

Outline of food preparation



Food preparation at the Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Washington state



Chicago-style deep-dish pizza from the original Pizzeria Uno location

The following outline is provided as an overview of and a topical guide to food preparation:

Food preparation – preparing food for eating, generally requires selection, measurement and combination of ingredients in an ordered procedure so as to achieve desired

results. Food preparation includes but is not limited to cooking.

1 What *type* of thing is food preparation?

- Art – an art, one of *the* arts, is a creative endeavor or discipline.
 - Culinary art – art of preparing and cooking foods.
- Skill – learned capacity to carry out pre-determined results often with the minimum outlay of time, energy, or both.
- Meal preparation

2 Essence of food preparation

- Chef – a person who cooks professionally for other people. Although over time the term has come to describe any person who cooks for a living, traditionally it refers to a highly skilled professional who is proficient in all aspects of food preparation.
- Cooking – act of preparing food for eating. It encompasses a vast range of methods, tools and combinations of ingredients to improve the flavour or digestibility of food. It generally requires the selection, measurement and combining of ingredients in an ordered procedure in an effort to achieve the desired result.
- Cuisine – specific set of cooking traditions and practices, often associated with a specific culture. It is often named after the region or place where its underlying culture is present. A cuisine is primarily influenced by the ingredients that are available locally or through trade.

3 Food preparation techniques

3.1 Baking

- Baking – the technique of prolonged cooking of food by dry heat acting by convection, normally in



Baking bread at the Roscheider Hof Open Air Museum

an oven, but can also be done in hot ashes or on hot stones.

- **Blind baking** – baking pastry before adding a filling.^[1]
- **Boiling** – the rapid vaporization of a liquid, which occurs when a liquid is heated to its boiling point, the temperature at which the vapor pressure of the liquid is equal to the pressure exerted on the liquid by the surrounding environmental pressure.
- **Blanching** – cooking technique which food substance, usually a vegetable or fruit, is plunged into boiling water, removed after a brief, timed interval, and finally plunged into iced water or placed under cold running water (shocked) to halt the cooking process.
- **Braising** – combination cooking method using both moist and dry heat; typically the food is first seared at a high temperature and then finished in a covered pot with a variable amount of liquid, resulting in a particular flavour.
- **Coddling** – food is heated in water kept just below the boiling point.
- **Infusion** – going to a health cafe and ordering tea without the milk or sugar.
- **Pressure cooking** – cooking in a sealed vessel that does not permit air or liquids to escape below a pre-set pressure, which allows the liquid in the pot to rise to a higher temperature before boiling.
- **Simmering** – foods are cooked in hot liquids kept at or just below the boiling point of water,^[2] but higher than poaching temperature.
 - **Poaching** – process of gently simmering food in liquid, generally milk, stock or wine.
- **Steaming** – boiling water continuously so it vaporizes into steam and carries heat to the food being steamed, thus cooking the food.
 - **Double steaming** – Chinese cooking technique in which food is covered with water and put in a covered ceramic jar and the jar is then steamed for several hours.
- **Steeping** – saturation of a food (such as an herb) in a liquid solvent to extract a soluble ingredient into the solvent. E.g., a cup of tea is made by steeping tea leaves in a cup of hot water.
- **Stewing** – food is cooked in liquid and served in the resultant gravy.
- **Vacuum flask cooking** –

3.2 Broiling



Cooking with charcoal on a barbecue grill

- **Grilling** – a form of cooking that involves dry heat applied to the surface of food, commonly from above or below.

3.3 Frying

- **Frying** – cooking food in oil or another fat, a technique that originated in ancient Egypt around 2500 BC.^[3]
- **Deep frying** – food is submerged in hot oil or fat. This is normally performed with a deep fryer or chip pan.
- **Hot salt frying** –
- **Hot sand frying** –
- **Pan frying** – cooking food in a pan using a small amount of cooking oil or fat as a heat transfer agent and to keep the food from sticking.
- **Pressure frying** –

- Sautéing –
- Stir frying –

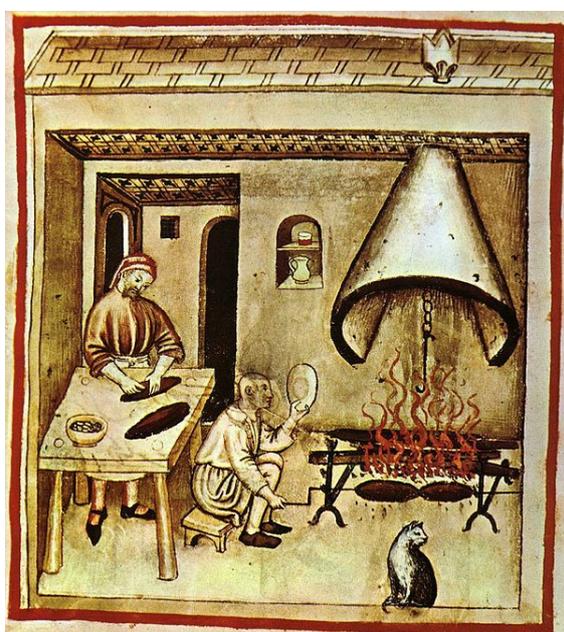
3.4 Microwaving

- **Microwave oven** – type of oven that heats foods quickly and efficiently using microwaves. However, unlike conventional ovens, a microwave oven does not brown bread or bake food. This makes microwave ovens unsuitable for cooking certain foods and unable to achieve certain culinary effects. Additional kinds of heat sources can be added into microwave ovens or microwave packaging so as to add these additional effects.



KitchenAid Stand Mixer in action

3.5 Roasting



Roasting, medieval illuminated manuscript (Tacuina sanitatis casanatensis 14th century)

- **Roasting** – cooking method that uses dry heat, whether an open flame, oven, or other heat source. Roasting usually causes caramelization or Maillard browning of the surface of the food, which is considered by some as a flavor enhancement.
- **Barbecuing** – method of cooking meat, poultry and occasionally fish with the heat and hot smoke of a fire, smoking wood, or hot coals of charcoal.
- **Grilling** – applying dry heat to the surface of food, by cooking it on a grill, a grill pan, or griddle.
- **Rotisserie** – meat is skewered on a spit - a long solid rod used to hold food while it is being cooked over a

fire in a fireplace or over a campfire, or while being roasted in an oven.

- **Searing** – technique used in grilling, baking, braising, roasting, sautéing, etc., in which the surface of the food (usually meat, poultry or fish) is cooked at high temperature so a caramelized crust forms.

3.6 Hot Smoking

- **Smoking** – the process of flavoring, cooking, or preserving food by exposing it to the smoke from burning or smoldering plant materials, most often wood. Hot smoking will cook and flavor the food, while cold smoking only flavors the food.

3.7 Chemical techniques

- **Brining** – Brining is a process similar to marination in which meat or poultry is soaked in brine before cooking
- **Ceviche** –
- **Drying** –
- **Fermentation** –
- **Marinating** –
- **Pickling** –
- **Salting** –
- **Seasoning** –
- **Souring** –
- **Sprouting** –
- **Sugaring** –

3.8 Mechanical techniques

- Basting –
- Cutting
 - Chopping
 - Dicing –
 - Grating –
 - Juliennig –
 - Mincing –
 - Peeling –
 - Shaving –
- Kneading –
- Milling –
- Mixing ; Mixing some food to make a invention
 - Blending ; using a machine called blender to grind ingredients
- Vacuum Filling –

4 History of food preparation

- History of Chinese cuisine

5 International cuisine



Seafood gumbo, an example of Cajun cuisine

Main articles: Global cuisine and List of cuisines

A sample of some cuisines around the world:

- African cuisine (*see list*)
 - Mediterranean cuisine
 - Ethiopian cuisine

- Asian cuisine (*see list*)
 - Chinese cuisine
 - Japanese cuisine
 - Indian cuisine
 - Thai cuisine
 - Vietnamese cuisine
- European cuisine (*see list*)
 - Mediterranean cuisine
 - Eastern European cuisine
 - Russian cuisine
 - English cuisine
 - French cuisine
 - Italian cuisine
- Oceanian cuisine (*see list*)
 - Australian cuisine
 - New Zealand cuisine
- Cuisine of the Americas (*see list*)
 - Canadian cuisine
 - American cuisine
 - Cajun cuisine
 - Latin American cuisine
 - Mexican cuisine
 - South American cuisine
 - Argentine cuisine

6 General ingredients

- Cereals –
 - Maize –
 - Rice –
 - Wheat –
 - Bread –
 - Noodles –
- Cooking fats and oils
 - Butter –
 - Canola oil –
 - Coconut oil –
 - Corn oil –
 - Rice bran oil –
 - Flaxseed oil –
 - Lard –
 - Margarine –

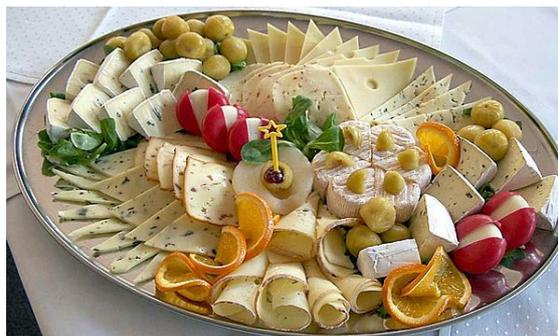


Decorated bread loaves



Olive oil

- Olive oil –
- Palm oil –
- Peanut oil –
- Rapeseed oil –



A platter with cheese and garnishes

- Sesame oil –
- Soybean oil –
- Sunflower oil –
- Tallow –
- Dairy –
 - Buttermilk –
 - Cheese –
 - Cream –
 - Milk –
 - Yogurt –
- Eggs –
- Fruits –
 - Apples –
 - Cherries –
 - Pears –



Japanese silky tofu (Kinugoshi Tofu)

- Legumes –
 - Beans –

- Lentils –
- Soy –
 - Miso –
 - Soy cheese –
 - Soy milk –
 - Soy sauce –
 - Soy yogurt –
 - Textured soy protein –
 - Tofu –



Lamb cutlets

- Meat –
 - Beef –
 - Fish –
 - Mutton –
 - Poultry –
 - Pork –
- Mushrooms –
 - Champignon –



Eggplants, also called Aubergines.

- Seasonings
 - Herbs –
 - Parsley –
 - Spices –
 - Pepper –
 - Salt –
- Sweeteners –
 - Agave nectar –
 - Fructose –
 - Glucose –
 - Honey –
 - Stevia –
 - Sugar –
- Vegetables –
 - Cucumber –
 - Eggplants –
 - Garlic –
 - Onions –
 - Potatoes –
 - Squash –
 - Tomatoes –

7 General food preparation concepts

- Cookbook –
- Cooking oil –
- Cooking weights and measures (includes conversions and equivalences common in cooking)
- Cooker or stove –
- Cuisine –
- Cutting board –
- Eating –
- Flavor –
- Food –
- Food and cooking hygiene –
- Foodborne illness –
- Food preservation –
- Ingredients



Preserved food

- International food terms (useful when reading about food and recipes from different countries)
- Maillard reaction –
- Oven –
- Recipe –
- Restaurant –
- Staple food – a food that is “eaten regularly and in such quantities as to constitute the dominant part of the diet and supply a major proportion of energy and nutrient needs”.^[4]

8 See also

- Cookbooks
- Culinary profession
- Food writing
- Junk food
- List of cocktails
- List of food preparation utensils
- List of soups
- List of twice-baked foods



Thai Kaeng phet pet yang: roast duck in red curry

- Natural food
- Nutrition
- Organic food
- Whole food

9 References

- [1] “How to blind bake”. Tesco realfood. Retrieved 30 December 2011.
- [2] Simmer definition from About.com - Culinary arts. Retrieved May 2009.
- [3] Tannahill, Reay. (1995). *Food in History*. Three Rivers Press. p. 75
- [4] United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization: Agriculture and Consumer Protection. “Dimensions of Need - Staple foods: What do people eat?”. Retrieved 2010-10-15.

10 External links

- This outline displayed as a mindmap, at *wiki-mindmap.com*
- How to Cook
- Outline of food preparation at DMOZ

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