

Cuisinart CRC-400

Cuisinart CRC-400 4-Cup Rice Cooker and Steamer Instruction Manual

Model: CRC-400 | Brand: Cuisinart

1. IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

When using electrical appliances, basic safety precautions should always be followed to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and/or injury, including the following:

- Read all instructions before using the appliance.
- Do not touch hot surfaces. Use handles or knobs.
- To protect against electrical shock, do not immerse the cord, plugs, or the main unit of the rice cooker in water or other liquids.
- 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 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 the appliance for other than intended use.

2. INTRODUCTION

The Cuisinart CRC-400 4-Cup Rice Cooker and Steamer is designed to simplify the preparation of rice and steamed foods. This appliance can cook up to seven cups of cooked rice and features a built-in tray for steaming vegetables or other foods simultaneously. It includes 'Cook' and 'Warm' indicator lights and automatically switches to the 'Keep Warm' setting once cooking is complete. The aluminum steaming pot and tempered glass lid with a stainless steel rim ensure

durability, while chrome-plated handles remain cool for safe handling.

3. PARTS AND FEATURES

Familiarize yourself with the components of your Cuisinart Rice Cooker:

- **Main Unit:** The base of the rice cooker housing the heating element and controls.
- **Inner Cooking Pot:** An aluminum pot where rice and water are placed for cooking. It features measurement markings.
- **Tempered Glass Lid:** Allows you to monitor cooking progress without lifting the lid, featuring a stainless steel rim and steam vent.
- **Steaming Tray:** A removable tray for steaming vegetables, fish, or other foods above the rice.
- **Measuring Cup:** A standard rice measuring cup (approximately 3/4 standard cup).
- **Rice Paddle:** For stirring and serving cooked rice.
- **Cook/Warm Indicator Lights:** Lights indicating the current operational mode.
- **Cook Switch:** Activates the cooking cycle.



Image: The Cuisinart CRC-400 4-Cup Rice Cooker, showing its stainless steel exterior, control panel, and the inner cooking pot with measurement markings.

4. SETUP AND FIRST USE

Before using your Cuisinart Rice Cooker for the first time, follow these steps:

1. Unpack all parts and accessories.
2. Wash the inner cooking pot, tempered glass lid, steaming tray, measuring cup, and rice paddle in warm, soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and dry completely.
3. Wipe the exterior of the main unit with a damp cloth. Do not immerse the main unit in water.
4. Ensure the heating plate at the bottom of the main unit and the exterior of the inner pot are clean and dry before placing the inner pot into the cooker.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1. Cooking Rice

1. **Measure Rice:** Use the provided measuring cup to measure the desired amount of uncooked rice. The cooker can prepare up to 4 cups of uncooked rice, yielding approximately 7 cups of cooked rice.
2. **Rinse Rice (Optional):** Rinse the rice under cold water until the water runs clear. This helps remove excess starch.
3. **Add Rice and Water:** Place the rinsed rice into the inner cooking pot. Add the appropriate amount of water. A general guideline is 1.5 to 2 cups of water per 1 cup of uncooked rice, but refer to the water level markings inside the inner pot or your rice package instructions for best results.
4. **Place Inner Pot:** Carefully place the inner cooking pot into the main unit, ensuring it sits flat on the heating plate.
5. **Close Lid:** Place the tempered glass lid securely on the inner pot.
6. **Connect Power:** Plug the power cord into a standard electrical outlet.
7. **Start Cooking:** Press the 'Cook' switch down. The 'Cook' indicator light will illuminate, indicating that the cooking cycle has begun.
8. **Automatic Keep Warm:** Once the rice is cooked and the water has been absorbed, the cooker will automatically switch to the 'Warm' setting. The 'Cook' light will turn off, and the 'Warm' light will illuminate.
9. **Resting Period:** For best results, allow the rice to rest on the 'Warm' setting for 5-10 minutes after cooking is complete before serving. This allows the rice to firm up and absorb any remaining moisture.
10. **Serve:** Use the provided rice paddle to fluff and serve the rice.

5.2. Steaming Food

The Cuisinart Rice Cooker allows you to steam food using the included steaming tray.

1. **Prepare Water:** Add the appropriate amount of water to the inner cooking pot. Ensure the water level is below the steaming tray when inserted.
2. **Place Food:** Arrange your vegetables, fish, or other foods in the steaming tray.
3. **Insert Tray:** Place the steaming tray into the inner cooking pot.
4. **Close Lid:** Securely place the tempered glass lid on the cooker.
5. **Start Steaming:** Plug in the cooker and press the 'Cook' switch down. The 'Cook' indicator light will illuminate.
6. **Monitor and Remove:** Steam until food reaches desired tenderness. Carefully remove the lid (beware of steam) and remove the steaming tray.
7. **Automatic Shut-off:** The cooker will switch to 'Warm' mode once the water has evaporated.

5.3. Keep Warm Function

The 'Keep Warm' function automatically activates after the cooking cycle is complete. This feature maintains the rice at an optimal serving temperature without overcooking. It is recommended not to keep rice on the 'Warm' setting for extended periods (e.g., more than 1-2 hours) to maintain optimal texture and quality.

6. MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

Proper cleaning ensures the longevity and performance of your rice cooker.

1. **Unplug and Cool:** Always unplug the rice cooker from the electrical outlet and allow it to cool completely before

cleaning.

- 2. Wash Removable Parts:** The inner cooking pot, tempered glass lid, steaming tray, measuring cup, and rice paddle should be hand washed with warm, soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and dry completely. These parts are not dishwasher safe.
- 3. Clean Exterior:** Wipe the exterior of the main unit with a damp cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or scouring pads, as they may scratch the surface.
- 4. Do Not Immerse:** Never immerse the main unit, power cord, or plug in water or any other liquid.
- 5. Storage:** Ensure all parts are dry before storing the rice cooker. Store in a cool, dry place.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Cuisinart Rice Cooker, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

- **Rice is too hard or undercooked:**
 - Ensure the correct water-to-rice ratio was used. Add slightly more water next time.
 - Verify the lid was securely closed during cooking to prevent steam escape.
 - Allow the rice to rest on the 'Warm' setting for the recommended 5-10 minutes after cooking.
- **Rice is too soft or mushy:**
 - Reduce the amount of water used for cooking next time.
 - Ensure rice is not left on the 'Warm' setting for excessively long periods.
- **Rice is burned at the bottom:**
 - This can occur if too little water is used or if the rice is left on 'Warm' for too long. Try adding a small amount more water or reducing the time on 'Warm'.
 - Ensure the inner pot and heating plate are clean and free of debris.
- **Cooker does not turn on:**
 - Check that the power cord is securely plugged into both the cooker and a working electrical outlet.
 - Ensure the 'Cook' switch is fully pressed down.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Detail
Brand	Cuisinart
Model Name	CRC-400
Model Number	CRC-400
Capacity	4 Cups (uncooked rice, yields up to 7 cups cooked)
Power Source	Corded Electric
Wattage	400 watts
Voltage	120 Volts
Material	Stainless Steel (exterior), Aluminum (inner pot)
Lid Material	Tempered Glass, Stainless Steel
Color	Stainless Steel

Item Weight	5.2 Pounds
Product Care Instructions	Hand Wash (removable parts)
Included Components	Glass lid, Inner Cooking Pot, Steaming Tray, Measuring Cup, Rice Paddle, Instruction Manual
UPC	086279007650

9. WARRANTY INFORMATION

This Cuisinart product is covered by a limited warranty. For specific details regarding the warranty period, coverage, and terms, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Cuisinart website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

10. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For any questions, assistance, or service inquiries regarding your Cuisinart CRC-400 Rice Cooker and Steamer, please contact Cuisinart Customer Service. You can find contact information, FAQs, and additional resources on the official Cuisinart website (www.cuisinart.com).