

Comparing Compressor Fridges:

We now have 3 different compressor fridges that are designed for use in VW T5/T6 market. Prices vary on the units so we have carried out a test on all 3 to compare.

Waeco CRX50

The market leader and the most expensive, it boasts extra features such as a sealed freezer box which is removable.

Vitrifrigo C51i

Fast becoming popular with builders and self-converters the Vitrifrigo range is established across Europe and getting more common in the UK market. It does not have the removable freezer compartment.

DC-50

The newest to our range, and the cheapest, the DC-50 is designed as an entry level fridge. It does not have the light or removable freezer compartment but has the essentials.

Conditions:

- All fridges were tested in an internal office at ambient temperature of 21.8°C.
- Inside the office with adequate ventilation and nothing restricting air flow to any of the compressors.
- All fridges were set at their maximum settings.
- Full 110amp Leisure battery was used for each fridge on each test.

Testing for:

- Battery draw
- Cooling time
- Cooling temperature

Fridge Compartment

Model	Starting Temp	Temp after 10 mins	Temp after 20 mins	Temp after 40 mins	Temp after 60 mins
Waeco CRX50 Fridge Compartment	20.5°C	20.2°C	19.2°C	11.5°C	4.6°C
Vitrifrigo C51i Fridge Compartment	20.2°C	13.3°C	6.8°C	-0.9°C	-2.2°C
DC-50 Fridge Compartment	20.9°C	18.6°C	13.2°C	4.3°C	1.2°C

Freezer Compartment

Temperature Chart	Starting Temp	Temp after 10 mins	Temp after 20 mins	Temp after 40 mins	Temp after 60 mins
Waeco CRX50 Freezer Compartment	20.5°C	4.8°C	-18.1°C	-22°C	-24°C
Vitrifrigo C51i Freezer Compartment	20.2°C	-2.2°C	-18.5°C	-18.5°C	-21°C
DC-50 Freezer Compartment	20.9°C	-0.2°C	-18.3°C	-24°C	-13.7°C

Battery Consumption Chart	Starting batter level	Battery Level After 10 mins	Battery level after 20 mins	Battery level after 40 mins	Battery level after 60 mins
Waeco CRX50	12.61	12.41	12.41	12.41	12.41
Vitrifrigo C51i	12.61	12.49	12.49	12.49	12.48
DC-50	12.61	12.43	12.43	12.43	12.43

Battery consumption results:

As you can see the battery consumption chart there was not much difference in all the fridges and you really need a 24 hour test to give you an accurate battery draw. But you can see the Vitrifrigo fridge did come out on top.

Waeco Results:

Compressor did not cut out through whole hour as the inside of the fridge did not get to temperature and hold enough within the 60min test period. Also took the longest to get down to temperature.

Vitrifrigo Fridge Results:

It cooled quickly and stayed cool through the test, this meant the compressor was able to turn itself twice during the hour which makes a saving on battery consumption. Once at temperature the freezer box stayed between -12.5°C & -22.5°C.

DC-50 Results

The compressor cut out at 48 minutes and did not start up for the rest of the test, suggesting it is holding what it considers the correct temperature, this again saves on battery consumption.