

Floating Egg Myth, Busted

What a floating egg really tells you about freshness and safety

Myth: A Floating Egg Is Bad

Many home cooks drop an egg in water and toss it if it floats, sure that means spoiled. Floating usually just signals an older egg, not a spoiled one.

Source: [Nebraska Extension](#)

Why Eggs Float As They Age

Eggshells are porous. Over weeks, moisture slips out and the air cell inside grows, so an older egg becomes buoyant enough to float in water.

Source: [Iowa State University Extension](#)

Read The Angle, Not Just Float Or Sink

A very fresh egg sinks and lies flat on its side. As it ages it tilts up and stands on end while still touching the bottom, and only once it is old enough does it rise and float, so the angle in the water is a rough age gauge, not a single pass or fail line.

Source: [Iowa State University Extension](#)

The Real Test Is Smell

Crack the egg into a bowl first. A spoiled egg has an unmistakable off odor, raw or cooked, and that smell, not floating, is the real warning sign.

Source: [Nebraska Extension](#)

Store Cold, Not In The Door

Iowa State Extension advises keeping eggs in their carton on an inside shelf at or below 40F, since the door swings in temperature far more.

Source: [Iowa State University Extension](#)

IN SHORT

A floating egg just means it is older, not unsafe. Fresh Yolk eggs are lab tested and dated, so your Multan morning starts with real confidence.

References

1. [Nebraska Extension](https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/lincolnmcperson/egg-floats-still-fresh/) <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/lincolnmcperson/egg-floats-still-fresh/>
2. [Iowa State University Extension](https://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/answerline/2026/03/31/egg-safety-2/comment-page-1/) <https://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/answerline/2026/03/31/egg-safety-2/comment-page-1/>
3. [Iowa State University Extension](https://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/answerline/2026/03/31/egg-safety-2/comment-page-1/) <https://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/answerline/2026/03/31/egg-safety-2/comment-page-1/>
4. [Nebraska Extension](https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/lincolnmcperson/egg-floats-still-fresh/) <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/lincolnmcperson/egg-floats-still-fresh/>
5. [Iowa State University Extension](https://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/answerline/2026/03/31/egg-safety-2/comment-page-1/) <https://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/answerline/2026/03/31/egg-safety-2/comment-page-1/>



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