Cuisinart®

Personal Brew™ 12-Cup Coffee Maker

DCC-12NC SERIES

Instruction Booklet

For your safety and continued enjoyment of this product, always read the instruction book carefully before using.

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

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

1. **READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS.**
2. **Always unplug from outlet when either the appliance or display clock is not in use and before cleaning. Allow to cool before putting on or taking off parts and before cleaning the appliance.**
3. Do not touch hot surfaces. Use handles and knobs.
4. To protect against electric shock, do not place cord, plug, or appliance in water or other liquids.
5. This appliance should not be used by or near children or individuals with certain disabilities.
6. Do not operate any appliance with a damaged cord or plug, or after the appliance malfunctions or has been dropped or damaged in any manner. Return appliance to the nearest Cuisinart Repair Center for examination, repair, and electrical or mechanical adjustment.
7. The use of accessory attachments not evaluated for use with this appliance may cause injuries.
8. Do not let cord hang over edge of table or counter, or touch hot surfaces.
9. Do not place on or near a hot gas or electric burner, or in a heated oven.
10. Always fill water reservoir first, then plug cord into the wall outlet. To disconnect, push the Brew/Off button, then remove plug from wall outlet.
11. Do not use appliance for other than intended use.
12. Snap lid securely onto carafe before serving any beverages.
13. Scalding may occur if the lid is removed during the brewing cycle.
14. The glass carafe is designed for use with this coffee maker only. It must never be used on the range top.
15. Do not set a hot carafe on a wet or cold surface.
16. Do not use a cracked carafe or a carafe having a loose or weakened handle.
17. Do not clean carafe or heating plate with cleansers, steel wool pads, or other abrasive materials.
18. **WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE THE BASE PANEL. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS ARE INSIDE. REPAIRS SHOULD BE DONE ONLY BY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL.**
19. Do not place cloth beneath coffee maker or otherwise restrict airflow.
20. Use only the Cuisinart® Gold-Tone Commercial Style Filter or standard cone-shaped paper filter with this unit. OTHER GOLD-TONE PERMANENT FILTERS MAY CAUSE THE COFFEE MAKER TO OVERFLOW.
21. Do not operate your appliance in an appliance garage or under a wall cabinet. **When storing in an appliance garage, always unplug the unit from the electrical outlet.** Not doing so could create a risk of fire, especially if the appliance touches the walls of the garage or the door touches the unit as it closes.
22. This appliance is not intended for use by persons (including children) with reduced physical, sensory, or mental capabilities, or lack of experience and knowledge, unless they have been given supervision or instruction concerning use of the appliance by a person responsible for their safety.
23. Children should be supervised to ensure that they do not play with the appliance.
24. The heating element is subject to residual heat after use.
25. Close supervision is necessary when any appliance is used by or near children.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

FOR HOUSEHOLD USE ONLY

Warning: Risk of Fire or Electric Shock

The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated, dangerous voltage within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of fire or electric shock to persons.

The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

Special Cord Set Instructions

A short power-supply cord is provided to reduce the risks of injury resulting from becoming entangled in or tripping over a longer cord. Longer detachable power supply cords or extension cords are available and may be used if care is exercised in their use. If a longer extension cord is used:

1. The marked electrical rating of the cord set or extension cord should be at least as great as the electrical rating of the appliance.
2. The longer cord should be arranged so that it will not drape over the countertop or tabletop where it can be pulled on by children or tripped over unintentionally.

Notice

This appliance has a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other). To reduce the risk of electric shock, this plug will fit into a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully into the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician. Do not modify the plug in any way.

Operating Notice

Clogging and backing up of water and/or coffee in the filter basket can occur under any or a combination of any of the following conditions: The use of too finely ground coffee, using two or more paper filters, using the gold-tone filter in conjunction with a paper filter or not properly cleaning coffee grounds from the gold-tone filter, or allowing coffee grounds to spill over the filter.

Caution: Never open the filter basket during the brewing cycle, even if no water is draining from the filter basket, because extremely hot water/coffee can spill out from the filter basket and cause injury. If water/coffee is not draining from the filter basket during the brewing cycle, unplug the unit and wait 10 minutes before opening and checking the filter basket.

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Important Unpacking Instructions

1. Place the box on a large, sturdy, flat surface.
2. Remove literature.
3. Turn the box so that the back side of the coffee maker is down and slide the coffee maker from the box.
4. After the coffee maker has been removed, place the box out of the way and lift off the left and right inserts.
5. Grasp the carafe by its handle, remove it from the heating plate, and remove the polybag.
6. Remove the polybag covering the coffee maker.

Save all packing materials in case you have to ship the machine in the future.

KEEP ALL PLASTIC BAGS AWAY FROM CHILDREN.

The Quest for the Perfect Cup of Coffee

Element 1: Water

Coffee is 98% water. The quality of that water is as important as the quality of your coffee. If water doesn't taste good from the tap, it won't taste good in your coffee. Cuisinart includes a charcoal water filter to remove chlorine, bad tastes, and odors for the purest coffee flavour every time you brew.

Element 2: Coffee

While coffee is 98% water, all of the flavour comes from the beans. To achieve the same great taste you enjoy at a coffee bar, you need to use the same quality of coffee. If you choose to grind your own beans, buy them fresh and whole. Buy only about a two-week supply at a time, because once the bean is broken, its flavour degrades quickly.

Element 3: Grind

The grind is critical for proper flavour extraction. If the grind is too fine, overextraction and bitterness will result. Too fine a grind may also clog the filter. If the grind is too coarse, the water will pass through too quickly and the maximum flavour will not be extracted. When grinding your own beans, we recommend a medium-fine grind.

Element 4: Proportion

Coffee that is too strong or too weak is always a disappointment. Follow the recommended portions of ground coffee in the instructions under BREWING COFFEE, and later adjust the amount to suit your taste.

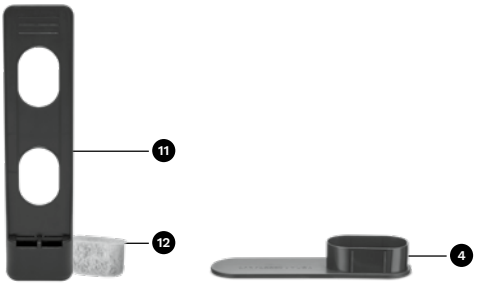
Features and Benefits

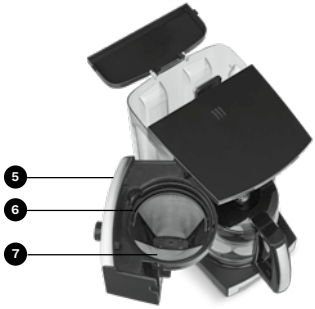
1. **Control Panel**
   See detailed illustration on next page 6.
2. **Removable 62 oz. Water Reservoir**
3. **Filter Basket Door Release Button**
4. **Coffee Scoop**
   Intregrated for easy storage.
5. **Filter Basket Door**
   Open to access coffee filter and filter holder.
6. **Filter Basket**
   Holds a paper filter or Cuisinart® permanent gold-tone filter.
7. **Cuisinart® Permanent Gold-Tone Commercial-Style Filter**
   Eliminates the need for paper filters.

8 **Brew Pause™**
Stops flow of coffee from basket when carafe is removed (20 seconds max) from the warming plate, so a cup can be poured mid-brew.

9 **12-Cup* Glass Carafe**
The easy-pour carafe has an ergonomic handle and brewed coffee markings for 4-12 cups.
* Cup = approx. 5 oz.

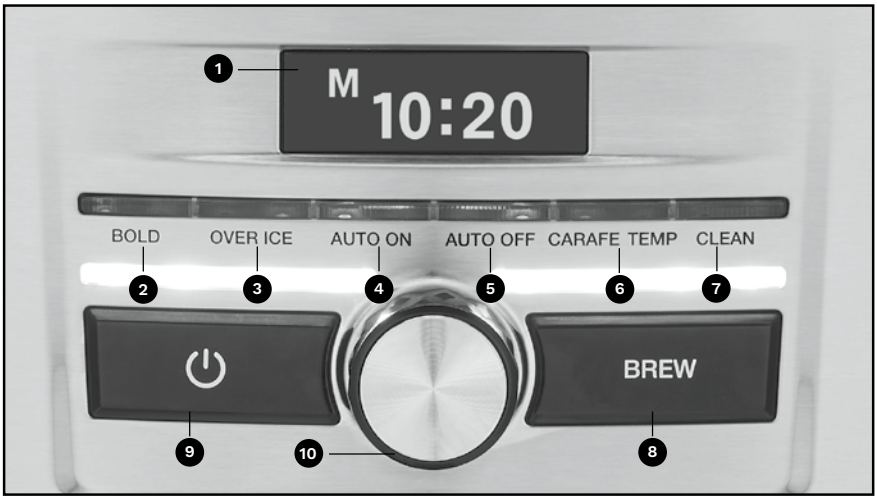
10. **Warming Plate**
    Keeps coffee warm until the end of Auto Off time. Adjustable temperature.
11. **Charcoal Water Filter Holder**
    Holds water filter firmly in place.
12. **Charcoal Water Filter**
    Eliminates chlorine, bad tastes, and odors from tap water.
13. **Shower Head (not shown)**
    Distributes water evenly over coffee, reducing temperature loss as water passes through grounds.
14. **Cord Storage (not shown)**
15. **60-Second Reset (not shown)**
    One-minute protection in case a breaker trips, the unit is unplugged, or the power fails. It holds all programmed information, including time of day, Auto On time, and Auto Off time.





Getting to Know Your Control Panel

Detailed programming and use instructions are on pages 7 and 8.



1. **LED Display**
   Displays time of day, Auto On, and Auto Off times.
   a. Low, Medium, and High (L,M,H) warming plate indicators.
2. **Bold Indicator**
   Select to choose bold or regular coffee strength; indicator light will be solid when Bold is selected.
3. **Over Ice Indicator**
   Select to adjust the brew process to maximize coffee flavour ideal for making iced coffee. Indicator light will be solid when selected.
4. **Auto On Indicator**
   Select to program your coffee maker to automatically start brewing at a preset time.
5. **Auto Off Indicator**
   Select to program your coffee maker to automatically shut off Keep Warm mode up to 4 hours after brewing. Indicator light will be flash when selected and will turn off after the time is set.
6. **Carafe Temp Indicator**
   Select to adjust warming plate temperature to Low, Medium, or High to keep coffee at the temperature you prefer.
7. **Clean Indicator**
   Indicator illuminates in red when it is time to decalcify your coffee maker. Select to run a cleaning cycle.
8. **Brew Button**
   Used to begin or stop brewing.
9. **Power Button**
   Used to turn the coffee maker on/off.
10. **Function Knob**
    Turn to scroll through functions and display options. Press knob to activate and deactivate choice selections.

Charcoal Water Filter

Inserting the Water Filter

Your coffee maker comes with a charcoal water filter that eliminates chlorine, bad tastes, and odors from tap water.

- Remove the filter from the polybag and soak it, fully immersed, in cold tap water for 15 minutes.
- Lift the water filter holder out of the water reservoir.
- Press down on the filter compartment and pull toward you to open.
- Place the filter into the holder and then snap it closed. Be careful – improper placement can tear the filter skin.
- Flush the filter by running cold tap water through the holes in the bottom of the compartment for 10 seconds.
- Allow the filter to drain completely.
- Slide the water filter holder back into the channel in the water reservoir, pushing it down to the base of the unit.

NOTE: We recommend changing the water filter every 60 days or after 60 uses, and more often if you have hard water. Replacement filters can be purchased in stores, by calling Cuisinart Consumer Service, or at **www.cuisinart.ca**

Setting Up Your 12-Cup Coffee Maker

Initial Cleaning

Perform an initial cleaning before making your first beverage. Follow these instructions, without adding coffee.

1. Remove the reservoir from the unit.

2. Fill the reservoir with water and replace back into the unit.
3. Plug the power cord into an independent outlet. Press the Power button to turn the unit on.
4. Make sure the carafe is in place.
5. Press the Brew button and allow brew cycle to run.
6. The one-time cleaning process is complete. Discard hot water. Your coffee maker is ready to use.

Programming Your 12-Cup Coffee Maker

Setting the Clock

When the coffee maker is plugged in, press the power button and 12:00 will flash in the display for 5 seconds, indicating the unit is in Clock Set mode. If 12:00 stops flashing, simply press and hold the Function Knob to return to flashing Clock Set mode.

Setting Hours and Minutes

Turn the Function Knob to scroll through hour times and choose desired time. Be sure the PM indicator is on if setting a PM time.

When hour time is selected, press the Function Knob to switch to minutes. Turn knob to select desired minute time and press the Function Knob to confirm selection and exit clock setting.

Clock Setting Mode

To enter clock setting mode after initial plug in, turn the Function knob until there is no indicator light on, and then press and hold the Function Knob to activate clock mode. The hour time will flash. Follow instructions in Setting Hours and Minutes above to set time.

Setting the Auto On Time

Turn the Function Knob to Auto On and the indicator will flash. Press and hold the Function Knob to enter the Auto On setting mode. The digital display will flash the default (12:00) or previously selected time.

Follow directions under Setting Hours and Minutes on page 7 to program your start brew time. After set time is chosen, press the Function Knob to Activate Auto on and the Auto on indicator will remain on. If Auto on is not set after 5 seconds of non-use, Auto On mode will be exited.

To deactivate Auto On

Turn the Function Knob to Auto On and the indicator will flash. Press and hold the Function Knob until the indicator stops flashing or press the knob 2 times to deactivate Auto On.

Setting the Auto Off Time

Turn the Function Knob to Auto Off and the indicator will flash. Press and hold the knob to enter Auto Off setting mode. The digital display will flash the programmed Auto Off default (2.00) or previously selected time. Follow directions under Setting The Clock to program coffee maker to shut off from 0 to 4 hours after brew cycle is finished.

Do not touch any buttons or the Function Knob. Auto Off setup mode will be exited automatically after 5 seconds.

Setting the Carafe Temperature

Use this feature to control the temperature of the warming plate, choosing from low (L), medium (M), or high (H). Turn the Function Knob to select Carafe Temp and the indicator will flash. Press the knob to enter Carafe Temp setting mode; the digital display will flash the default temperature (M). Rotate knob to select the designed temperature, then press knob to confirm. Selection will remain on the display and Carafe Temp indicator will remain on.

Brewing Coffee

Follow instructions in Setting Up Your 12-Cup* Coffee Maker on page 7.

*** Cup = approx. 5 oz.**

1. **Insert the charcoal water filter**
   Follow directions for the preparation and insertion of the filter on page 7.
2. **Fill the water reservoir**
   Remove the reservoir from the unit. Fill the reservoir with water and replace back into the unit. Be sure the reservoir is firmly in place.

3. **Before brewing**
   Make sure the glass carafe is in position on the warming plate and brew basket door is closed.
4. This coffee maker goes into standby/off mode after 10 minutes of non-use. Simply press the Power Button to turn the unit back on.
5. **Set preferences**

   a. Select Bold feature for stronger coffee flavour, if desired. Turn the Function Knob to Bold and indicator light will flash. Press the Function Knob to activate Bold and indicator will turn on. Press again to turn off light and brew at regular strength.

   b. Choose low (L), medium (M), or high (H) carafe temperature by following instructions listed on this page under Setting the Carafe Temperature. If no option is selected, the default temperature will be medium (M).

   c. Press the Over Ice button to prepare iced coffee. See page 9 for detailed instructions on Over Ice Brewing.

   NOTE: Activating the Over Ice function will disable the warming plate.

6. **Add ground coffee**
   a. Open the filter basket door by pressing the button on right side.
   b. Insert the gold-tone commercial-style filter into filter basket.

      Note: If a paper filter is used, be sure filter is fully opened and touching walls of basket holder. This unit is #4 paper filter compatible.

   c. Add 1 level scoop of ground coffee per cup. Adjust the amount according to taste.

      Note: The maximum capacity for ground coffee is 15 tablespoons for this coffee maker. Exceeding this amount may cause overflow if the coffee is too finely ground.

   d. Push the filter basket door closed until you hear it snap shut.

7. **Start brewing**
   Press the Brew button to begin brewing.

8. **After brewing**
   When the brewing cycle is done, coffee will continue to stream from the filter for several seconds. When streaming completely stops, five beeps will sound, and you can now enjoy your coffee.

   NOTE: Brew basket may be hot during and directly after brewing. Wait at least 10 minutes before opening filter basket door.

Brew Pause™ Feature

This feature interrupts the flow of coffee from the basket to let you pour that first cup mid-brew. Because the flavour profile of coffee brewed at the start of a cycle differs from that brewed toward the end, be aware that using this feature will weaken the flavour strength of the finished pot.

NOTE: Removing carafe for more than 20 seconds during brew cycle may cause filter basket to overflow.

Brewing Over Ice

The Over Ice feature adjusts the brew process to maximize coffee flavour ideal for making iced coffee. Either brew coffee directly over ice or add ice to coffee after it is brewed.

1. **Fill the water reservoir**
   Remove the reservoir from the unit. Fill the reservoir with water and replace back into the unit. Be sure the reservoir is firmly in place.

2. **Add ice**
   Fill the glass carafe with ice up to the 8 cup marking. Make sure the glass carafe is in position on the warming plate and the top cover is closed.

   NOTE: Adjust amount of ice based on personal preference. Adding too much ice could impact the overall flavour of the coffee. Do not fill past 8 cup marking with ice.

3. **Activate Over Ice function**
   Turn the Function Knob to Over Ice and the indicator will flash. Press the Function Knob to activate Over Ice and the indicator will remain on.

   NOTE: Activating the Over Ice function will disable the warming plate.

4. **Brewing**
   Follow steps 6 through 8 in Brewing Coffee on this page to complete Over Ice brewing.

5. **After brewing**
   The coffee maker will automatically shut off after brewing is complete.

Cleaning and Maintenance

Always turn coffee maker off and remove the plug from the electrical outlet before cleaning.

Open the brew basket door. Remove and discard the paper filter and ground coffee. The filter basket can be washed in warm, soapy water and rinsed thoroughly, or cleaned in the upper rack of the dishwasher. Dry all parts after use.

Do not put any water in the unit once the filter basket has been removed. Wipe the area under the filter basket with a damp cloth.

Remove the carafe from the heating plate. Discard any remaining coffee. The carafe and lid can be washed in warm, soapy water and rinsed thoroughly, or placed in a dishwasher. The carafe and carafe lid should be placed on the upper rack only.

Do not use any scouring agents or harsh cleansers on any part of the coffee maker.

Never immerse base unit in water or other liquids. To clean base, simply wipe with a clean, damp cloth and dry before storing. Fingerprints and other blemishes on the housing can be washed off with soap and water or a nonabrasive cleaning solution. Wipe heating plate with a clean, damp cloth. Never use rough, abrasive materials or cleansers to clean the heating plate. Do not dry the inside of the water reservoir with a cloth, as lint may remain.

Cleaning the Reservoir

It is normal over time for discoloration, spotting, or staining to appear in the water reservoir. Results will vary depending on the mineral content of the water used, but will not affect the operation of the brewer. However, be sure to clean the water reservoir regularly to minimize buildup.

Clean inside the water reservoir with a damp, lint-free cloth as necessary.

Decalcification

Decalcification refers to the removal of calcium deposits that form over time on the metal parts of your coffee maker. The mineral content of the tap water in your area and the frequency of use affect the rate of the calcium buildup, which can affect the functioning of your coffee maker and the flavour of your coffee.

For best performance from your Personal Brew coffee maker, we recommend cleaning it whenever the Clean inidicator lights up red.

NOTE: Before decalcifying your unit, remove the charcoal water filter from the water reservoir.

To clean:

1. Fill the water reservoir to capacity with a mixture of ⅓ white vinegar and ⅔ water.
2. Rotate the Function Knob to Clean, and press and hold the Function Knob for 3 seconds. When the Clean indicator flashes, the coffee maker is in Clean mode.
3. When the cycle is completed, 5 beeps will sound and the coffee maker will shut off.
4. If the Clean indicator appears once more, repeat the cleaning procedure with a fresh solution of vinegar and water.

NOTE: One cleaning cycle is usually sufficient.

5. When the Clean indicator remains off, run one cycle with a full reservoir of fresh, cold water to rinse the unit.
6. Return the charcoal water filter to the holder inside the water reservoir and your coffee maker is ready to brew!

Maintenance

Any other servicing should be performed by an authorized service representative.

Warranty

Limited Three-Year Warranty

We warrant that this Cuisinart product will be free of defects in materials or workmanship under normal home use for 3 years from the date of original purchase. This warranty covers manufacturer's defects including mechanical and electrical defects. It does not cover damage from consumer abuse, unauthorized repairs or modifications, theft, misuse, or damage due to transportation or environmental conditions. Products with removed or altered identification numbers will not be covered.

This warranty is not available to retailers or other commercial purchasers or owners. If your Cuisinart product should prove to be defective within the warranty period, we will repair it or replace it if necessary. For warranty purposes, please register your product online at www.cuisinart.ca to facilitate verification of the date of original purchase and keep your original receipt for the duration of the limited warranty. This warranty excludes damage caused by accident, misuse or abuse, including damage caused by overheating, and it does not apply to scratches, stains, discolouration or other damage to external or internal surfaces that does not impair the functional utility of the product. This warranty also expressly excludes all incidental or consequential damages.

Your Cuisinart product has been manufactured to the strictest specifications and has been designed for use only in 120 volt outlets and only with authorized accessories and replacement parts. This warranty expressly excludes any defects or damages caused by attempted use of this unit with a converter, as well as use with accessories, replacement parts or repair service other than those authorized by Cuisinart. If the appliance should become defective within the warranty period, do not return the appliance to the store.

Please contact our Customer Service Centre:

Toll-free phone number:
1-800-472-7606

Address:
Cuisinart Canada
100 Conair Parkway, Unit # 1
Woodbridge, ON. L4H 0L2

Email:
consumer_Canada@conair.com

Model:
DCC-12NC

To facilitate the speed and accuracy of your return, please enclose:

- $10.00 for shipping and handling of the product (cheque or money order)
- Return address and phone number
- Description of the product defect
- Product date code*/copy of original proof of purchase
- Any other information pertinent to the product's return

* Product date code can be found on the underside of the base of the product. Date code: WWYY, representing week, and year. eg.5026 = manufactured in 50th week of the year 2026.

Note: We recommend you use a traceable, insured delivery service for added protection. Cuisinart will not be held responsible for in-transit damage or for packages that are not delivered to us.

To order replacement parts or accessories, call our Customer Service Centre at 1-800-472-7606. For more information, please visit our website at www.cuisinart.ca

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