Get Ready to Grill Safely

Separate
When shopping, pick up meat, poultry, and seafood last and separate them from other food in your shopping cart and grocery bags.

Chill
Keep meat, poultry, and seafood refrigerated until ready to grill. When transporting, keep below 40°F in an insulated cooler.

Clean
Wash your hands with soap before and after handling raw meat, poultry, and seafood. Wash work surfaces, utensils, and the grill before and after cooking.

Cook
Use a food thermometer to ensure meat is cooked hot enough to kill harmful germs. When smoking, keep temperature inside the smoker at 225°F to 300°F to keep meat at a safe temperature while it cooks.

- 145°F: beef, pork, lamb, veal, fish
- 160°F: hamburgers and other ground meat
- 165°F: poultry

Don’t cross-contaminate
Throw out marinades and sauces that have touched raw meat juices. Put cooked meat on a clean plate.

Refrigerate
Divide leftovers into small portions and place in covered, shallow containers. Put in freezer or fridge within two hours of cooking (one hour if above 90°F outside).

www.cdc.gov/foodsafety