

SELECTION, USE AND CARE OF MAJOR HOME APPLIANCES

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More than a billion major and portable appliances are in use in American homes. These mechanical servants offer homemakers previously undreamed freedom from household drudgery. In order to receive maximum efficiency from appliances, however, homemakers must know how to select, use and care for the appliances.

Appliance Selection

Major home appliance purchases are among the largest, most important investments made for the home. To get the greatest return for dollars spent, consider many factors when planning to buy any major home appliance.

Need. The first questions to ask are "Do I need that appliance?", "Will the appliance make life more comfortable?" and "Is it really necessary or am I buying it because everyone on the street has one?" Plan for individual or particular family needs. For example, give special attention to safety features and location of switches and controls when small children are present.

Use. What features must the appliance have to give desired results? Will these needs and requirements change with future family or home size? A family who moves frequently may want portable appliances rather than conventional built-in models.

Budget and space limitations. The highest price tag does not necessarily indicate the best quality product. Bargain appliances may prove to be the most expensive when repair costs and breakdown inconveniences are considered. Remember the hidden costs of appliance care. Will remodeling be necessary to build-in a dishwasher or vent a

clothes dryer? How much will a frost-free refrigerator increase monthly electric bills? Know how much space is available for the appliance. Will it fit in your house—through doors or up stairs? Where are outlets or drain connections? Consider many factors in model selection. Visit several dealers to learn what styles, features and materials are available.

Prices. Compare prices and compute various extended payment plans. Know exactly how much interest would cost in each plan. Obtain professional advice on credit buying if you do not understand the fine print in an agreement.

Installation. Have the installer, electrician or plumber check household wiring and water or gas lines for adequacy and safety. Ask about installation and delivery charges.

Safety. Are there any rough edges or sharp points? Be certain that electrical appliances have the Underwriter's Laboratories seal. This seal indicates that the appliance has met rigid standards for safety from fire and electrical shock. Gas appliances should have the American Gas Association seal.

Underwriter's
Laboratories
Seal



American
Gas
Association
Seal

Dealer's reputation. Check with the local Better Business Bureau or Chamber of Commerce. Ask salesmen to explain warranties or guarantees. Know dealers' policies on service and repair or replacement of defective parts. Ask where service

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is available if it is not provided by the dealer. To maintain the warranty, most manufacturers require that servicing be done through franchised or authorized dealers. Keep the warranty in a safe place where you can find it. Keeping all warranties in one place is a good idea.

Appliance Use

Read the instruction manual before you operate an appliance. Appliances used to have few features, few dials to turn and few buttons to push. They were easier to operate than today's appliances but did less for the homemaker. Reading the instruction manual helps you receive all benefits the appliance was designed to give. Learn how to use all features, and be sure that every family member who uses the appliance knows how to use it properly.

For the safe use of all appliances follow these suggestions.

- Check the appliance's wattage and the capacity of home wiring circuits. Avoid putting more than one heating or two motor-driven appliances on one circuit.

- Replace cords having worn or cracked insulation. Never run cords over hot objects; excessive heat could melt the insulation or make it dry and brittle.

- Never run cords under a rug or a door.

- Avoid using extension cords for connecting appliances.

- Use only the cord made for the particular appliance being used.

- Always connect a cord into an appliance first, then into the wall outlet.

- To disconnect an appliance, pull the plug and not the cord. Remove from the wall outlet first, then from the appliance.

- Unplug appliances when not in use. Disconnect appliances before oiling or cleaning.

- Never handle electrical appliances with wet hands or when standing on a wet or damp surface. Avoid touching an appliance and a pipe, radiator, faucet or sink at the same time.

- Allow space around heated appliances to prevent burning or igniting nearby furnishings.

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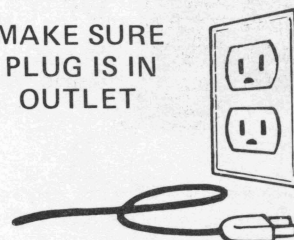
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Appliance Care

If your dependable appliance is suddenly making a strange noise or no noise at all, what do you do? Resist the first impulse to call a serviceman immediately. National statistics show that half of all service calls are totally unnecessary and over \$50,000,000 a year is wasted. A machine may be protesting improper usage. To save yourself time, money, effort and frustration, do some routine checking.

- Check the controls or the pilot light.
- Make sure the cord is plugged in completely.

**MAKE SURE
PLUG IS IN
OUTLET**

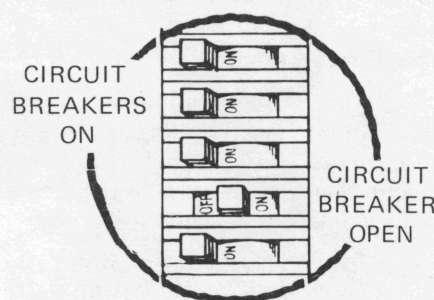


**AND
NOT
LOOSE**



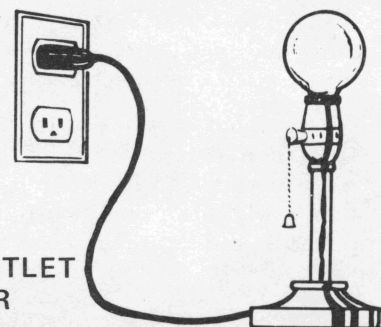
- Check fuses and circuit breakers for a blown or loose fuse or an open circuit breaker.

**CHECK
FUSES
and
CIRCUIT
BREAKERS**



- Check the outlet for power. Plug in a small lamp or other appliance to check if you have power at the wall outlet.

**CHECK THE OUTLET
FOR POWER**



- Always consult your owner's use and care manual.