Here is a comprehensive reference list of Frigidaire refrigerator error codes. This list breaks down what the machine is trying to tell you, the standard troubleshooting steps, and a realistic assessment of whether a homeowner should attempt the fix or call a professional.

Frigidaire Error Code Master List

Error Code	What It Means	Troubleshooting / Solution	DIY or Pro?
SY EF (or 5Y EF)	**Evaporator Fan Failure**	The freezer fan is not spinning. Check for ice buildup blocking the blades (defrost manually with a hair dryer on low). If clear of ice but still dead, replace the fan motor.	**DIY / Moderate**
SY CE (or 5Y CE)	**Communication Error**	The user interface (display panel) cannot talk to the main control board. Unplug the fridge for 10 minutes to reset. If the code returns, you likely have a damaged wire harness or a failed main control board.	**Pro**
SY CF (or 5Y CF)	**Communication Failure (Power Up)**	Similar to CE, but specifically occurs when the unit is powered on. Requires inspecting the wiring between the boards or replacing the main board.	**Pro**
OP	**Open Thermistor**	The temperature sensor circuit is "open." Check if the thermistor is simply unplugged or if the wire is clipped. If connections are tight, replace the sensor.	**DIY / Moderate**

SH	**Shorted Thermistor**	The temperature sensor has shorted out. The fridge doesn't know the temperature and will shut down cooling to prevent freezing food. The sensor must be replaced.	**DIY / Moderate**
dF	**Defrost Circuit Failure**	The system hasn't completed a defrost cycle in over 84 hours. Requires testing the defrost heater and defrost thermostat for electrical continuity with a multimeter.	**Pro**
PF	**Power Failure**	The refrigerator experienced a power outage. Check your food for spoilage, then press 'Alarm Reset' or 'Default' to clear the code.	**Easy DIY**
HI (or H1)	**High Temperature Alarm**	The internal temperature has risen above safe levels. Check that the doors are completely shut, the seals are intact, and the condenser coils underneath are vacuumed clean.	**Easy DIY**
Sb (or 5b)	**Sabbath Mode**	The fridge is in a mode that disables lights and displays for religious observances. Press and hold the 'v' and '+' buttons (or 'Options' depending on the model) for 5 seconds to exit.	**Easy DIY**
Er CE	**Display Error** (Older Models)	A wiring issue between the door display and the main board. Often caused by frayed wires in the door hinge.	**Pro**

Deep Dive: When to DIY vs. When to Call a Pro

The "Easy DIY" Fixes (Resetting and Maintenance)

Codes like **PF**, **HI**, and **Sb** are not mechanical failures. They are informational alerts. These should always be handled by the homeowner. Clearing the screen, vacuuming out the dust underneath the fridge, and making sure a stray jar of pickles isn't keeping the door cracked open will solve these 99% of the time.

The "Moderate DIY" Fixes (Sensors and Fans)

Codes like **SY EF**, **OP**, and **SH** usually point to a single, easily accessible part.

- **Thermistor replacements** require removing a plastic cover, snipping two wires, and splicing a new $20 sensor in with wire nuts.
- **Evaporator fans** sit right behind the back panel of the freezer. If you own a screwdriver and can watch a 5-minute tutorial, you can safely swap these parts without dealing with dangerous voltages or refrigerants.

The "Pro" Fixes (Boards, Defrost, and Wiring)

Codes like **SY CE**, **SY CF**, and **dF** should generally be left to technicians.

- **Defrost systems (dF)** involve live 120V circuits and glass heating elements that can shatter.
- **Communication errors (SY CE / CF)** are tricky. You might buy a $200 main control board online, plug it in, and find out the actual issue was a pinched wire inside the door hinge. Professional technicians have the multimeters and diagnostic schematics required to test the exact voltage output, saving you from throwing expensive parts at a guessing game.