.

All the SnoMaster products are manufactured internationally using world-class technology under South African license and strict specifications guidelines based on local knowledge, conditions and stringent requirements. SnoMaster products are available throughout the southern African region with dealer networks in Namibia, Mozambique, Angola, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

SnoMaster's Zimbabwe's agent, Glen Fowler, recently gave us the chance to test the SnoMaster BDC 60FF 60 litre dual control fridge/freezer combo.

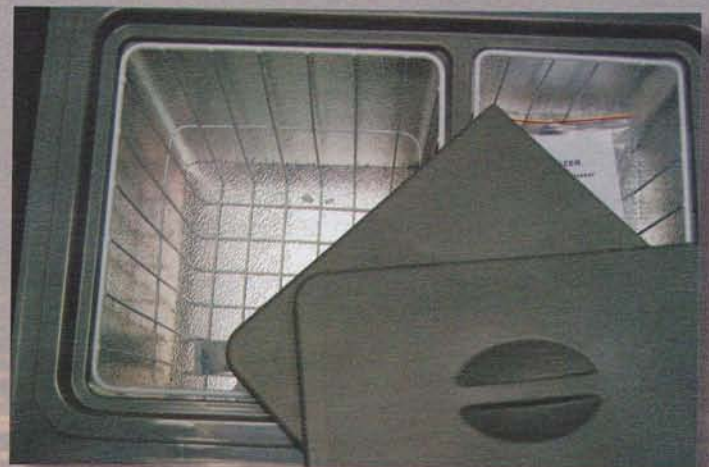
This particular model is fast becoming popular with Zimbabwe's outdoor fraternity. What makes it so popular is that it is a fridge/freezer combination - a 45 litre freezer with an additional 15 litre fridge compartment. From experience I can understand why this feature would be a selling point. You don't want to go rummaging around the freezer compartment searching for everyday items that can quite easily last in the

There is nothing worse than having your food go bad on you whilst on a camping trip. It is not a pleasant experience and there is no such thing as having "enough" ice. Unless you are happy taking on the thankless role of "camp prefect", are prepared to police ice usage and ensure that cooler box lids are kept closed, you will run into trouble.

A few years ago I had a purpose-made ice chest built. It was constructed from galvanized steel, insulated by six-inch-thick sheets of kaylite and clad in a sturdy wooden chest. It worked amazingly well and could carry 20 blocks of ice. A two-week stay in the bush was just about manageable. The only drawback, however, was its size and weight. It took up over half a bakkie payload and, once loaded with ice, that is where it had to stay!

A couple of years ago I was loaned a 12/220v 40l Engel fridge/freezer for a fishing trip to Chewore. Developed in Japan and thoroughly tested in Australia's outback, Engel fridges and freezers are the benchmark by which all the others are judged. It is a brilliant bit of kit - I still have it! Naturally, the day will come when its rightful owner comes to claim it back, so I have been looking around for a suitable replacement - and I think I have found it.

Over the last ten years or so a number of companies have been manufacturing their own brands of camping fridges and



Each compartment has its own individual lid allowing access to either compartment without lowering the temperature of the other compartment.

fridge - they are easily accessible right there in their own compartment. Best of all though, for cash-strapped Zimbo's, is its price - US\$920.

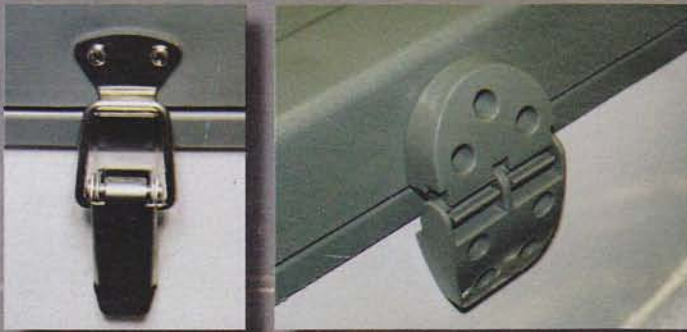
General Comments

The BDC 60FF is a fairly compact design - an important aspect when space in a vehicle is at a premium. Overall construction and build quality is very good.

- Multi-voltage selection - 12/24/220volt - perfect for camping, caravan, or even home usage.
- Dual internal temperature display - digital display shows temperatures even when the unit is unplugged.
- Controls are uncomplicated - easy to use.
- High-speed, fast-freeze function - quick way to get the unit to operating temperature.
- The SnoMaster is compact and the internal space has been utilized efficiently.
- Low voltage cut out prevents a battery voltage from dropping preventing battery damage
- Good insulation and, included in the price is an insulated cover/bag.
- Separate internal lids mean that you can access either the freezer or fridge without letting hot air into the other compartment.
- Carry handles double up as tie-downs ensures that the unit can be secured - especially important for travelling rough roads.
- Sturdy stainless-steel casing.
- Secure, sturdy stainless steel latches.
- Price - excellent value for money.
- Full back-up service and repair available locally.

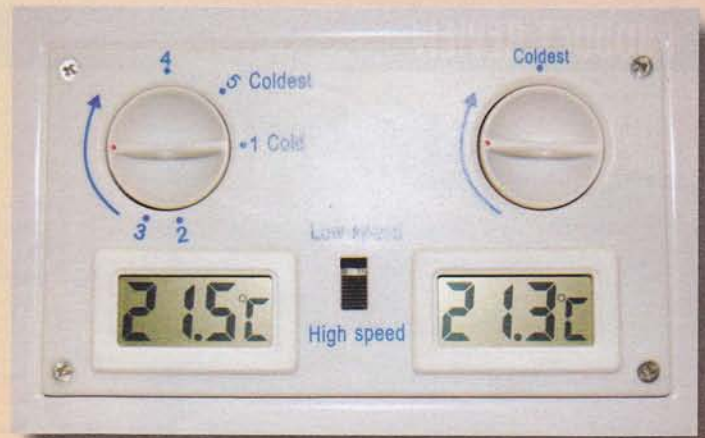


All the hinges and fastenings are of sturdy construction.



Power Usage

Ideally you want to have a dual battery system installed in your vehicle - done by a professional. This way your primary battery (for starting the vehicle) is protected. There is nothing worse than waking up to a flat battery in the middle of nowhere! However, the low voltage cut-out in the SnoMaster unit is



Dual controls allow internal temperatures to be monitored whether the unit is plugged in or not.

designed to prevent this happening. Keep in mind that the colder the setting, the higher the current consumption in attaining the desired temperature and maintaining it.

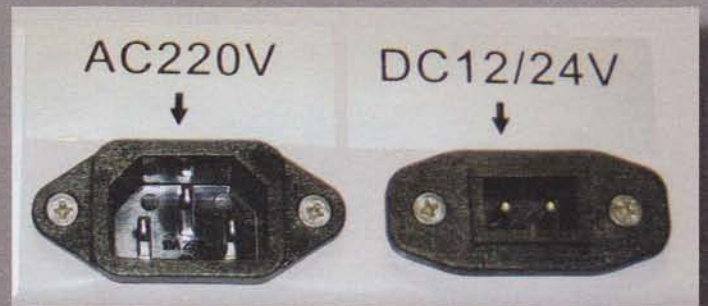
Handy Tips

Planning is everything. Work out your menu requirements on a day-to-day basis. Get your butcher to vacuum-pack your daily meat requirements (breakfast/lunch/dinner) and pack the freezer in order of preference - so your last meals are at the bottom.

Pack the freezer a couple of days before your departure date and run it off mains electricity. This ensures that the unit is up to running temperature and everything is solid-frozen.

Keep the lid secured with the latches closed, and keep the amount of time the unit remains open to a minimum.

Tinned drinks are quicker to cool than bottles.



Separate three-prong and two-prong plug-in sockets ensures there are no mix ups.

SNOMASTER SPECIFICATIONS

Model: BDC 60FF
 Description: 60 Lt dual control fridge freezer
 Dimensions: (W) 670mm x (D) 480mm x (H) 530mm

Weight: 23 Kg
 Capacity: 60 Litres
 Input Power: 12/220 Volt
 Finish: Powder Coated
 45 Litre freezer /15 Litre refrigerator
 Mechanical thermostat with temperature indicator
 Transit Bag
 High and low speed switch
 2.5 Amps on low speed and 4.5 Amps on high speed
 Built in low battery cut out

PRICE: US\$920

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