

# Electrical Cooking Appliance Safety

When we think of cooking appliances in the kitchen, we often think of the stovetop, oven, and microwave. However, more and more people are often turning to electrical appliances like air fryers and slow cookers for the convenience of cooking meals quickly. Using these appliances properly is key to keeping safe in the kitchen.

## Key Safety Tips

- Always use cooking equipment—air fryers, slow cookers, electric skillets, hot plates, griddles, etc.—that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions on where and how to use appliances.
- Remember to unplug all appliances when not in use.
- Check cords regularly for damage. Do not use any appliance with a damaged cord.

## Slow Cooker

A slow cooker is designed to be left on while you do other things, even things outside of the home. However, there are few safety tips to keep in mind:

- Keep things that could catch fire away from the slow cooker.
- Make sure the slow cooker is in a place where it won’t get bumped. If the lid gets dislodged, the liquid could boil away, which could cause the appliance to overheat and create a fire.

## Pressure Cooker

A pressure cooker is designed to cook food faster than a stovetop or oven. Because it uses hot steam and pressure to cook food it is important that they are used properly to prevent burns.

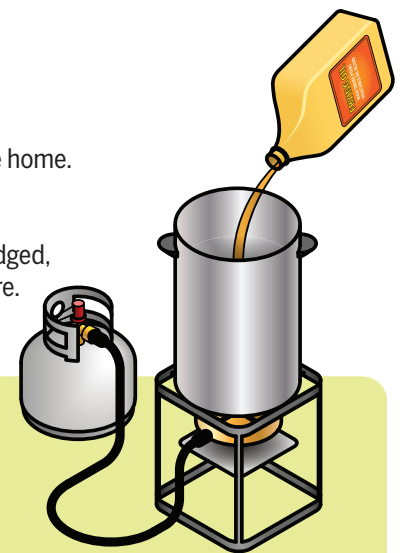
- Place the cooker in an open space to give enough room for the steam to ventilate.
- Never cover the steam release valve on the pressure cooker.
- Do not leave the home when using a pressure cooker.

## Air Fryers

- Give your air fryer enough space. The air vents release heat and need airflow.
- Do not leave the home when using the air fryer.
- Make sure you clean grease and food debris after every use. Unplug and allow to cool completely before cleaning.

## Hot Plate, Griddle and Electric Skillet

- Stay with the hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet when cooking.
- Do not touch the surface of a hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet, as it could burn you.
- Unplug a hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet when not in use and before cleaning. Allow the appliance to cool before cleaning it.



**Turkey fryers** that use oil and an open flame cannot be used safely. These fryers use a large quantity of cooking oil at hot temperatures, which can lead to devastating burns.

**Buy an infrared fryer or electric turkey fryer** that has been listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Do not leave fryers unattended when in use.



**FIRE  
PREVENTION  
WEEK™**



**Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Dept**  
(925) 454-2361