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Tefal VS4001

Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer Instruction Manual

Model: VS4001

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase of the Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer. This appliance is designed to provide a healthy and convenient way to cook a variety of foods, preserving vitamins and nutrients. Please read this instruction manual carefully before first use to ensure proper operation, maintenance, and safety. Keep this manual for future reference.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

When using electrical appliances, basic safety precautions should always be followed, including the following:

- Read all instructions before use.
- Do not touch hot surfaces. Use handles or knobs.
- To protect against electrical shock, do not immerse cord, plugs, or the appliance base in water or other liquid.
- Close supervision is necessary when any appliance is used by or near children.
- Unplug from outlet when not in use and before cleaning. Allow to cool before putting on or taking off parts.
- Do not operate any appliance with a damaged cord or plug or after the appliance malfunctions or has been damaged in any manner.
- The use of accessory attachments not recommended by the appliance manufacturer may cause injuries.
- Do not use outdoors.
- Do not let cord hang over edge of table or counter, or touch hot surfaces.
- Do not place on or near a hot gas or electric burner, or in a heated oven.
- Extreme caution must be used when moving an appliance containing hot oil or other hot liquids.
- Always attach plug to appliance first, then plug cord into the wall outlet. To disconnect, turn any control to "off", then remove plug from wall outlet.
- Do not use appliance for other than intended use.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW AND COMPONENTS

The Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer consists of several parts designed for efficient and versatile steam cooking.



Image showing the Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer with its various components separated, including the base unit, two steaming baskets, and the lid. This illustrates the modular design for easy assembly and cleaning.

- **Base Unit:** Contains the heating element and water reservoir.
- **Water Reservoir:** For holding water to generate steam. Features a convenient external water refill opening.
- **Steaming Baskets (Stainless Steel):** Two durable, extra-large capacity stainless steel baskets for cooking different food items simultaneously.
- **Lid:** Covers the steaming baskets to retain steam and heat.
- **Control Panel:** Includes a timer dial and indicator lights for operation.
- **Drip Tray:** Collects condensation and food juices.

SETUP AND FIRST USE

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove all packaging materials and stickers from the steamer.
2. **Cleaning:** Before first use, wash all removable parts (steaming baskets, lid, drip tray) in warm, soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and dry. Wipe the base unit with a damp cloth.
3. **Placement:** Place the base unit on a stable, heat-resistant, and level surface. Ensure there is adequate ventilation around the appliance.
4. **Assemble:** Place the drip tray onto the base unit. Then, position the steaming baskets on top of the drip tray.
5. **Fill Water Reservoir:** Fill the water reservoir with cold tap water up to the MAX level indicator. Do not exceed the MAX line.
6. **First Cycle (Optional but Recommended):** To remove any manufacturing residues, run the steamer empty for 10-15 minutes with water in the reservoir. Discard the water afterwards.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 is designed for hands-free cooking with an automatic stop and alarm, and an automatic keep-warm

function.

1. **Prepare Food:** Wash and prepare your ingredients. Place them in the steaming baskets. You can cook different foods in separate baskets.
2. **Assemble Steamer:** Place the drip tray on the base, then the steaming baskets with food, and finally the lid.
3. **Fill Water:** Ensure the water reservoir is filled to the appropriate level. You can add water during cooking through the external refill opening if needed.



Image demonstrating the convenient water refill feature of the Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer, where a hand is shown pouring water into the external opening while the steamer is in use.

4. **Plug In:** Connect the power cord to a suitable electrical outlet.
5. **Set Timer:** Turn the timer dial to the desired cooking time. Refer to the cooking guide section for recommended times. The steamer will start generating steam.



Image showing the Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer actively steaming, with salmon fillets in the top tray and broccoli and fruit in the lower baskets, demonstrating its multi-level cooking capability.

6. **Cooking Process:** The steamer will cook your food efficiently, retaining vitamins.



Image illustrating the Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer cooking asparagus in the transparent basket and a fish fillet in the top tray, highlighting its versatility for different food types.

7. **Automatic Stop and Keep Warm:** Once the set time has elapsed, the steamer will automatically switch off and an alarm will sound. It will then enter an automatic keep-warm mode, ensuring your food is ready to serve when you are.
8. **Serving:** Carefully remove the lid, being mindful of hot steam. Use oven mitts to remove the steaming baskets.

General Cooking Guide (Approximate Times)

Food Item	Approximate Steaming Time
Vegetables (e.g., broccoli, carrots)	10-20 minutes
Fish fillets	8-15 minutes
Chicken breast	20-30 minutes
Rice (in a suitable bowl)	25-35 minutes

Food Item	Approximate Steaming Time
Potatoes (diced)	20-30 minutes

Note: Cooking times are approximate and may vary based on food quantity, size, and desired doneness. Always ensure food is thoroughly cooked before consumption.

MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

Regular cleaning and maintenance will ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer. The stainless steel baskets are durable and easy to clean.

- Unplug and Cool:** Always unplug the steamer from the power outlet and allow it to cool completely before cleaning.
- Discard Water:** Empty any remaining water from the reservoir and discard food residues from the drip tray.
- Wash Removable Parts:** Wash the steaming baskets, lid, and drip tray in warm, soapy water. These parts are generally dishwasher safe, but hand washing is recommended for best care. Rinse thoroughly and dry.
- Clean Base Unit:** Wipe the exterior of the base unit with a damp cloth. Do not immerse the base unit in water or any other liquid.
- Descaling:** Over time, mineral deposits (limescale) may build up in the water reservoir, especially in areas with hard water. To descale, fill the reservoir with a mixture of equal parts water and white vinegar. Run the steamer for 15-20 minutes. After the cycle, unplug, let cool, and rinse the reservoir thoroughly several times with fresh water. Repeat if necessary. Descale every 1-3 months depending on water hardness and frequency of use.
- Storage:** Ensure all parts are clean and dry before storing. Store the steamer in a cool, dry place.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter any issues with your Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer, please refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Steamer does not turn on.	Not plugged in; timer not set; power outage.	Ensure the steamer is securely plugged into a working outlet. Turn the timer dial to the desired cooking time. Check your household's power supply.
No steam is being produced.	Water reservoir is empty or below minimum level; limescale buildup.	Fill the water reservoir to the MAX level. Perform a descaling procedure as described in the Maintenance section.
Food is not cooking properly or taking too long.	Insufficient water; lid not properly sealed; food overloaded; limescale buildup.	Check water level and refill if necessary. Ensure the lid is securely placed. Do not overload baskets; cook in smaller batches if needed. Descale the appliance.
Water leaks from the base.	Drip tray not correctly positioned; overfilling water reservoir.	Ensure the drip tray is correctly seated on the base unit. Do not fill water above the MAX indicator.

If the problem persists after trying these solutions, please contact customer support.

SPECIFICATIONS

- Model:** VS4001

- **Brand:** Tefal
- **Manufacturer:** Groupe SEB
- **Color:** Silver
- **Material:** Stainless Steel (baskets)
- **Item Weight:** 4.1 Kilograms
- **Capacity:** 1.5 Liters (water reservoir)
- **Type:** Electric Food Steamer

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Tefal VitaCuisine VS4001 Food Steamer is covered by a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product for specific terms and conditions, including the warranty period and coverage details.

For technical support, spare parts, or service, please contact your local Tefal customer service center. Contact information can typically be found on the Tefal official website or in the documentation provided with your product.

You can also visit the official [Tefal Store on Amazon](#) for more product information and support.

