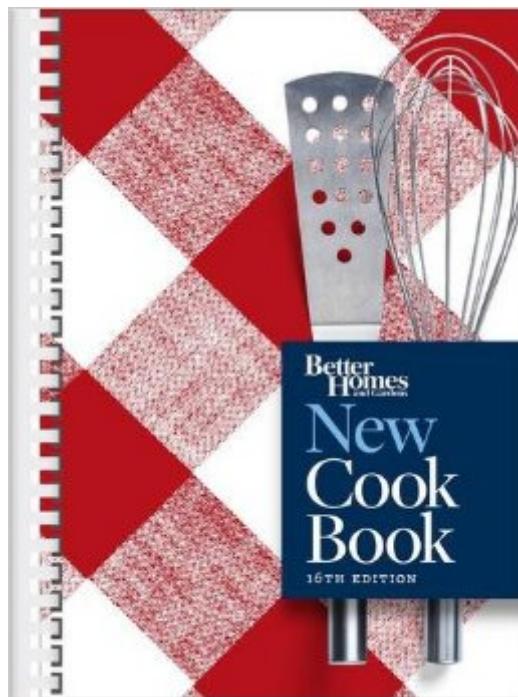


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Better Homes And Gardens New Cook Book, 16th Edition



Synopsis

The handy comb-bound edition of *A Better Homes and Gardens New Cook Book*, 16th Edition, the tried-and-true kitchen resource for generations of cooks. The *Better Homes and Gardens New Cook Book* remains the go-to resource for home cooks. In this handy comb-bound format of the completely updated 16th edition, every recipe, ranging from all-time favorites to modern classics, has been reviewed, revised, and revamped for today's kitchen. Included is a new Holiday chapter, increased coverage of canning and grilling, and expanded information on fruits and vegetables. The "Secrets to Success" feature focuses on teaching techniques, such as making artisanal bread, while the "8 Ways With" feature shows how to add flavor to basic items like boneless chicken breasts. With a redesigned cover to give the book a fresh, new look, over 1,200 recipes and more than 1,000 photographs, this comprehensive title is the one reference every home cook needs.

Book Information

Spiral-bound: 664 pages

Publisher: Better Homes & Gardens; 16 Spi edition (March 1, 2016)

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Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (357 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I've faithfully purchased *Better Homes and Gardens* cookbooks since the 1980s and overall the BH&G cookbooks have been solid references. I also purchase *Betty Crocker* cookbooks as I learned to cook with Betty. Between the two cookbooks I find plenty of basic but varied recipes. Of the two BH&G cookbooks tend to slant more towards modern home cooking while *Betty Crocker* tends to lean more towards baking and desserts. I'm happy with both cookbooks as they both fill their niche. The *Better Homes and Gardens New Cook Book*, 16th edition, has headed back towards

more mainstream recipes than it's predecessor which ventured off to some of the more exotic recipes. I like the 16th edition as every cook needs to have a good cookbook filled with basic (foundation) recipes you can depend on for daily cooking. Some of the recipes you will find in this cookbook include: Bacon-Cheddar-Stuffed Mushrooms All-American Cheeseburger Soup Beer Can Chicken Oven-Fried Parmesan Chicken Fish Tacos Baked Fish with Variations (A Make It Mine recipe) Oven-Baked Pork Chops (8 to Try recipe) Mashed Potatoes (A Cook's Secrets recipe) Buttermilk Pancakes Fruit Coffee Cake Fritata Red Velvet Cupcakes Maple, Apple and Cheddar Pie The Make It Mine recipes take a key ingredient and suggest variations using the key ingredient. The 8 to Try offers another key recipe with 8 variations using the key ingredient. The Cook's Secret's recipes offer key tips and color photos showing how to prepare the recipe for maximum flavor. The cookbook comes already organized and ready-to-go. Some notebook style cookbooks do not do this and you have to figure out how to insert the binder tabs and pages inside the cookbook.

I've been using the 11th edition of this standard cookbook for nearly 15 years, and was anxious to look at this updated edition. It is a decent update, and a solid choice if you only want one cookbook on your shelf. But the format is feeling a bit dated, and there are plenty of other general-purpose cookbooks that could easily replace this one (Bittman's "How to Cook Everything" and the "New Family Cookbook" from America's Test Kitchen come to mind). Below are some points to consider, whether you are buying your first "Better Homes and Gardens" cookbook, or updating from a previous edition:
* Format: The hardcover, 5-ring binder format is still the same as it has been from years. For me, this is kind of an inconvenient format...pages are a little harder to turn, getting stuck in the rings, discouraging casual browsing. Part of the problem is that there are a LOT of pages given the size of the cookbook. Everything just seems a bit too cramped. The good thing is that if you have some favorite pages from an older edition, you can easily add them to the new book. I also like the tabbed sections that most cookbooks lack.
* Organization: The tabbed sections are organized in alphabetical order, as opposed to many other cookbooks where sauces, soups, salads, and appetizers are near the front, with main courses in the middle and desserts near the end. This is fine, I guess, because the BHG cookbook seems to be more of a reference manual than a fun-to-read cookbook. Looking up recipes is sometimes tricky. For example, I wanted to find a recipe for guacamole. So, I went to the section called "Appetizers & Drinks". The tabbed divider further organizes that section by listing subcategories. So, I went to the "Dips & Spreads" heading and looked for guacamole.

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