Are Dented Cans Safe to Use????

How do I tell if a dented can is safe?

A can is safe, if the dent

- Is smooth
- Is not on the seam of the can
- Does not compromise can functions

A can good is not safe and should be DISCARDED, can:

- Has a dent on the seam,
- Has a dent where the side and end meet
- Has a dent that comes to a sharp point
- is swelling or bulging
- has rust that does not wipe off

How does Canned Food become unsafe?

When a can good becomes dented, the dent makes it possible for air to enter the can. This air, combined with the moisture in the can, allows the growth of microorganisms. These microorganisms cannot be killed with cooking. Consumption of this food could potentially result in botulism. If the can good is bulging or has rust that will not wipe off it is deemed unsafe.

When in Doubt, Throw it out!

Questions? Please contact the City of Jefferson Division of Environmental Health Services at 573-634-6410

Bulging

Sharp Dent





Safe



