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Great Northern Popcorn Company 6208 TopStar

Great Northern Popcorn Top Star 12oz Popcorn Machine User Manual

Model: 6208 TopStar

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the safe and efficient operation of your Great Northern Popcorn Top Star 12oz Popcorn Machine. Please read all instructions carefully before initial use to ensure proper assembly, operation, and maintenance. Retain this manual for future reference.



Image 1.1: The Great Northern Popcorn Top Star 12oz Popcorn Machine, showcasing its design with the kettle in place.

2. IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

To reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, or injury, always follow these basic safety precautions:

- Read all instructions before operating the appliance.
- Do not touch hot surfaces. Use handles or knobs.
- To protect against electrical hazards, do not immerse cord, plugs, or the appliance 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, and before cleaning the appliance.
- Do not operate any appliance with a damaged cord or plug, or after the appliance malfunctions or has been damaged in any manner. Contact customer support for assistance.
- The use of accessory attachments not recommended by the appliance manufacturer may cause injuries.
- Do not use outdoors.
- Do not let the cord hang over the edge of a 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.
- A short power-supply cord is provided to reduce the risk resulting from becoming entangled in or tripping over a longer cord.
- This appliance has a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other). To reduce the risk of electric shock, this plug will fit in a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician. Do not attempt to modify the plug in any way.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- Top Star Popcorn Machine Unit
- 12oz Stainless-Steel Kettle
- Popcorn Scoop
- Kernel and Oil Scoop
- Measuring Cups
- Saltshaker
- 3 Plastic Serving Cups
- 3 Popcorn Serving Buckets
- 25 Popcorn Serving Bags

4. ASSEMBLY

The Great Northern Popcorn Top Star machine requires minimal assembly. Follow these steps:

1. Carefully unpack all components and remove any protective packaging.
2. Wipe down all surfaces, especially those that will come into contact with food, with a damp cloth and mild dish soap. Rinse and dry thoroughly.
3. Hang the 12oz stainless-steel kettle securely within the machine's interior. Ensure it is properly seated and the power cord for the kettle is connected to the designated outlet inside the machine.
4. Attach the front service door and the hinged glass doors. Ensure they operate smoothly.
5. Install any corner protectors if provided separately.
6. Place the reject kernel tray (old-maid drawer) underneath the main popping area. This tray collects unpopped kernels.



Image 4.1: Key components of the popcorn machine, including the 12oz kettle, control switches, warming light, tempered glass panels, and the unpopped kernel tray.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps to make popcorn:

1. **Pre-heating:** Plug the machine into a standard 120V electrical outlet. Turn on the 'Pot Heater' switch and the 'Spotlight Warmer' switch. Allow the kettle to pre-heat for 3-5 minutes.
2. **Add Ingredients:** Using the provided measuring tools, add 1/2 cup of popcorn oil to the kettle. Then, add 1.5 cups of popcorn kernels and 1 tablespoon of seasoned salt (optional). Close the kettle lid.
3. **Start Popping:** Turn on the 'Stirrer' switch. The stirrer will rotate to ensure even heating of the kernels.
4. **Popping Process:** Popcorn will begin to pop within a few minutes. Once popping slows significantly (approximately 95% of kernels have popped), turn off the 'Pot Heater' and 'Stirrer' switches.
5. **Empty Kettle:** Carefully tilt the kettle to release the popped corn into the main chamber.
6. **Serving:** The warming deck will keep the popcorn warm and fresh. Use the provided scoop to serve popcorn from the main chamber. The small perforations in the bottom tray allow unpopped kernels to fall into the reject

kernel tray for easy disposal.

7. **Repeat:** For additional batches, repeat steps 2-5. Allow a short cool-down period between batches if making multiple batches consecutively to prevent overheating.



Image 5.1: The popcorn machine in operation, with freshly popped corn accumulating in the main chamber.

6. MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

Regular cleaning ensures optimal performance and longevity of your popcorn machine.

1. **Unplug and Cool:** Always unplug the machine from the power outlet and allow it to cool completely before cleaning.
2. **Clean the Kettle:** The kettle is removable for easy cleaning. Disconnect its power cord and carefully remove it. Wash the kettle with warm, soapy water, then rinse thoroughly and dry completely. Do not immerse the electrical connection point in water.
3. **Clean Interior Surfaces:** Wipe down the tempered glass panels and stainless steel food zones with a damp cloth. For stubborn residue, use a mild, non-abrasive cleaner. Avoid harsh chemicals or abrasive pads that could scratch surfaces.

4. **Empty Reject Kernel Tray:** Slide out the reject kernel tray and discard any unpopped kernels. Wash the tray with warm, soapy water, rinse, and dry.
5. **Exterior Cleaning:** Wipe the exterior of the machine with a soft, damp cloth.
6. **Storage:** Ensure all parts are dry before reassembling and storing the machine in a clean, dry place.



Image 6.1: The reject kernel tray, designed to collect unpopped kernels for easy disposal and cleaning.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your popcorn machine, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Machine does not turn on.	Not plugged in; power switch off; circuit breaker tripped.	Ensure machine is securely plugged in. Check all switches are in the 'ON' position. Check household circuit breaker.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Kettle not heating.	Kettle not properly connected; 'Pot Heater' switch off.	Ensure kettle's power cord is securely connected. Verify 'Pot Heater' switch is on.
Popcorn not popping or burning.	Insufficient pre-heating; incorrect oil/kernel ratio; old kernels; kettle too hot.	Allow kettle to pre-heat for 3-5 minutes. Use fresh kernels and correct measurements. If burning, reduce pre-heat time slightly or ensure kettle is clean.
Stirrer not rotating.	'Stirrer' switch off; obstruction in kettle.	Ensure 'Stirrer' switch is on. Check kettle for any obstructions and clean if necessary.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** 6208 TopStar
- **Kettle Capacity:** 12 Ounces
- **Dimensions (L x W x H):** 17.9" x 14.9" x 30.1"
- **Weight:** 42.3 lbs
- **Wattage:** 1440W
- **Voltage:** 120V
- **Light Bulb:** 60 Watts
- **Material:** Tempered Glass, Stainless Steel, Alloy Steel, Metal
- **Certifications:** ETL Approved
- **Special Feature:** Lightweight (as per manufacturer specifications)

Simple 3 Switch Design



Image 8.1: Dimensional overview of the Great Northern Popcorn Top Star machine.

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This Great Northern Popcorn Top Star machine comes with a 5-year warranty, covering defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. For warranty claims, technical support, or replacement parts, please contact Great Northern Popcorn Company customer service. Refer to the product packaging or the official Great Northern Popcorn website for current contact information.