On Cooking A TEXTBOOK OF CULINARY FUNDAMENTALS | SIXTH EDITION





On Cooking SIXTH EDITION



Approach and Philosophy of On Cooking

The sixth edition of *On Cooking* follows the model established in previous editions, which have prepared thousands of students for successful careers in the culinary arts by building a strong foundation based on sound fundamental techniques. Students and instructors alike have praised *On Cooking* for its comprehensive yet accessible coverage of culinary skills and cooking procedures. Chapters **focus on six areas** that are essential to a well-rounded culinary professional:

- 1 Professionalism Background chapters introduce students to the field and feature material on food history, food safety and menu planning. Updated food safety information reflects the most recent regulations. A new chapter on the basics of nutrition emphasizes the nutritional impact of cooking.
- Preparation Chapters cover the core subjects all culinary students should be familiar with before stepping into the kitchen. Equipment, basic knife skills and mise en place concepts are explained and illustrated. Staple ingredients, such as dairy products, herbs and spices as well as flavor profiles are also presented in this section.
- 3 Cooking These chapters explain and then demonstrate fundamental cooking techniques with a wide range of recipes. Individual chapters focus on different categories of key ingredients such as meats, poultry, fish, eggs and vegetables.
- Garde Manger These chapters cover kitchen preparations including salads, sandwich making, charcuterie and hors d'oeuvre preparations. Material is of sufficient depth to support a complete unit on garde manger skills.
- **Baking** These chapters cover a range of classic and contemporary breads and pastries that every culinary student should know. The material is sufficient to support a standalone unit on breads and dessert preparation.
- **6 Presentation** Revised chapters on plate and buffet presentation demonstrate traditional and contemporary techniques for enhancing the visual presentation of food. The basics of buffet setup and management are also included in this section.

UPDATES

More than 225 new photographs and illustrations clearly show core techniques, equipment and foods.

A new Nutrition chapter complements the revised Healthy Cooking and Special Diets chapter, which now includes expanded information on health-related and vegetarian diets.

Content updates, including new recipes, reflect current trends while a new Basic Procedure feature helps students understand and compare core cooking techniques. Expanded coverage of curing and smoking, *sous vide* cooking and principles of vegetable cookery show students modern cooking techniques widely used in professional kitchens.

New discussions on sustainability and environmental concerns encourage students to consider the impact of their food choices.

Learning objectives, end-of chapter Questions for Discussion and margin definitions are fully linked to competencies required by the American Culinary Federation.

At-a-glance cooking technique callouts highlight core principles, equipment, ingredients and steps. Function of Ingredients sidebars reinforce the science of cooking and baking and explain the uses for certain bakery ingredients.

A greatly enhanced support package includes MyLab Culinary[®], an online instructors' manual featuring performance-based learning activities, an improved text bank and lecture-based PowerPoint slides.

Visual Guide for the Reader

Easy to navigate, *On Cooking* is broken down into bite-size subsections as reflected in the table of contents. We invite you to take the guided tour to capture the flavor of *On Cooking*.

HALLMARK FEATURES

Learning Objectives

Each chapter begins with clearly stated objectives that enable you to focus on what you should achieve by the end of the chapter.

Chapter Introduction

Chapter introductions summarize the main themes in each chapter and help reinforce topics.

After studying this chapter, you will be able to:

- name key historical figures responsible
 for developing food service
 professionalism and describe the
 contributions of each
- list and describe the key stages in the development of the modern food service industry
- explain the organization of classic and modern kitchen brigades
- identify the attributes a student needs to become a successful culinary professional
- describe the importance of professional ethics for chefs and list the specific behaviors that all culinary professionals should follow

 $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{cookery}}$ the art, practice or work of cooking

cooking (1) the transfer of energy from a heat source to a food; this energy alters the food's molecular structure, changing its texture, flav ike any fine art, great cookery requires taste and creativity, an appreciation of beauty and a mastery of technique. Like the sciences, successful cookery demands knowledge and an understanding of basic principles, and like any successful leader, today's ofessional chef must exercise sound judgment and be committed to achieving excellence in endeavors.

This book describes foods and cooking equipment, explains culinary principles and cooking techniques and provides recipes using these principles and techniques. No book however, can provide taste, creativity, commitment and judgment. For these, chefs and other culinary professionals must rely on themselves. This chapter explores the rich history of the restaurant industry and the individuals who influenced the development of the profession. It also outlines the attributes of the professional chef. As you begin your culinary studies, we hope that you find inspiration in the history of the food service industry as you learn about the qualities that will guide you in your chosen career.

CHEFS AND RESTAURANTS

Cooks have produced food in quantity for as long as people have eaten together. For millennia, chefs, whether they be Asian, Native American, Buropean or Affrican, have cattered to the often elaborate diming needs of the wealthy and powerful; and for centuries, vendors in China, Europe and elsewhere have sold foods to the public that they prepared themselves or bought from others.

prepared memselves or fought from omers.

But the history of the professional chef is of relatively recent origin. Its cast is mostly French, and it is intertwined with the history of restaurants—for only with the

Margin Definitions

Important terms appear in the margins to help you master new terminology. There is a helpful phonetic pronunciation guide for non-English terms. **stage** [stahzh] a brief, unpaid internship or training session in a professional kitchen; from the French *stagiaire*, meaning apprentice or intern

Safety Alerts ▶

Brief notes remind you of safety concerns and encourage you to incorporate food safety and sanitation into your regular kitchen activities.

A Safety Alert

The Temperature Danger Zone

The temperature danger zone is a broad range of temperatures in which most of the bacteria that cause food-borne illnesses multiply rapidly. The 2013 Food Code of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), July 2015 supplement, indicates that the temperature danger zone begins at 41°F (5°C) and ends at 135°F (57°C). Regulations in some localities and with some organizations may vary. This text uses the range recommended by the FDA.

From Your Grocer's Shelf

Even the most sophisticated food service operation occasionally uses some prepared condiments or flavorings. The products listed here are widely used and available from grocery stores or wholesale purveyors. Some are brand-name items that have become almost synonymous with the product itself; others are available from several manufacturers. When there is a choice, select brands with all natural ingredients, few thickeners and no preservatives.

Barbeaue sauce: Commercial barbeaue sauce is a mixture of tomatoes, vinegar and spices used primarily for marinating or basting meat, poultry or fish. A tremendous variety of barbeaue sauces are available, with various flavors, textures and aromas. Sample several before selecting the most appropriate for your specific needs.

Chile sauce: Asian chile sauce, also known as sambol or sambol oelek, varies somewhat depending on the country of origin or style, but all are thick, reddish-orange and extremely pungent and spicy. They usually contain ground chiles with garlic or onion and with less winegar than Louisiana-style hot

sauce. Asian cuisines incorporate these bottled sauces in curries, soups, stews and other dishes and as table condiments. One of the most popular and widely available brands is the Vietnamese-style chile garlic sauce with a rooster logo on its label, made in California by Huy Fong Foods. Various imported Sfriacha sauces, named for a port town in southern Thailand, are also widely available. Hoisin sauce: Hoisin sauce is a dark, thick, sally-sweet sauce made from fermented soybeans, vinegar, garlic and caramel. It is used in Chinese dishes or served as a dipping used in Chinese dishes or served as a dipping

Old Bay brand seasoning: Old Bay is a dry spice blend containing celery salt, dry mustard, paprika and other flavorings. It is widely used in shellfish preparations, especially boiled shrimp and crab.

sauce.

Oyster sauce: Oyster sauce is a thick, dark sauce made from oyster extract. It has a salty-sweet flavor and a rich aroma. Oyster sauce is often used with stir-fried meats and poultry in Chinese cuisine.

Pickapeppa brand sauce: Pickapeppa sauce is a dark, thick, sweet-hot blend of tomatoes,

onions, sugar, vinegar, mango, raisins, tamarind and spices. Produced in Jamaica, it is used as a condiment for meat, game or fish and as a seasoning in sauces, soups and dressings.

Tabasco brand sauce: Tabasco sauce is a thin, bright-red liquid blended from vinegar, chiles and salt. Its fiery flavor is widely used in sauces, soups and prepared dishes; it is a popular condiment for Mexican, southern and southwestern cuisines. Tabasco sauce has been produced in Louisiana since 1868. Other "Louisiana-style" hot sauces (containing only peppers, vinegar and salt) may be substituted.

Worcestershire sauce: Worcestershire sauce is a thin, dark brown liquid made from a variety of fermented ingredients including anchovies, malt vinegar, tamarind, molasses and spices. It is used as a condiment for beef and as a seasoning for sauces, soups, stews and prepared dishes. Its flavor should be rich and full, but not salty. Vegetarian and kosher versions made without anchovies are also available.

◀ Flavor Sidebars

These sidebars show how flavoring ingredients may be used to change the character of a dish.

Procedure for Rolling and Shaping Pie Dough



ugh for a typical pie crust or tart shell should be rolled to a thickness of approximately 36 inch (3 millimeters); it should be at least 2 inches (5 centimeters) larger in diameter than the baking pan.



When you have rolled the dough to the desired thickness, carefully roll the dough up onto a rolling pin. Position the pin over the pie pan or tart shell and unroll the dough, easing into the pan or shell.

Opening the Press the dough into the pan. For a single crust pie, trim the edge. Use the index finger and thumb on one hand and the index finger on the other to create a scalloped edge. Bake or fill as desired.

Procedures

Step-by-step color photographs of various stages in the preparation of ingredients and dishes help you visualize unfamiliar techniques and encourage you to review classroom or kitchen activities whenever necessary.

Product Identification

Hundreds of original color photographs help you recognize and identify ingredients. You can explore a huge variety of items such as fruits, berries, chocolates, fresh herbs, fish, dried spices, game, meats and fine cheeses.



MISE EN PLACE

- Cut beef shank into pieces.
 Peel and chop onions, carrots and celery for
- Wash and peel turnips and leeks and chop into
- medium dice.
 Wash, peel, seed and dice tomatoes.
 Prepare herb sachet.

Mise en Place

French for "put in place," this feature accompanying in-chapter recipes provides a list of what you must do before starting a recipe, such as preheating the oven, chopping nuts or melting butter.

▼ Icons

Icons identify recipes that are vegetarian, vegan or good choices for health-conscious diners.

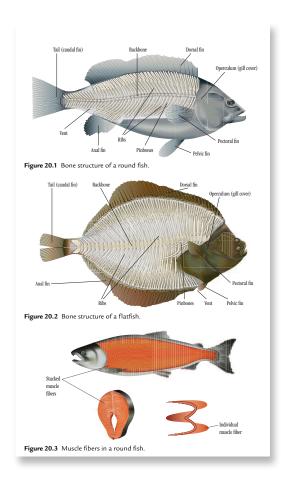




Vegetarian

Line Drawings

Detailed line drawings illustrate tools and equipment without brand identification. Other drawings depict the skeletal structure of meat animals, fish and poultry.



Recipes

Measurements ---

All recipes include both U.S. and metric measurements. To aid in teaching scaling and consistent baking practices, we also provide metric equivalents for all temperatures, pan sizes and length measurements throughout the text. Baking recipes also include measurements in baker's percentage.

Illustrations ---

Recipes are illustrated with both sequential photos showing the preparation of dishes and many finished-dish photos that show you the authors' finished food created while testing the recipes.

Variations -----

Recipe variations show you how to modify recipe ingredients to create new dishes.

Nutritional Analysis -----

All recipes include a nutritional analysis prepared by a registered dietician.



Finished dish photos illustrate ways to present the recipe.

Sidebars

Sidebars present information on food history, food in culture and the background of professional foodservice. These sidebars help you understand the culinary arts in a wider social context.

Questions for Discussion

Questions for Discussion, which appear at the end of each chapter, encourage you to integrate theory and technique into a broader understanding of the material.

Chocolate Cherry Scones

Houston Community College, Houston, TX

Pastry Chef Eddy Van Damme

YIELD 24 Scones, approx. 41/4 oz. (130 g) each	METHOD Biscuit		
Unsalted butter, cold	14 oz.	420 g	44%
Granulated sugar	4 oz.	120 g	12.5%
Buttermilk	8 fl. oz.	240 ml	25%
Sour cream	1 lb.	480 g	50%
Salt	▶ 0.6 oz. (1 Tbsp.)	18 g	2%
Vanilla extract	0.5 fl. oz. (1 Tbsp.)	15 ml	1.5%
All-purpose or pastry flour	2 lb.	960 g	100% _
Baking powder	2 oz.	60 g	6%
Dried cherries	1 lb.	480 g	50%
Chocolate chunks	9 oz.	270 g	28%
Powdered sugar	as needed	as needed	
Total dough weight:	6 lb. 6 oz.	3063 g	319%



- 1 Chill a mixer bowl and paddle attachment in the freezer for at least 15 minutes before mixing.
- 2 Cut the butter into 1-inch (6-millimeter) cubes. Set aside in the refrigerator
- 3 Whisk together the sugar, buttermilk, sour cream, salt and vanilla extract in a bowl until smooth Set aside in the refrigerator.
- 4 Put the flour and baking powder in the chilled mixer bowl. Place the butter on top. Mix on low speed using the paddle attachment until the mixture resembles coarse meal.
- 5 Add the buttermilk mixture to the dry ingredients and mix very briefly, until just combined. Mix in the cherries and chocolate until just combined.
- 6 Scale the dough into three uniform pieces. On a lightly floured surface, press each piece of dough out into an 8-inch (20.5-centimeter) disk using a metal torte ring or other form as a guide.
- out into an 8-inch (20.5-centimeter) disk using a metal torte ring or other form as a guide.

 7 Cut each disk of dough into eight wedges. Position the wedges of dough spaced 2 inches (5 centimeters) apart on parchment-lined baking sheets. Bake at 375°F (190°C) until light golden brown, approximately 18-24 minutes. When cool, dust with powdered sugar if desired.

► Variation:

Cinnamon Orange Scones—Omit the sun-dried cherries and chocolate chunks. Add 0.5 ounce (2 table-spoons/15 grams/1.5%) ground cinnamon and 0.2 ounce (1 tablespoon/6 grams/0.6%) grated orange zest in Step 3. Vield is reduced to 4 pounds 15 ounces (2313 grams).

Approximate values per 4¼-oz. (130-g) scone: Calories 430, Torza at 21 g, Saturated fat 13 g, Cholesterol 45 mg, Sodium 550 r
Total carbohydrates 58 g Protein 6 g Vitamin A 25% Calcium 20% Iron 15%







Placing the portioned dough on baking sheets

Adding the chilled buttermilk mixture

Comprehensive Learning and Teaching Package

MyLab Culinary

FOR THE STUDENT

MyLab Culinary, a dynamic online tool, supports the many ways students learn. MyLab Culinary enables the student to study and master the content online on their own time and at their own pace. Media-rich personalized study plans are based on the student's performance using the site's interactive testing and games.

- UPDATED! Pearson Kitchen Manager has been redesigned and rebuilt for an improved customer experience and better connection to the Learning Objectives. With this collection of *On Cooking* recipes, you can quickly perform simple tasks such as recipe scaling, recipe costing and recipe conversions.
- NEW! Chapter 0, Culinary Math Fundamentals, with one model problem for 20 identified math concepts, with 10 practice problems for each concept (220 total problems).

The following updated chapter resources are included:

- Short Writing Assignments for each chapter build critical analysis and problem solving skills and send students to Pearson Kitchen Manager (when appropriate).
- Multiple Choice Questions in the form of Chapter Quizzes and Tests are in alignment with each Learning Objective, reinforcing the content in On Cooking.
- Videos align with *On Cooking* or current American Culinary Federation Standards.
- Video Assessment Questions are included with each video.
- Culinary Rubrics and Correlation Guides align with current American Culinary Federation Standards.

FOR THE INSTRUCTOR

Manage Your Course with MyLab Culinary

MyLab Culinary is an easy-to-use online resource designed to supplement a traditional lecture course. It provides instructors with basic course management capabilities in the areas of course organization, grades, communication and personalization of content. Instructors benefit from course management tools such as a robust grade book, integrated course email and reporting tools. MyLab Culinary also includes grading rubrics; these downloadable documents that can be used to grade and assess kitchen skills. Reporting features include data tracking and reporting for students.

Qualified adopters can download the following instructor supplements by registering at our Instructors' Resource Center at **www.pearsoned.com**.

Online Instructor's Manual

The Instructor's Manual includes chapter outlines, examination questions and answers, performance-based learning activities, answers to end-of-chapter questions for discussion and maps to ACF skill standards and competencies. (**ISBN-10:** 0-13-445365-4)

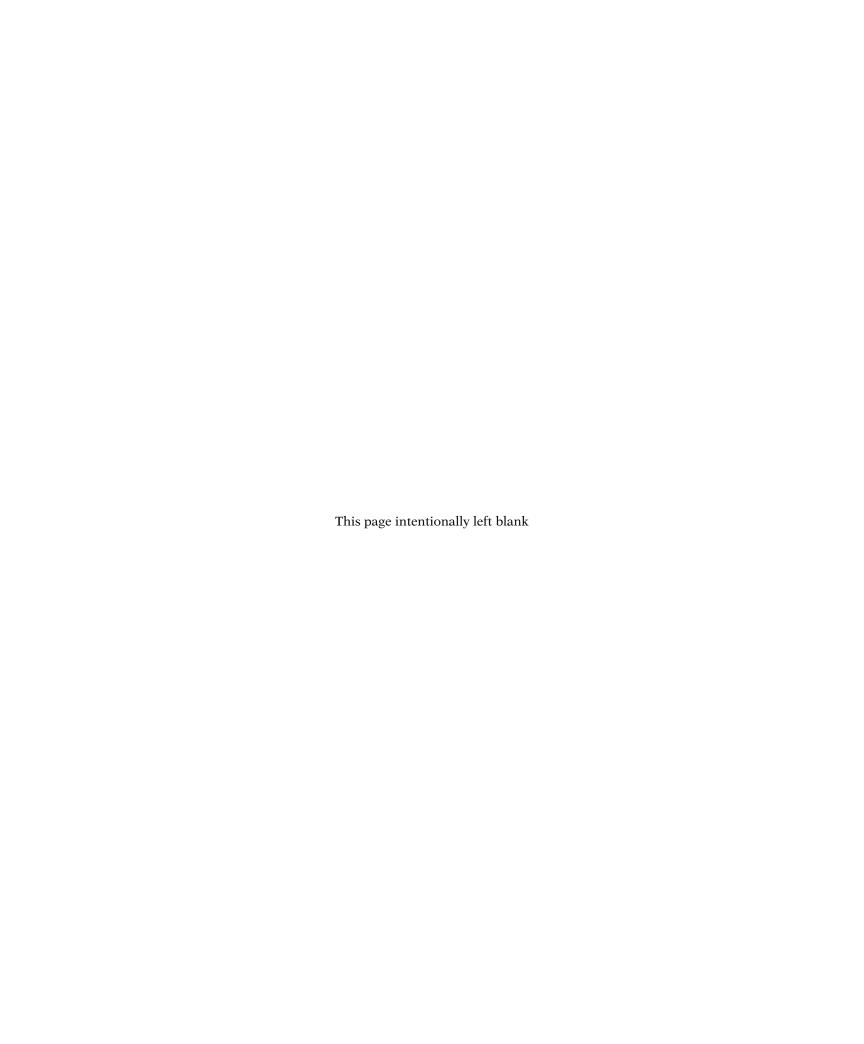
PowerPoint Lecture Presentations

This comprehensive set of slides can be used by instructors for class presentations or by students for lecture preview or review. There is a presentation for each chapter, including a selection of full-color photographs from the book. (**ISBN-10:** 0-13-444293-8)

TestGen (Computerized Test Bank)

TestGen contains text-based questions in a format that enables instructors to choose questions in order to create their own examinations. (**ISBN-10:** 0-13-444297-0)

For additional information on media resources or instructor materials, please contact Pearson Education faculty services at 1-800-526-0485.



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About the Authors



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In addition to *On Cooking*, Sarah Labensky is also co-author of *On Baking*, *Webster's New World Dictionary of Culinary Arts* and *Applied Math for Food Service*. She is a past president of the International Association of Culinary Professionals (IACP).

Sarah's passions include travel and mentoring young people to develop their own professional paths. To combine those interests, she has conducted culinary training programs in Russia, Korea, Moldova and Jamaica.



ALAN M. (SKIP) HAUSE

Chef Skip is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. Upon graduation, Chef Skip worked in both restaurants and hotels before settling in Arizona. For the past 20 years, he has owned and operated Fabulous Food Fine Catering and Events. He also launched and operates Gertrude's restaurant at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, Arizona. Chef Skip is involved in day-to-day food production, planning and execution of catered events as well as overseeing restaurant operations. A longtime member of the American Culinary Federation, Chef Skip is passionate about all aspects of food and cooking. He enjoys teaching and mentoring students and cooks, is active in the Careers through Culinary Arts Program (C-Cap) and is a board member of the East Valley Institute of Technology Culinary Program.

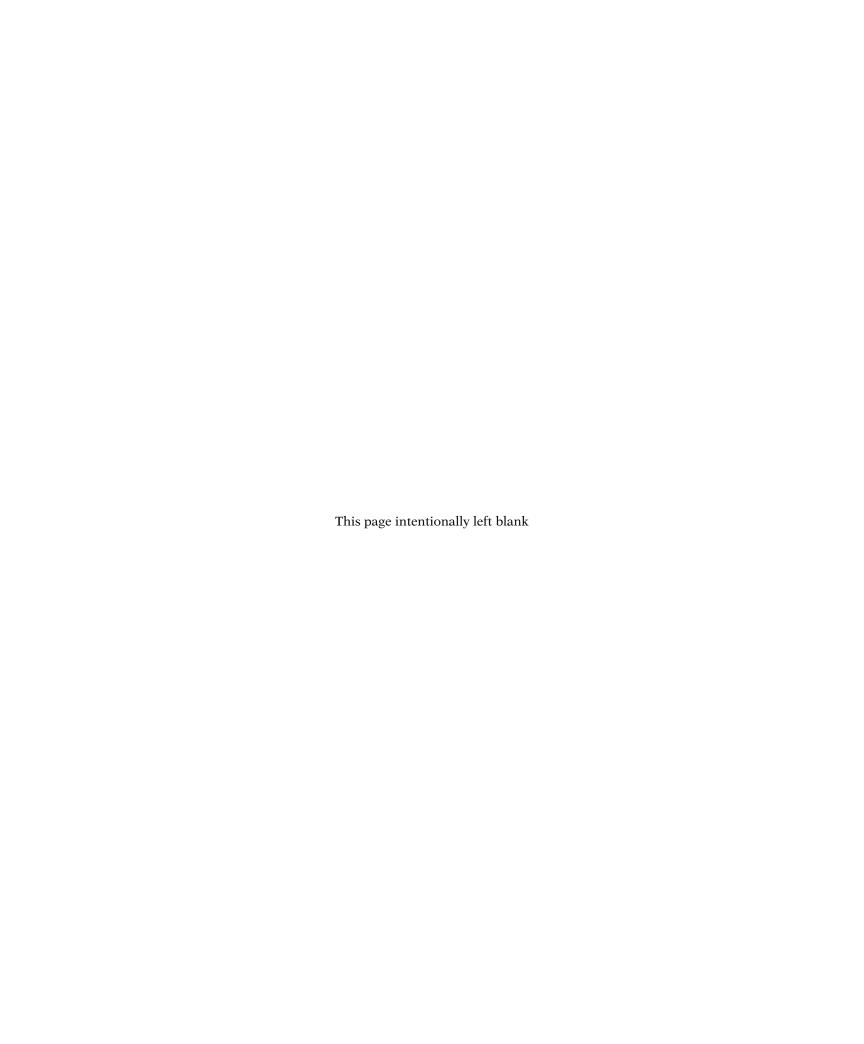
When not working in the kitchen, Chef Skip pursues his passions entertaining friends, traveling, hiking, biking (both motor and pedal) and, of course, anything to do with food. Chef Skip resides in Scottsdale, Arizona and summers in Kalispell, Montana, with his wife, Chantal, and sons, Logan and Grayson.



PRISCILLA A. MARTEL

Priscilla Martel is a professional chef, educator and food writer with a special interest in Mediterranean cuisines and artisan baking. She honed her cooking skills at Restaurant du Village, a country French restaurant she opened in Chester, Connecticut, in 1979. Today she operates All About Food, which holds several baking patents and collaborates with food manufacturers and restaurants to create innovative products, menus and marketing programs.

She is a visiting instructor at Boston University's certificate program in the culinary arts and in the Hospitality Management Program at Gateway Community College in New Haven, Connecticut. She is also a contributing writer for *Gourmet Retailer* among other food trade publications and the culinary director of American Almond, a leading baking-industry ingredient manufacturer. To honor her commitment to help young people prepare for their culinary careers, Priscilla Martel advises Pro Start Culinary teams in Connecticut. She is co-author of *On Baking* and *Math for Bakers* (DVD).



Contents

1 Professionalism1	3 Nutrition	39
CHEFS AND RESTAURANTS 2	NUTRITION BASICS 40	
The 18th Century—Boulanger's Restaurant 2	Essential Nutrients 41	
The Early 19th Century—Carême and Grande Cuisine 3	Carbohydrates 41	
The Late 19th Century—Escoffier and Cuisine Classique 4	Lipids 42	
The Mid-20th Century—Point and Nouvelle Cuisine 5	Proteins 43	
The Late 20th and Early 21st Centuries—An American Culinary Revolution 5	Vitamins 44	
Modernist Cuisine 6	Minerals 46 Water 46	
MODERN FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS 7	Phytochemicals 46	
Culinary Technologies 7	TOOLS FOR HEALTHY EATING 47	
Food Supplies 8	Dietary Guidelines for Americans 48	
Consumer Concerns 9	MyPlate 48	
THE MODERN KITCHEN BRIGADE 11	Nutrition Labeling 48	
THE PROFESSIONAL CHEF 13	Menu Labeling 49	
Knowledge 13	Government Oversight 49	
Skill 14	NUTRITION, EATING OUT AND THE CHEF 50	
Taste 14	Healthful Cooking Techniques 51	
Judgment 14	Nutritional Analysis of Recipes 52	
Dedication 14		
Professional Ethics 15 Pride 15	1 M ID	
Careers 15	4 Menus and Recipes	53
	THE MENU 54	
	Types of Menus 54	
2 Food Safety and Sanitation 17	Menu Language 55	
-	STANDARDIZED RECIPES 56	
SANITATION 18	MEASUREMENTS AND CONVERSIONS 56	
DIRECT BIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS 18	Measurement Formats 56	
Bacteria 19	Measurement Systems 58	
Parasites 23 Viruses 24	Converting Grams and Ounces 58	
Fungi 25	RECIPE CONVERSIONS 59	
DIRECT CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS 25	Converting Total Yield 60 Converting Portion Size 60	
Residual Chemicals 25	Additional Conversion Problems 61	
Food Service Chemicals 26	CALCULATING UNIT COSTS, RECIPE COSTS	
Toxic Metals 26	AND SELLING PRICES 62	
DIRECT PHYSICAL CONTAMINANTS 26	Unit Costs 62	
CROSS-CONTAMINATION 26	Yield Percentage 63	
Personal Cleanliness 27	Recipe Costs 64	
Dish and Equipment Cleanliness 28	Selling Prices 65	
Food Storage 30	CONTROLLING FOOD COSTS 66	
Food Labeling 31	Menu 67	
Pest Management 31	Purchasing and Ordering 67	
HAZARD ANALYSIS CRITICAL CONTROL	Receiving 67 Storing 67	
POINTS (HACCP) SYSTEMS 32	Issuing 67	
FOOD ALLERGIES AND INTOLERANCES 35	Kitchen Procedures: Establishing Standard Portions 67	
THE SAFE WORKER 36	Kitchen Procedures: Managing Waste 68	
Personal Safety 36	Sales and Service 68	
Fire Safety 37 First Aid 37	RECIPE WRITING 101 68	
1.1367.112 37	Elements of a Recipe Written for Publication 69 Other Considerations When Crafting a Recipe for Publication	70

_ 71	INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR PRINCIPLES 116 HERBS AND SPICES 117 Herbs 117	
	Spices 120 Herb and Spice Blends 126 Storing Herbs and Spices 127 Using Herbs and Spices 127 SALT 128	
	WINES, BEERS AND DISTILLED SPIRITS 133 Wines 134 Beers 137 Distilled Spirits 138 Guidelines for Cooking with Alcoholic Beverages 140	
	Ç	
	0.5 . 5	
	O Dairy Products	143
	MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS 144	
	Milk-Processing Techniques 144	
	Cultured Dairy Products 146 Butter 147 Margarine 147 Storage of Milk and Milk Products 148	
93	CHEESE 148	
	Processed Cheeses 158 Serving Cheeses 158	
	Cooking with cheese 109	
	9 Mise en Place	161
	MISE EN PLACE 162 Creating a Prep List 163	
	Quantity Planning 164	
	, e	
107	Making Bread Crumbs 167	
	FLAVORING FOODS 167	
	Bouquets Garni and Sachets 168	
	Rubs and Pastes 169	
	Steeping 169	
	Blanching and Parboiling 171 Making an Ice Bath 172	
		HERBS AND SPICES 117 Herbs 117 Spices 120 Herb and Spice Blends 126 Storing Herbs and Spices 127 Using Herbs and Spices 127 SALT 128 OILS 129 VINEGARS 130 CONDIMENTS 131 WINES, BEERS AND DISTILLED SPIRITS 133 Wines 134 Beers 137 Distilled Spirits 138 Guidelines for Cooking with Alcoholic Beverages 140 8 Dairy Products MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS 144 Milk-Processing Techniques 144 Concentrated Milks 145 Cream 145 Cultured Dairy Products 146 Butter 147 Margarine 147 Storage of Milk and Milk Products 148 CHEESE 148 Natural Cheeses 148 Cheese Varieties 149 Processed Cheeses 158 Serving Cheeses 158 Serving Cheeses 159 Cooking with Cheese 159 9 Mise en Place MISE EN PLACE 162 Creating a Prep List 163 Quantity Planning 164 SELECTING TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT 165 PREPARING INGREDIENTS 166 Clarifying Butter 166 Toasting Nuts and Spices 167 MAKING INGREDIENTS 166 Clarifying Butter 166 Toasting Nuts and Spices 167 Bouquets Garni and Sachets 168 Marinades 168 Brines 169 Rubs and Pastes 169 Steeping 169 PREPARING TO COOK 170 Breading 170 Battering 171 Blanching and Parboiling 171

10 Principles of Cooking	173	Pan Gravy 234 Pan Sauces 235	
HEAT TRANSFER 174		Coulis 235	
Conduction 174		CONTEMPORARY SAUCES 236	
Convection 175		Salsa and Relish 237	
Radiation 175		Vegetable Juice Sauces 237	
THE EFFECTS OF HEAT 176		Broths 239 Foams 239	
Proteins Coagulate 176		Flavored Oils 240	
Starches Gelatinize 177		USING SAUCES 242	
Sugars Caramelize 178 Water Evaporates 178			
Fats Melt 178			
DETERMINING DONENESS 178		12 Soups	255
INTRODUCTION TO COOKING METHODS 179			
DRY-HEAT COOKING METHODS 179		CHARACTERISTICS OF SOUP 256	
Broiling 181		CLEAR SOUPS 257	
Grilling 182		Broths 257 Broth-Based Soups 259	
Roasting and Baking 183		Consommés 260	
Barbecuing and Smoking 184 Sautéing 184		THICK SOUPS 263	
Stir-Frying 186		Cream Soups 263	
Pan-Frying 187		Purée Soups 266	
Deep-Frying 188		Adjusting the Consistency of Thick Soups 267	
Oven-Frying 190		OTHER SOUPS 267	
MOIST-HEAT COOKING METHODS 191		Bisques 267	
Poaching 191 Simmering 193		Chowders 269 Cold Soups 270	
Boiling 193		GARNISHING SOUPS 274	
Steaming 194		Guidelines for Garnishing Soups 274	
COMBINATION COOKING METHODS 195		Garnishing Suggestions 274	
Braising 196		SOUP SERVICE 274	
Stewing 196		Temperatures 275	
Sous Vide 197		Portion Sizes 275	
11 Stocks and Sauces	201	13 Principles of Meat Cookery	291
STOCKS 202		MUSCLE COMPOSITION OF MEATS 292	
INGREDIENTS FOR STOCKS 203		INSPECTION AND GRADING OF MEATS 293	
Bones 203		AGING MEATS 294	
Mirepoix 203		Wet Aging 294	
Seasonings 204		Dry Aging 295	
PRINCIPLES OF STOCK MAKING 204 White Stock 206		PURCHASING AND STORING MEATS 295	
Brown Stock 208		Purchasing Meats 295	
Remouillage 210		Storing Meats 296	
Fish Stock and Fish Fumet 210		PREPARING MEATS 297	
Vegetable Stock 211		Tying and Trussing 297 Barding 297	
Court Bouillon 212 Nage 213		Larding 298	
Glaze 213		DRY-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR MEATS 298	
Infusion 214		Broiling and Grilling 298	
SAUCES 215		Roasting 301	
Thickening Agents for Sauces 215		Barbecue 306	
Finishing Techniques for Sauces 219		Sautéing 309 Pan-Frying 311	
CLASSIC SAUCE FAMILIES 219		Deep-Frying 313	
The Béchamel Family 220 The Velouté Family 222		MOIST-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR MEAT 313	
The Espagnole Family 224		Simmering 313	
The Tomato Sauce Family 227		COMBINATION COOKING METHODS FOR MEATS 316	
The Hollandaise Family 229		Braising 316	
TRADITIONAL SAUCES 231		Stewing 318	
Beurre Blanc and Beurre Rouge 231		Cooking Sous Vide 322	

Compound Butters 233

14 Beef	325	Fresh Ham 395 Hocks and Trotters 395	
PRIMAL AND SUBPRIMAL CUTS OF BEEF 326		PURCHASING PORK 395	
FOREQUARTER PRIMAL CUTS OF BEEF 326		NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR PORK 396	
Chuck 326 Brisket and Shank 328 Rib 328		BUTCHERING PROCEDURES FOR PORK 396	
Short Plate 328		18 Poultry	413
HINDQUARTER PRIMAL CUTS OF BEEF 329		•	,413
Short Loin 329		MUSCLE COMPOSITION OF POULTRY 414	
Sirloin 329 Flank 330		IDENTIFYING POULTRY 416 Chicken 416	
Round 330		Duck 418	
BEEF ORGAN MEATS 331		Goose 418	
NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR BEEF 331		Guinea Fowl 418	
BUTCHERING PROCEDURES FOR BEEF 331		Pigeon 418 Turkey 418	
		Ratites 418	
15		Livers, Gizzards, Hearts and Necks 419	
15 Veal	349	Foie Gras 419	
PRIMAL AND SUBPRIMAL CUTS OF VEAL 350		NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR POULTRY 419	
FORESADDLE PRIMAL CUTS OF VEAL 350		INSPECTION AND GRADING OF POULTRY 419	
Veal Shoulder 350		PURCHASING POULTRY 420	
Veal Foreshank and Breast 350		Free-Range Poultry 420 Air-Chilled Poultry 421	
Veal Rib 351 HINDSADDLE PRIMAL CUTS OF VEAL 352		STORING POULTRY 421	
Veal Loin 352		BUTCHERING PROCEDURES FOR POULTRY 421	
Veal Leg 352		MARINATING POULTRY 426	
VEAL ORGAN MEATS 353		COOKING METHODS FOR POULTRY 426	
Sweetbreads 353		DRY-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR POULTRY 427	
Calves' Liver 353 Veal Kidneys 353		Broiling and Grilling Poultry 427	
PURCHASING VEAL 353		Roasting Poultry 429	
NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR VEAL 353		Poêléing Poultry 436 Sautéing Poultry 437	
BUTCHERING PROCEDURES FOR VEAL 354		Pan-Frying Poultry 440	
DOTALLER NOT NO DESCRIPTION VEHE 00 1		Deep-Frying Poultry 442	
		MOIST-HEAT AND COMBINATION COOKING METHOI	DS
16 Lamb	371	FOR POULTRY 443	
PRIMAL AND SUBPRIMAL CUTS OF LAMB 372		Moist-Heat Cooking Methods: Poaching and Simmering Poultry 443	
Lamb Shoulder 372 Lamb Breast 372 Lamb Rack 372		Combination Cooking Methods: Braising and Stewing Poultry 445	
Lamb Loin 373		10 -	
Lamb Leg 373		19 Game	467
PURCHASING LAMB 374		FURRED OR GROUND GAME 468	
Domestic vs. Imported Lamb 374 Goat 374		Antelope 468	
NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR LAMB 375		Bison (American Buffalo) 468	
BUTCHERING PROCEDURES FOR LAMB 375		Deer 469 Rabbit 469	
DOTALLER WOLLD COLOR LAND COLOR		Wild Boar 470	
		FEATHERED OR WINGED GAME 470	
17 Pork	391	Partridge 471	
PRIMAL AND SUBPRIMAL CUTS OF PORK 392		Pheasant 471 Quail 471	
Pork Shoulder 392		NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR GAME 471	
Boston Butt 392		PURCHASING AND STORING GAME 471	
Pork Belly 393		MARINATING FURRED GAME 472	
Pork Loin 394			

20 Fish and Shellfish47	Griddlecakes 565 Crêpes 566
STRUCTURE AND MUSCLE COMPOSITION OF FISH AND SHELLFISH 480 IDENTIFYING FISH 482 Round Fish 482 Flatfish 487 IDENTIFYING SHELLFISH: MOLLUSKS 488	Cereals and Grains 567 COFFEE 569 Roasting Coffee 569 Grinding Coffee 570 Brewing Coffee 570 Tasting Coffee 572
Bivalves 489 Cephalopods 490	Flavored Coffees 572 Decaffeinated Coffee 573 TEA AND TISANES 573
IDENTIFYING SHELLFISH: CRUSTACEANS 491 NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR FISH AND SHELLFISH 494	TEA AND TISANES 573 Tea Varieties 573 Tasting Tea 574 Tisanes (Herbal Teas) 574
INSPECTION AND GRADING OF FISH AND SHELLFISH 494	Brewing Tea 575
PURCHASING AND STORING FISH AND SHELLFISH 494 Determining Freshness of Fish and Shellfish 495 Purchasing Fish and Shellfish 496 Storing Fish and Shellfish 497	22 Vegetables585 IDENTIFYING VEGETABLES 586 Cabbages 586
FABRICATING PROCEDURES FOR FISH AND SHELLFISH 498	Fruit Vegetables 589 Gourds and Squashes 594
COOKING FISH AND SHELLFISH 507 Substituting Fish 507 Determining Doneness 508 DRY-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR FISH AND	Greens 596 Mushrooms and Truffles 598 Onions 599 Pods and Seeds 601
SHELLFISH 508 Broiling and Grilling 508 Baking 510 Sautéing 512 Pan-Frying 514 Deep-Frying 515	Roots and Tubers 604 Stalk Vegetables 607 Baby Vegetables 610 NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR VEGETABLES 610 PURCHASING AND STORING FRESH VEGETABLES 610 Grading Vegetables 611
MOIST-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR FISH AND SHELLFISH 517 Steaming 517 Poaching 519 Simposing 522	Purchasing Vegetables 611 Ripening Vegetables 611 Storing Vegetables 611 PURCHASING AND STORING PRESERVED VEGETABLES 612
Simmering 522 COMBINATION COOKING METHODS FOR FISH AND SHELLFISH 524	Irradiated Vegetables 612 Canned Vegetables 612
SERVING RAW FISH AND SHELLFISH 525 Raw Fish and Shellfish Dishes 525 Sushi and Sashimi 525	Frozen Vegetables 613 Dried Vegetables 613 COOKING METHODS FOR VEGETABLES 613 Fiber Content and Vegetable Cookery 613 Acid/Alkali Reactions and Vegetable Cookery 614
21 Eggs and Breakfast55	Guidelines for Vegetable Cookery 615 Determining Doneness of Vegetables 615
EGGS 552 Egg Storage and Sanitation 553 Egg Products 554	Preserving Nutritional Qualities in Vegetables 616 DRY-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR VEGETABLES 616 Broiling and Grilling 616
NUTRITION INFORMATION FOR EGGS 554	Roasting and Baking 618
WHIPPED EGG WHITES 555 COOKING METHODS FOR EGGS 555 DRY-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR EGGS 555	Sautéing 619 Stir-Frying 621 Pan-Roasting 622
Baking 555 Sautéing 557 Pan-Frying 561 Griddling 562	MOIST-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR VEGETABLES 625 Blanching and Parboiling 625 Boiling 625 Steaming 629
MOIST-HEAT COOKING METHODS FOR EGGS 563 In-Shell Cooking (Simmering) 563 Poaching 563	Microwaving 630 Combination Cooking Methods: Braising and Stewing Vegetables 631
BREAKFAST AND BRUNCH 564	Puréeing Vegetables 632 PRESERVING VEGETABLES 634

Breakfast Meats 565

22		Fruit Salads 750	
23 Potatoes, Grains and Pasta	_653	Gelatin Salads 750	
POTATOES 654			
Identifying Potatoes 654 Nutrition of Potatoes 655 Purchasing and Storing Potatoes 656		26 Fruits	_773
Cooking Methods for Potatoes 657		IDENTIFYING FRUITS 774	
GRAINS 665		Berries 774	
Identifying Grains 665		Citrus 776 Exotic Fruits 778	
Nutrition of Grains 670 Purchasing and Storing Grains 670		Grapes 780	
Cooking Methods for Grains 670		Melons 781 Pomes 783	
PASTA 675		Stone Fruits 785	
Identifying Pasta 675 Nutrition of Pasta 678		Tropical Fruits 786	
Purchasing and Storing Pasta 678		NUTRITION OF FRUITS 790	
Making Fresh Pasta 678		PURCHASING FRESH FRUITS 790	
Cooking Method for Pasta 682		Grading 790 Ripening 791	
		Purchasing 791	
24 Healthy Cooking and		Storing 791	
,	705	PRESERVING FRUITS 792 Irradiation 792	
Special Diets	_705	Acidulation 792	
PRINCIPLES OF HEALTHY COOKING 706		Canning 792	
Portion Size 706 Rethinking the Center of the Plate 707		Freezing 792 Drying 793	
RECIPE MODIFICATION 708		JUICING FRUITS 793	
Reduce, Replace or Eliminate 708		COOKING METHODS FOR FRUITS 794	
Modifying Recipes 709 ACCOMMODATING SPECIAL DIETS 711		Determining Doneness 794	
Low-Sodium Diets 711		Dry-Heat Cooking Methods for Fruits 794 Moist-Heat Cooking Methods for Fruits 798	
Low-Sugar Diets 712		Making Fruit Preserves 800	
Low-Fat Diets 713 Dairy-Free Diets 714			
Gluten-Free Diets 714		27 Sandwiches	000
Allergen-Free Diets 716		Z/ Sandwicnes	_809
VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN DIETS 717		INGREDIENTS FOR SANDWICHES 810	
Ingredients for Vegetarian and Vegan Diets 718 Vegetarian and Vegan Cuisine: Focusing on Plant-Based		Sandwich Breads 810 Sandwich Spreads 810	
Ingredients 721		Sandwich Fillings 811	
		TYPES OF SANDWICHES 813	
25 Calada and Calad Dusasinas	704	Hot Sandwiches 813	
25 Salads and Salad Dressings	_731	Cold Sandwiches 814 SANDWICH MISE EN PLACE 817	
IDENTIFYING SALAD GREENS 732		PRESENTING AND GARNISHING SANDWICHES 817	
Lettuce 732 Chicory 733			
Other Salad Greens and Ingredients 734			
Nutrition of Salads 735		28 Charcuterie	_831
Purchasing and Storing Salad Greens 736 PREPARING SALAD GREENS 736		FORCEMEATS 832	
Tearing and Cutting Salad Greens 736		EQUIPMENT FOR PREPARING FORCEMEAT 832	
Washing Salad Greens 737		FORCEMEAT INGREDIENTS 833	
Drying Salad Greens 738 SALAD DRESSINGS 739		Meats 833	
Vinaigrette Dressings 739		Fats 834 Binders 834	
Mayonnaise-Based Dressings 741		Seasonings 834	
Emulsified Vinaigrette Dressings 743		Garnishes 835	
SALAD PREPARATION METHODS 744 Tossed Green Salads 745		PREPARING FORCEMEATS 835 Country-Style Forcemeats 835	
Composed Green Salads 746		Basic Forcemeats 837	
Bound Salads 747		Mousseline Forcemeats 839	
Vegetable Salads 749		Quenelles 840	

USING FORCEMEATS 841		31 Quick Breads	927
Aspic Jelly 841 Terrines 842 Pâtés en Croûte 845 Galantines 847 Sausages 849		MIXING METHODS FOR QUICK BREADS 928 Biscuit Method 929 Muffin Method 931	
SALT CURING, BRINING AND SMOKING 851		Creaming Method 933	
Salt Curing 851 Brining 851 Smoking 851		QUALITIES OF QUICK BREADS 935	
Cured Pork Products 855 Other Cured Meat Products 856		32 Yeast Breads	943
SAUCE CHAUD-FROID 856		YEAST 944 Types of Yeast 944 Substituting Yeasts 945 Natural Yeast Leaveners: Sourdough Starter 946	
29 Hors d'Oeuvre	869	ARTISAN BREAD 947	
COLD HORS D'OEUVRE 870		PRODUCTION STEPS FOR YEAST BREADS 948	
Canapés 870 Crudités 874 Dips 874 Caviar 875 Other Cold Hors d'Oeuvre 876		Step 1: Scaling the Ingredients 948 Step 2: Mixing and Kneading the Dough 948 Step 3: Fermenting the Dough 949 Step 4: Punching Down the Dough 950 Step 5: Portioning the Dough 950	
HOT HORS D'OEUVRE 876		Step 6: Rounding the Portions 950 Step 7: Make-Up: Shaping the Portions 950	
Filled Pastry Shells 876		Step 8: Proofing the Products 952	
Skewers 877 Meatballs 878		Step 9: Baking the Products 952	
Hors d'Oeuvre Wrapped in Cheese, Meat or Vegetables 878		Step 10: Cooling and Storing the Finished Products 953 ROLLED-IN DOUGHS 957	
Hors d'Oeuvre Wrapped in Dough 879		QUALITIES OF BREAD 959	
Other Hot Hors d'Oeuvre 882 ANTIPASTI, MEZZE, TAPAS AND ZAKUSKI 882		QUALITIES OF BREAD 939	
SERVING HORS D'OEUVRE 882			
Butler Service 883		33 Pies, Pastries and Cookies	977
Buffet Service 883		PIES AND TARTS 978	
Buffet Platters 884		Crusts 978	
		Fillings 985	
30 Principles of the Bakeshop	899	Assembling Pies and Tarts 991	
•	_099	Storing Pies and Tarts 991 CLASSIC PASTRIES 991	
BAKESHOP TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT 900		Puff Pastry 991	
BAKESHOP INGREDIENTS 901		Éclair Paste 995	
Flours 901 Sugar and Sweeteners 905		Meringue 997	
Fats 909		COOKIES 999	
Chemical Leavening Agents 910		Mixing Methods for Cookie Dough 999 Make-Up Methods for Cookies 1000	
Thickening Agents 911		Storing Cookies 1002	
Flavorings 912 Nuts 916			
MEASURING INGREDIENTS IN THE BAKESHOP 919		24	
Baker's Percentage 920			1025
Calculating Baker's Percentage 921		34 Cakes and Frostings	_ 102
		C	_ 1023
MIXING METHODS 923		34 Cakes and Frostings CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026 MIXING METHODS FOR CAKES 1027	_ 1020
THE BAKING PROCESS 924		CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026	_ 1023
THE BAKING PROCESS 924 Gases Form 924		CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026 MIXING METHODS FOR CAKES 1027 Creamed-Fat Cakes 1027 Whipped-Egg Cakes 1030	_ 1023
THE BAKING PROCESS 924		CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026 MIXING METHODS FOR CAKES 1027 Creamed-Fat Cakes 1027 Whipped-Egg Cakes 1030 PANNING, BAKING AND COOLING CAKES 1036	_ 1020
THE BAKING PROCESS 924 Gases Form 924 Gases Are Trapped 924 Starches Gelatinize 924 Proteins Coagulate 924		CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026 MIXING METHODS FOR CAKES 1027 Creamed-Fat Cakes 1027 Whipped-Egg Cakes 1030 PANNING, BAKING AND COOLING CAKES 1036 Preparing Cake Pans 1037	_ 1020
THE BAKING PROCESS 924 Gases Form 924 Gases Are Trapped 924 Starches Gelatinize 924 Proteins Coagulate 924 Fats Melt 925		CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026 MIXING METHODS FOR CAKES 1027 Creamed-Fat Cakes 1027 Whipped-Egg Cakes 1030 PANNING, BAKING AND COOLING CAKES 1036	
THE BAKING PROCESS 924 Gases Form 924 Gases Are Trapped 924 Starches Gelatinize 924 Proteins Coagulate 924 Fats Melt 925 Water Evaporates 925		CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026 MIXING METHODS FOR CAKES 1027 Creamed-Fat Cakes 1027 Whipped-Egg Cakes 1030 PANNING, BAKING AND COOLING CAKES 1036 Preparing Cake Pans 1037 Filling Cake Pans 1037 Baking Temperatures 1038 Altitude Adjustments for Baking 1039	
THE BAKING PROCESS 924 Gases Form 924 Gases Are Trapped 924 Starches Gelatinize 924 Proteins Coagulate 924 Fats Melt 925		CAKE INGREDIENTS 1026 MIXING METHODS FOR CAKES 1027 Creamed-Fat Cakes 1027 Whipped-Egg Cakes 1030 PANNING, BAKING AND COOLING CAKES 1036 Preparing Cake Pans 1037 Filling Cake Pans 1037 Baking Temperatures 1038	1020

PRESENTATION TECHNIQUES FOR FOOD 1096

Preparing Foods Properly 1096 Cutting Foods 1097 Molding Foods 1098

FROSTINGS 1040 Buttercream 1041 Foam Frosting 1044 Fudge Frosting 1044 Fondant 1045 Glaze 1046 Royal Icing 1047	PRESENTATION TECHNIQ Choosing Plates 1099 Arranging Foods on Plates 1 Decorating Plates 1104 SMALL PLATES 1107	
Ganache 1047 ASSEMBLING AND DECORATING CAKES 1049	37 Buffet Presenta	ation 1111
Assembling Cakes 1050 Simple Decorating Techniques 1050 Piping Techniques 1051 STORING CAKES 1055	BUFFETS 1112 Planning the Buffet 1112 Communicating the Plan 11 DESIGNING THE BUFFET Arranging the Tables 1115 Arranging Food on Serving Pi	14 1115
35 Custards, Creams, Frozen	Arranging Items on the Buffet	Table 1120
Desserts and Dessert Sauces	065 PRESENTING AND MAINT. Controlling Costs 1121	AINING THE BUFFET 1121
CUSTARDS 1066 Stirred Custards 1066 Baked Custards 1070 Soufflés 1073	Keeping Hot Foods Hot 112 Keeping Cold Foods Cold 11 Replenishing Foods 1123 Serving the Guests 1124	
CREAMS 1075	A	440=
Crème Chantilly 1075 Bavarian Cream 1076 Chiffon 1077 Mousse 1078	Appendix I	IVERSION CHARTS 1127
FROZEN DESSERTS 1079	Appendix II	1129
Ice Cream and Gelato 1080 Sorbet and Sherbet 1082 Still-Frozen Desserts 1082	FRESH, LOCALLY GROWN CHART 1129	
DESSERT SAUCES 1083 Fruit Purées 1083 Caramel Sauce 1083 Characters Symp. 1084	Glossary	1133
Chocolate Syrup 1084 ASSEMBLING DESSERTS 1085	Bibliography and R Reading	ecommended 1153
36 Plate Presentation	⁰⁹⁵ Index	1157

Recipes

8 Dairy Products		Small Tomato Sauces		12 Soups	
Crème Fraîche	146	Creole	229	Beef Broth	258
Herb Cheese Spread	150	Spanish	229	Hearty Vegetable Beef Soup	260
Ricotta Cheese	151	Milanaise	229	Beef Consommé	262
Fromage Fort	156	Hollandaise	230	Cream of Broccoli Soup	265
Classic Cheese Fondue	159	Small Hollandaise Sauces		Cream of asparagus, cauliflower,	200
Chassie Chiese Foliade	103	Béarnaise	231	corn, pea or spinach soup	265
		Choron	231	Purée of Split Pea Soup	266
11 Stocks and Sauces		Foyot	231	Shrimp Bisque	268
White Stock	207	Grimrod	231	New England-Style Clam Chowder	270
Brown Stock	209	Maltaise	231	Vichyssoise (Cold Potato-Leek Soup)	271
Fish Stock	210	Mousseline (Chantilly Sauce)	231	Chilled Melon Soup	272
Fish Fumet	211	Beurre Blanc	232	Crisp Prosciutto Chips	272
Vegetable Stock	212	Beurre Rouge	233	Gazpacho	273
Court Bouillon	212	Lemon-Dill	233	Chicken and Sausage Gumbo	276
Dashi	214	Herb Butter Sauce	233	Chicken Soup with Matzo Balls	277
Béchamel	220	Recipes for Compound Butters		Matzo Balls	277
Small Béchamel Sauces		Basil Butter	234	French Onion Soup	278
Cheese	222	Herb Butter	234	Miso Soup	279
Cream Sauce	222	Chile Lime Butter	234	Phô Bo (Hanoi Beef and Noodle Soup)	280
Mornay	222	Lobster or Crayfish Butter	234	Minestrone	281
, Nantua	222	Maître d'Hôtel Butter	234	Posole	282
Soubise (Modern)	222	Red Pepper Butter	234	Cream of Tomato Soup	283
Velouté	222	Shallot Butter	234	Cheddar and Leek Soup	284
Small Fish Velouté Sauces		Red Pepper Coulis	236	Mulligatawny Soup	284
Bercy	223	Pico de Gallo (Tomato Salsa)	237	Potato Chowder with Hot Smoked	
Cardinal	223	Carrot Juice Sauce	238	Salmon	285
Normandy	223	Wild Mushroom Foam	240	Sausage, White Bean and Kale Soup	286
Allemande Sauce	223	Basil Oil	241	Callaloo with Crab	287
Small Allemande Sauces		Rich Brown Vegetable Stock	244	Roasted Corn Chowder	288
Aurora	224	Hollandaise, Blender Method	244	Borsch (Chilled Beet Soup)	289
Horseradish	224	Horseradish Cream Sauce	245	Chilled Cucumber and Yogurt Soup	290
Mushroom	224	Duxelles Sauce	245	cimica cacamber and regaritecup	
Poulette	224	Fresh Tomato Sauce for Pasta	246	40	
Suprême Sauce	224	Fresh Tomato Vinaigrette for Pasta	246	13 Principles of Meat Cookery	
Small Suprême Sauces		Mole	247	Grilled Lamb Chops with Herb Butter	300
Albufera	224	Bolognese Sauce	248	Roast Prime Rib of Beef au Jus	303
Hungarian	224	Orange Gastrique	248	Pulled Pork Sandwiches	308
lvory	224	Citrus Gastrique	249	Sautéed Veal Scallops with White Wine	
Espagnole (Brown Sauce)	225	Orange Butter Sauce	249	Lemon Sauce	311
Demi-Glace	225	Basil Pesto Sauce	249	Breaded Veal Cutlets	312
Vegetable Jus Lié	226	Walnut Pesto	249	New England Boiled Dinner	315
Small Brown Sauces		Sun-Dried Tomato Pesto	249	Aunt Ruthie's Pot Roast	318
Bordelaise	226	Arugula and Pecan Pesto	249	Brown Beef Stew	320
Chasseur (Hunter's Sauce)	227	Citrus Beurre Blanc	250	Sous Vide Short Ribs	324
Châteaubriand	227	Barbecue Sauce	250		
Chevreuil	227	Southeast Asian-Style Peanut Sauce	251	14 Beef	
Madeira or Port	227	Vegetarian Peanut Sauce	251		
Marchand De Vin	227	Coconut Sauce	251	Flat Iron Steak with Coffee Beans	335
Mushroom	227	Tomatillo Salsa	252	Marinated London Broil	336
Périgueux	227	Spanish Romesco Sauce	252	Châteaubriand	336
Piquant	227	Mignonette Sauce	253	Beef Wellington	337
Poivrade	227	Nuoc Cham	0	Home-Style Meatloaf	338
Robert	227	(Vietnamese Dipping Sauce)	253	Italian Country Meatballs	338
Tomato Sauce	228	Persillade	254	Minute Steak Dijonaise	339

Beef Stroganoff	340	17 Pork		Chicken Pot Pie	458
Entrecôtes Bordelaise	340		404	Individual Chicken Pot Pies	458
Pepper Steak	341	Carolina Barbecued Ribs	401	Turkey Pot Pie	458
Beef Fajitas	342	Beer-Marinated Pork Tenderloin	401	Lavender and Spice-Crusted Duck	
Thai Beef Salad	342	Pork Chimichurri Kabobs	402	Breast with Apricot Compote	459
Braised Oxtails and Barley Stew	343	Fresh Roasted Ham	403	Duck Confit	460
Swiss Steak	344	Chinese-Style Barbecued Spareribs	403	Roast Duckling	46
Braised Short Ribs of Beef	344	Pork Loin with Prunes	404	Turkey Meatloaf	462
Orange-Scented Braised	344	Sous Vide Rosemary Garlic Pork		•	402
	245	Tenderloin	405	Turkey Scallopine with Capers and Lemon	463
Short Ribs of Beef	345	Escalope de Porc à la Normande			
Ginger Braised Short Ribs	2.45	(Pork Scallops with Apples)	406	Sautéed Chicken Livers	463
of Beef	345	Nataing (Cambodian-Style		Spiced Ostrich Tenderloin	464
Hungarian Goulash	345	Red Pork)	407	Bangkok-Style Deep-Fried Chicken	
Beef Bourguignon	346	Cambodian-Style Red Vegetarian	,	Wings	463
Chili Con Carne	347	Stir-Fry	407	Asian-Style Chile Dipping Sauce	460
Chili with Beans	347	Pan-Fried Herb-Brined Pork Chops	407	Sautéed Foie Gras on Wild Mushroom	
Venison Chili	347	•	400	Duxelles with Toasted Brioche	460
Chili-Stuffed Baked Sweet Potatoes	347	with Black Pepper Cream Gravy	408		
Chili-Stuffed Bread Bowl	347	Stuffed Pork Chops	409	19 Game	
Carpaccio	348	Carnitas Tostada (Mexican Pulled		19 Game	
·		Pork and Corn Tortillas)	410	Red Wine Marinade	472
15		Jambalaya	411	Grilled Rosemary Quail	474
15 Veal		Cajun Spice Mix	411	Venison Medallions Grand Veneur	474
Wood-Grilled Veal Chops with Basil		Thai-Style Tea-Smoked Ribs	412	Braised Rabbit with Orecchiette Pasta	473
Butter	361			Braised Rabbit with Chorizo	470
Weisswurst with Braised Red		10 5		Roast Pheasant with Cognac	
Cabbage and Rösti Potatoes	361	18 Poultry		and Apples	47
Sautéed Veal Scallops with Calvados	362	White Wine Marinade	426	Venison and Black Bean Chili	478
Veal Marsala	363	Grilled Chicken Breast with Red		veriisen and Black Bean Chin	.,,
Wild Mushroom Veal Marsala	363	Pepper Butter	428		
Veal Cordon Bleu	364	Grilled Marinated Chicken Breasts	429	20 Fish and Shellfish	
		Roast Turkey with Chestnut		Broiled Black Sea Bass with Herb	
Turkey Cordon Bleu	364	Dressing and Giblet Gravy	432	Butter and Sautéed Leeks	510
Veal Pojarski	365	Poêlé of Chicken with Pearl Onions	.02	Baked Tilapia	51
Sweetbreads Grenoble	366	and Mushrooms	436	Sautéed Halibut with Three-Color	31
Sautéed Calves' Liver with Onions	367	Chicken Sauté with Onions, Garlic	730		513
Veal Marengo	368	and Basil	439	Peppers and Spanish Olives Pan-Fried Trout	513
Osso Buco	369	Pan-Fried Chicken with Pan Gravy	441		31.
Veal Fricassee	370		441	Deep-Fried Catfish Fillets with Tartar	-1
		Spicy Fried Chicken Tenders with Herb	442	Sauce	510
16 Lamb		Buttermilk Dressing	442	Steamed Salmon with Lemon and	
		Poached Breast of Chicken with	444	Olive Oil	518
Turkish Spicy Lamb Kebabs	380	Tarragon Sauce	444	Red Snapper en Papillote	519
Chimichurri Sauce	380	Chicken Fricassee	447	Whole Poached Salmon	52
Shish Kebab	381	Jamaican-Style Jerk Chicken	449	Fillets of Sole Bonne Femme	522
Rack of Lamb with Mustard and		Chicken Yakitori	450	Boiled Lobster	523
Hazelnuts	382	Grilled Cornish Game Hens with		Arctic Char with Orange Beurre Blanc	524
Rack of Lamb Persillé	382	Basil Butter	450	Nigiri Sushi	526
Rack of Spring Lamb with Mint Pesto	383	Roast Cornish Game Hen with		Zushi (Sushi Rice)	527
Honey Mustard Denver Ribs	383	Wild Rice Stuffing	451	Roasted Monkfish with Bacon and	
Stuffed Leg of Lamb	384	Chicken Leg Stuffed with Mushrooms		Garlic	528
Blanquette of Lamb	384	and Prosciutto	452	Teriyaki Salmon	529
Saffron and Spice Braised Lamb		Sous Vide Chicken Legs Stuffed		Oven-Fried Pecan Catfish	529
Shanks	386	with Mushrooms and Prosciutto	452	Tropical Oven-Fried Catfish	529
Irish Lamb Stew	387	Roast Chicken with Mashed Potatoes		Cha Ca (Hanoi-Style Fish with Dill)	530
Lamb in Indian-Style Coconut Curry		and Natural Pan Gravy	453	Macadamia Nut-Crusted Halibut	
Sauce	388	Chicken Stuffed with Spinach and		with Red Onion, Tomato and	
Goat in Indian-Style Coconut	300	Ricotta Cheese in Saffron Sauce	454	Balsamic Salsa	53
Curry Sauce	388	Lemongrass Chicken Lettuce Wrap	455	Red Onion, Tomato and	33
	300	Chicken and Mushroom Crêpes with	155	Balsamic Salsa	53
Moroccan-Style Lamb Tagine with Preserved Lemon	200	•	456	Blue Crab Cakes	
	389	Sauce Mornay	456 456		532
Moroccan-Style Preserved Lemons	389	Chicken Curry		Miso-Glazed Broiled Black Cod	533
Lamb Navarin	390	Coq au Vin	457	Salmon Croquettes	534

Poached Halibut with Chanterelles,		Cinnamon French Toast	583	23 Potatoes, Grains and Pasta	
Fiddlehead Ferns and Wild		Baked Banana Praline French Toast	583	Baked Potatoes	658
Mushroom Foam	535	Popovers	584	Twice-Baked Potatoes	658
Paupiettes of Sole with Mousseline	50.6	Onion Popovers	584	Gratin Dauphinois	659
of Shrimp	536			Potato and Celery Root Gratin	659
Clams Casino	537	22 Vegetables		Lyonnaise Potatoes	660
Oysters Rockefeller	538	Grilled Vegetable Skewers	618	Deep-Fried Potatoes	662
Pan-Seared Diver Scallops with	520	Grilled Sliced Vegetables	618	Mashed Potatoes	664
Squash Three Ways	539 540	Baked Butternut Squash, Cumin	010	Garlic Mashed Potatoes	664
Kabocha Squash Purée Bouillabaisse (Provençal Fish Stew)	540	Yogurt and Pumpkin Seeds	619	Horseradish Mashed Potatoes	664
Rouille	541	Sautéed Mushrooms with Garlic	015	Mashed Sweet Potatoes	
Fried Oysters with Rémoulade Sauce	541	and Thyme	620	or Rutabagas	664
Fried Calamari with Lemon, Olive	5-1	Stir-Fried Asparagus with Shiitake		Simmered Rice	672
and Pepper Relish	542	Mushrooms	621	Risotto Milanese	673
Maryland-Style Steamed Blue Crabs	542	Fried Green Tomatoes with Shrimp and		Risotto with Radicchio	
Steamed Mussels with Leeks and	0.12	Creole Rémoulade	622	(al Radicchio)	673
Carrots	543	Pan-Roasted Brussels Sprouts	623	Risotto with Four Cheeses	
Paella	544	Beer-Battered Onion Rings	624	(al Quattro Formaggi)	673
Crawfish Étouffée	545	Green Beans with Herbed Vinaigrette		Farro Risotto	673
Soft-Poached Salmon with Root	3 13	and Toasted Hazelnuts	626	Classic Rice Pilaf	674
Vegetables and Pernod Beurre		White Bean Salad	628	Spanish Rice	675
Blanc	546	Broccoli Amandine	630	Red Rice Pilaf	675
Pickled Shrimp	548	Braised Celery with Basil	632	Bulgur Pilaf	675
Seviche	549	Parsnip Purée	633	Barley Pilaf	675
Fin Fish Carpaccio with Lemon Thyme	0.5	Turnip or Sunchoke Purée	633	Basic Pasta Dough	680
Vinaigrette	549	Winter Squash Purée	633	Garlic-Herb Pasta Dough	680
Norimaki Zushi	550	Giardiniera (Pickled Vegetables)	635	Spinach Pasta Dough	680
		Grilled Portabella Mushrooms	637	Tomato Pasta Dough	680
04		Garlic Timbales	637	Château Potatoes	685
21 Eggs and Breakfast		Broccoli or Cauliflower Timbales	637	Parisienne Potatoes and	
Shirred Eggs with Ham	556	Oven-Roasted Garlic	638	Noisette Potatoes	685
Quiche Lorraine	557	Fennel Gratin	638	Roasted Fingerling Potatoes	686
Scrambled Eggs	558	Baked Beans	639	Scalloped Potatoes	686
Shrimp and Avocado Omelet	559	Boston-Style Baked Beans	639	Delmonico Potatoes	687
Asparagus Frittata with Goat Cheese		Mushroom and Leek Tart	640	German-Style Potato Salad	687
and Parsley Radish Salad	561	Maple-Glazed Carrots	641	Potato Pancakes	688
Poached Eggs	564	Duxelles	641	Rösti Potatoes	688
Buttermilk Pancakes	566	Ratatouille	642	Cheddar Cheese Rösti Potatoes	688
Blueberry Pancakes	566	Beet and Corn Salad	643	Duchesse Potatoes	689
Apple-Pecan Pancakes	566	Sautéed Broccoli Rabe	643	Potato Croquettes	689
Crêpes	567	Pan-Fried Eggplant with Tomato Sauce	644	Dauphine Potatoes	690
Cheese Blintz	567	Stir-Fried Snow Peas	644	Lorette Potatoes	690
Savory Crêpes	567	Tempura Vegetables with Dipping		Potato Gnocchi	691
Savory Crêpes Florentine	567	Sauce	645	Polenta	692
Crunchy Granola	568	Panko Crust Tempura	645	Creamy Polenta with Wild Mushrooms	693
Shakshuka Eggs	577	Shrimp Tempura	645	Oatmeal with Bananas and Cinnamon	693
Eggs Benedict	578	Deep-Fried Carrots or Leeks for		Grits and Cheddar Soufflé	694
Poached Eggs Florentine	578	Garnishing	646	Saffron Rice	695
Poached Eggs Norwegian Style	578	Glazed Pearl Onions	646	Pilau (Indian-Style Rice Pilaf)	695
Poached Eggs Princess Style	578	Red Beet Purée	647	Thai-Style Fried Rice	696 696
Poached Eggs Sardou	578	Carrot Ginger Purée	647	Chinese-Style Fried Rice	
Avocado, Bacon and Red Rice		Collard Greens	648	Forbidden Fried Rice	696 697
Breakfast Salad	579	Warm Zucchini, Red Pepper and		Wild Rice and Cranberry Stuffing	697
Fried Egg BLT Sandwich	579	Chickpea Salad	648	Hoppin' John	
Scotch Eggs	580	Red Beans and Rice with Andouille	649	Quinoa, Beet, Squash and Spinach Salad Fettuccine Alfredo	698 698
Corned Beef Hash	580	Refried Beans	649	Fettuccine Airredo Fettuccine Carbonara	698
Tortilla Española (Spanish Egg and		Braised Red Cabbage with Apples	650	Macaroni and Cheese	700
Onion Omelet)	581	Butter-Braised Honey Carrots	650	Baked Macaroni and Cheese	700
Cheese Soufflé	581	Artichokes Hollandaise	651	Macaroni and Cheese with	/ 00
Waffles	582	Baechu-Kimchee (Korean Spicy	650	Ham and Tomato	700
Pecan Waffles	582	Cabbage)	652	riain and rolliato	, 00

Baked Ziti with Fresh Tomato Sauce	701	Wilted Spinach Salad with Warm Baco	n	Arugula, Capicola Ham and	
Vegetable Lasagna	702	Dressing	762	Provolone Panino	824
Soba Noodles with Chicken and Green		Curly Endive, Apple and Gorgonzola		Cubano (Cuban Grilled Ham and	
Onions	703	Salad	763	Pork Sandwich)	824
Spaetzle	704	Caprese Salad	763	Grilled Chicken, Avocado and	
•		Cobb Salad	764	Vegetable Wrap	825
24 11 14 6 11 16 1		Greek Salad	764	Grilled Cheese with Arugula, Sun-Dried	
24 Healthy Cooking and Specia	1.I	New Potato Salad with Mustard		Tomatoes and Bacon	825
Diets		and Dill	765	Reuben Sandwich	826
Modified Beef Stroganoff		Potato Salad	765	Monte Cristo Sandwich	826
(Low-Calorie, Low-Fat)	711	Creamy Coleslaw	766	Kentucky Hot Brown Sandwich	827
Vegan Stroganoff	723	Egg Salad	766	Muffuletta Sandwich	828
Southwestern Black Bean Soup		Tuna Salad	767	Pan Bagnat (Provençal Tuna Sandwich)	829
(Gluten-Free, Vegan)	725	Farro, White Bean and Cucumber		Saucisson Tartine	830
Falafel (Vegetarian)	726	Salad with Spiced Dressing	767	Radish and Butter Tartine	830
Tofu and Walnut Tabouli		Couscous Salad	768	Grilled Asparagus Tartine	830
(Gluten-Free, Vegan)	726	Tabouli	769	, ,	
Mushroom Bolognese (Vegan)	727	Raw Kale and Avocado Salad with		20 Chamatai	
Polenta Vegetable Tart (Vegan)	728	Carrots, Raisins and Lemon		28 Charcuterie	
Dal Bhat (Indian-Style Lentil Stew		Dressing	770	Pâté Spice	834
with Rice) (Gluten-Free, Vegan)	729	Panzanella (Italian Bread Salad)	771	Country-Style Forcemeat	836
Pan-Seared Tofu Provençal		Cranberry Orange Gelatin Salad	772	Basic Forcemeat	838
(Gluten-Free, Vegan)	730	, 0		Mousseline Forcemeat	840
Chia Pudding (Gluten-Free, Vegan)	730	26 Farrier		Pâté Dough	846
		26 Fruits		Hot Smoked Trout	854
25 Salads and Salad Dressings		Broiled Grapefruit	795	Hot Smoked Salmon	854
•		Warm Baked Peaches or		Mayonnaise Chaud-Froid	856
Basic Vinaigrette Dressing	740	Nectarines	795	Basic Game Forcemeat	859
Dijon Vinaigrette	740	Savory Fruit Compote	796	Liver Terrine	860
Herb Vinaigrette	740	Apple Fritters	797	Pork Rillettes	861
Mayonnaise	742	Banana Fritters	797	Salmon and Sea Bass Terrine with	
Aïoli (Garlic Mayonnaise)	742	Pears Poached in Red Wine	798	Spinach and Basil	862
Caesar Dressing	744	Dried Fruit Compote	799	Vegetable Terrine	863
Mesclun Salad with Raspberry		Mango, Pineapple and Strawberry		Vegetable Terrine in Brioche	864
Vinaigrette	746	Salad with Coconut Cream	801	Roasted Red Pepper Mousse	865
Salad Niçoise	747	Pineapple Papaya Salsa	801	Broccoli Mousse	865
Chutney Chicken Salad	748	Watermelon and Cherry Salad with		Salmon Mousse	865
Tomato and Asparagus Salad		Fresh Mint Syrup	802	Chopped Chicken Liver	866
with Fresh Mozzarella	750	Baked Apples	802	Breakfast Sausage Patties	866
Molded Gazpacho Salad	752	Grilled Fruit Kebabs	803	Spicy Italian Sausage	867
Molded Gazpacho Salad		Cherry Confit	803	Mild Italian Sausage	867
with Shrimp	752	Braised Rhubarb	804	Maple Sage Sausage	867
Garlic Croutons	753	Berry Compote	804	Thai Basil and Ginger Sausage	867
Carrot Ginger Miso Dressing	753	Applesauce	805	Chorizo	867
Raspberry Vinaigrette	754	Fresh Cranberry-Orange Relish	805	Gravlax	868
Fat-Free Vinaigrette	754	Jalapeño-Cranberry Relish	805		
Blue Cheese Vinaigrette	755	Mango Chutney	806	29 Hors d'Oeuvre	
Poppy Seed Dressing	755	Candied Citrus Rind	807		
Sauce Gribiche	756	Compressed Fresh Watermelon	808	Hummus	875
Thousand Island Dressing	756			Lamb Satay	877
Herb Buttermilk Dressing	757	27 Sandwiches		Swedish Meatballs	878
Roquefort Dressing	757		040	Rumaki	879
Low-Fat Blue Cheese Dressing	758	Grilled Vegetable Sandwich	819	Spanakopita	880
Tartar Sauce	758	Club Sandwich	820	Stuffed Wontons with Apricot Sauce	88
Rémoulade Sauce	759	Mahi-Mahi Fish Taco	821	Apricot Sauce	881
Creole Rémoulade	759	Hamburger	822	Buckwheat Blini	885
Sherry Walnut Vinaigrette	759	Cheeseburger	822	Baked Wonton Crisps	885
Khira Raita (Cucumber-Yogurt Salad)	760	Bacon Blue Cheeseburger	822	Tortilla Cups with Grilled Chicken	6.0
Carrot Salad	760	Mushroom Burger	822	Pico de Gallo	886
Spinach and Edamame Salad	761	California Burger	822	Pimento Cheese	887
Ribbon Salad of Zucchini, Carrots,	766	Blended Mushroom Burger	822	Pimento Cheese and Olive Crostini	887
Green Beans and Tomatoes	761	Turkey Burger	823	Baba Ghanoush	887

Tapenade	888	Garlic Naan	966	Linzer Cookies	1019
Guacamole	888	Challah	967	Sugar Cookies	1020
Spinach and Artichoke Dip	889	Brioche	968	Decorative Cookie Icing	1020
Brandade de Morue (French Salt Cod		Large Brioche à Tête	969	Gingerbread Cookies	1021
Spread)	890	Raisin Brioche	969	Spritz Cookies	1022
Sautéed Garlic Croutons	890	Brioche for Sandwiches	969	Lacy Pecan Cookies	1023
Date and Chorizo Rumaki	891	Savory Cheese and Herb Brioche	969	Tulipe Cookies	1024
Stuffed Figs with Taleggio and		Jumbo Cinnamon Buns	970	.	
Orange Basil Glaze	891	Powdered Sugar Glaze	970	24	
Stuffed Mushroom Caps	892	Pecan Sticky Buns	971	34 Cakes and Frostings	
Escargots in Garlic Butter	892	Danish Pastries	972	American Poundcake	1028
Rosemary and Garlic Grilled Shrimp	893	Fillings for Danish Pastries	974	French-Style Fruitcake	1029
Chèvre Tarts	894	Cream Cheese Filling	974	High-Ratio Yellow Cake	1030
Arancini (Deep-Fried Rice Balls)	895	Apricot Filling	975	Classic Genoise	1031
Tuna Tartar	895	Ricotta Filling	975	Chocolate Genoise	1031
	093	Almond Paste Filling	975	Classic Spongecake	1032
Samosas (Deep-Fried Indian	906		973 976	Swiss Jelly Roll	1033
Turnovers)	896	Kugelhopf	9/0	Chocolate Spongecake	1033
Vegetarian Samosas	896			Chocolate Angel Food Cake	1034
Cha Gio (Deep-Fried Vietnamese	007	33 Pies, Pastries and Cookies		Vanilla Angel Food Cake	1035
Spring Rolls)	897	Basic Pie Dough	980	Lemon Angel Food Cake	1035
Stuffed Cherry Tomato Bites	898	Sweet Dough	981	Orange Chiffon Cake	1033
		Basic Cream Pie	986	Lemon Chiffon Cake	1036
31 Quick Breads			986 986		
-	020	Chocolate Cream Pie		Gluten-Free Orange Chiffon Cake	1036
Country Biscuits	930	Banana Cream Pie	986	Pan Coating	1037
Blueberry Muffins	932	Coconut Cream Pie I	986	Simple Buttercream	1041
Cranberry Orange Muffins	932	Coconut Cream Pie II	986	Light Chocolate Buttercream	1041
Pecan Spice Muffins	932	Apple-Cranberry Pie	987	Lemon Buttercream	1041
Cinnamon Sugar Muffins	933	Apple-Rhubarb Pie	987	Italian Buttercream	1042
Sour Cream Muffins	934	Blueberry Pie Filling	988	Chocolate Italian Buttercream	1043
Streusel Topping	935	Cherry Pie	989	Coffee Italian Buttercream	1043
Chocolate Cherry Scones	937	Pumpkin Pie	990	French Mousseline Buttercream	1044
Cinnamon Orange Scones	937	Puff Pastry	993	Chocolate Mousseline Buttercream	1044
Cream Scones	938	Éclair Paste (Pâte à Choux)	996	Basic Fudge Frosting	1045
Morning Glory Muffins	938	Italian Meringue	999	Cocoa Fudge Frosting	1045
Basic Bran Muffins	939	Shortbread Tart Dough (Pâte Sablée)	1003	Basic Sugar Glaze	1046
Lemon Poppy Seed Muffins	939	Quiche Dough (Pâte Brisée)	1004	Flavored Sugar Glaze	1046
Irish Soda Bread	940	Lemon Meringue Pie	1004	Royal Icing	1047
Basic Corn Muffins	940	Fresh Strawberry Pie	1005	Chocolate Ganache	1048
Southern-Style Cornbread	940	Freeform Apple Pies	1006	Dark Chocolate Truffles	1049
Tijuana Cornbread	940	Blackberry Crumble	1007	Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese	
Zucchini Bread	941	Fresh Berry Tart	1007	Frosting	1056
Hush Puppies (Deep-Fried		French Apple Tart	1008	Cream Cheese Frosting	1056
Cornbread)	941	Almond Cream	1008	Marble Cake	1057
Sour Cream Coffeecake	942	Rustic Vegetable Galettes	1009	Marble Cupcakes	1057
Sour Croum Concessant	, . <u>-</u>	Strawberry Napoleon	1009	German Chocolate Cake	1058
		Palmiers	1010	Coconut Pecan Frosting	1058
32 Yeast Breads		Chocolate Éclairs	1011	Sacher Torte	1059
Simple Sourdough Starter	947	Baked Meringue	1011	Dark Chocolate Glaze	1059
Soft Yeast Dinner Rolls	954	Chocolate Délice	1012	Tres Leches Cake	1060
Light Rye Bread	956		1012	Flourless Chocolate Cake	1061
Parisian Croissants	958	Classic Dacquoise			
White Sandwich Bread	961	Candied Almonds	1013	Fudge Brownies	1062
Whole-Wheat Sandwich Bread	961	Apple Strudel	1014	German Chocolate Layered Brownies	1063
Cloverleaf Rolls	961	Chocolate-Mint Crinkle Cookies	1015	Banana Bars with Brown Butter Icing	1064
French or Italian Bread	962	Oatmeal Raisin Cookies	1016	Chocolate Banana Bars	1064
		Peanut Butter Sandies	1016		
Whole-Wheat Bread	962	Chocolate Chip Cookies	1017	35 Custards, Creams, Frozen	
San Francisco-Style Sourdough Bread	963	Biscotti	1018	Desserts and Dessert Sauce	es
Focaccia (Roman Flatbread)	964	Orange Biscotti	1018		
Pizza Dough	964	Anise Biscotti	1018	Vanilla Custard Sauce	1068
Swiss Chard and Ricotta Calzone	965	Chocolate Biscotti	1018	Chocolate Custard Sauce	1068
Naan (Indian Flatbread)	966	Lemon or Lime Bars	1019	Coffee Custard Sauce	1068

xxvi RECIPES

Hazelnut Custard Sauce	1068	White Chocolate Hazelnut		Passion Fruit Crème Brûlée	1087
Ginger Custard Sauce	1068	Bavarian	1077	Chocolate Pots de Crème	1087
Pistachio Custard Sauce	1068	Lime Chiffon	1078	New York Cheesecake	1088
Pastry Cream	1069	Lemon Chiffon	1078	Bread Pudding with Bourbon Sauce	1089
Chocolate Pastry Cream	1069	Orange Chiffon	1078	Chocolate Bread Pudding	1089
Coconut Pastry Cream	1069	Classic Chocolate Mousse	1079	Bourbon Sauce	1089
Coffee Pastry Cream	1069	Ice Cream Base	1081	Cherry Clafouti	1090
Mousseline Pastry Cream	1069	Chocolate Ice Cream	1081	Lemon Curd	1090
Champagne Sabayon	1070	Cappuccino Ice Cream	1081	Lime Curd	1090
Sabayon Mousseline	1070	Brandied Cherry Ice Cream	1081	Buttermilk Panna Cotta	1091
Toffee Caramel Flan	1071	Grapefruit Sorbet	1082	Caramel Buttermilk Panna Cotta	1091
Baked Crème Brûlée	1072	Lemon Sorbet	1082	Raspberry Mousse	1091
Chocolate Soufflés	1074	Mango Sorbet	1082	Coffee Granita	1092
Crème Chantilly (Chantilly Cream)	1075	Raspberry Sorbet	1082	Chocolate Hazelnut Marquise	
Stabilized Whipped Cream	1075	Raspberry Sauce	1083	with Hazelnut Sauce	1093
Chocolate Chantilly	1075	Caramel Sauce	1084	Fruit Coulis	1093
Bavarian Cream	1076	Dark Chocolate Syrup	1084	Butterscotch Sauce	1094
Charlotte Bavarian	1077	Crème Brûlée	1087	Chocolate Fudge Sauce	1094

Preface

Learning to cook is much more than simply learning to follow a recipe. Consequently, *On Cooking*, Sixth Edition, is not a cookbook or a collection of recipes. It is a carefully designed text intended to teach you the fundamentals of the culinary arts and to prepare you for a rewarding career in the food service industry.

The goal of *On Cooking* is to focus your attention on general procedures, highlighting fundamental principles and skills, whether it be for preparing a yeast bread or grilling a piece of fish. Both the how and why of cooking are discussed, emphasizing culinary principles first, not recipes. Only after the principles are introduced and explained are specific applications and sample recipes given. The content is extensively illustrated with photographs and line drawings to help you identify foods and equipment. Most recipes include photographs of the finished dish ready for service. Many procedures are illustrated with step-by-step photographs as well.

In order to provide you with a sense of the rich traditions of cookery, informative sidebars on food history, chef biographies and other topics are located throughout the book. Sidebars that relate to flavors and flavorings also appear throughout the material to enhance your understanding of key cooking ingredients and possible variations. Safety Alerts are shown in red, to remind you of conditions or situations that might pose a danger to you or to diners. Electronic resources accompanying this text enhance the learning experience while encouraging your use of computer technology in contemporary kitchens.

We wish you much success in your future career and hope that this text will continue to inform and inspire you long after graduation.

A NOTE ON RECIPES

Recipes are important and useful as a means of standardizing food preparation and recording information. In *On Cooking*, Sixth Edition, recipes are designed primarily to reinforce and explain techniques and procedures presented in the text. Many recipe yields are intentionally low in order to be less intimidating to beginning cooks and more useful in small schools and kitchens.

All ingredients are listed in both U.S. and metric measurements. The metric equivalents are rounded off to even, easily measured amounts. You should consider the ingredient lists as separate recipes or formulas; do not measure some ingredients according to the metric amounts and other ingredients according to the U.S. amounts or the proportions will not be accurate and the intended result will not be achieved. Throughout this book, unless otherwise noted:

- *mirepoix* refers to a preparation of 2 parts onion, 1 part celery and 1 part carrot by weight
- pepper refers to ground black pepper, preferably freshly ground
- butter refers to whole unsalted butter
- milk refers to whole or reduced fat (not nonfat) milk
- yogurt refers to whole plain (unsweetened) yogurt
- TT means "to taste"

Detailed procedures for standard techniques are presented in the text and generally are not repeated in each recipe (e.g., in a recipe, the instruction will be simply "deglaze the pan" or "monté au beurre"). Variations appear at the end of selected recipes. These variations illustrate how one set of techniques or procedures can be used to prepare different dishes with only minor modifications.

A mise en place feature is included for recipes that appear in the front sections of each recipe chapter. Ingredients that require preparation before the recipe is begun are listed in

the margin under the Mise en Place heading. Consult this brief checklist after you read the recipe but before you begin to cook. Some recipes also include headnotes that describe the cultural or historical background of a dish or the unique techniques used in its preparation. This short text will enhance your understanding of a cuisine or cooking technique.

No matter how detailed the written recipe, however, we assume that you are acquiring certain knowledge, skills and judgment. It becomes a judgment call to know, for example, when a loaf of bread or a casserole is properly cooked. Ovens and cookware may vary in efficiency. For these reasons, recipes and formulas describe alternate tests for doneness, requiring you to use your developing skills to determine when a dish is fully cooked. You should also rely upon the knowledge and skills of your instructor for guidance. Although some skills and an understanding of theory can be acquired through reading and study, no book can substitute for repeated hands-on preparation and observation.

A registered dietician analyzed all the recipes in this book using nutritional analysis software that incorporates data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, research laboratories and food manufacturers. The nutrient information provided here should be used only as a reference, however. A margin of error of approximately 20 percent can be expected because of natural variations in ingredients. Preparation techniques and serving sizes may also significantly alter the values of many nutrients. For the nutritional analysis, if a recipe offers a choice of ingredients, the first-mentioned ingredient is the one used. Ingredients listed as "to taste" (TT) and "as needed" are omitted from the analysis. It is assumed that corn oil and whole milk are used when a recipe calls for "vegetable oil" and "milk," respectively. In cases of a range of ingredient quantities or numbers of servings, the average is used.



Throughout this book various recipes are marked with a Good Choice icon. This symbol identifies dishes that are particularly low in calories, fat, saturated fat or sodium; they may also be a good source of vitamins, protein, fiber or calcium.



Vegetarian dishes are indicated with a green leaf symbol. These recipes do not contain meat, fish, shellfish or poultry, but may contain dairy products and/or eggs. (This symbol is not used in the baked goods recipes in Chapters 31–35, however, because none of them contains meat, fish, shellfish or poultry.)



Vegan dishes are indicated with the blue V symbol. These recipes do not contain any animal products. Vegetarian and vegan dishes are not necessarily low in calories, fat or sodium; nor are they necessarily good sources of vitamins, protein, fiber or calcium.

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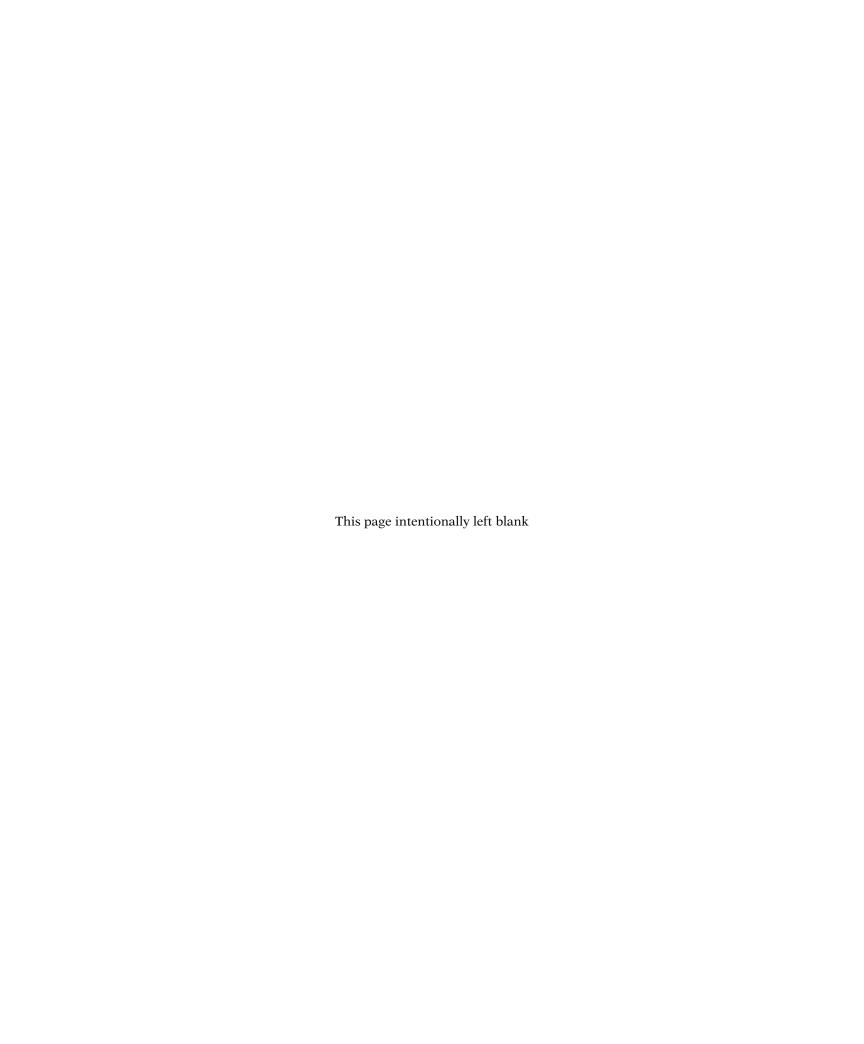
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Professionalism 1



After studying this chapter, you will be able to:

- name key historical figures responsible for developing food service professionalism and describe the contributions of each
- list and describe the key stages in the development of the modern food service industry
- explain the organization of classic and modern kitchen brigades
- identify the attributes a student needs to become a successful culinary professional
- describe the importance of professional ethics for chefs and list the specific behaviors that all culinary professionals should follow

cookery the art, practice or work of cooking

cooking (1) the transfer of energy from a heat source to a food; this energy alters the food's molecular structure, changing its texture, flavor, aroma and appearance; (2) the preparation of food for consumption

professional cooking a system of cooking based on a knowledge of and appreciation for ingredients and procedures ike any fine art, great **cookery** requires taste and creativity, an appreciation of beauty and a mastery of technique. Like the sciences, successful cookery demands knowledge and an understanding of basic principles, and like any successful leader, today's professional chef must exercise sound judgment and be committed to achieving excellence in all endeavors.

This book describes foods and cooking equipment, explains culinary principles and cooking techniques and provides recipes using these principles and techniques. No book, however, can provide taste, creativity, commitment and judgment. For these, chefs and other culinary professionals must rely on themselves. This chapter explores the rich history of the restaurant industry and the individuals who influenced the development of the profession. It also outlines the attributes of the professional chef. As you begin your culinary studies, we hope that you find inspiration in the history of the food service industry as you learn about the qualities that will guide you in your chosen career.

CHEFS AND RESTAURANTS

Cooks have produced food in quantity for as long as people have eaten together. For millennia, chefs, whether they be Asian, Native American, European or African, have catered to the often elaborate dining needs of the wealthy and powerful; and for centuries, vendors in China, Europe and elsewhere have sold foods to the public that they prepared themselves or bought from others.

But the history of the professional chef is of relatively recent origin. Its cast is mostly French, and it is intertwined with the history of restaurants—for only with the development of restaurants during the late 18th and early 19th centuries were chefs expected to produce, efficiently and economically, different dishes at different times for different diners.

The 18th Century—Boulanger's Restaurant

The word *restaurant* is derived from the French word *restaurer* ("to restore"). Since the 16th century, the word *restorative* had been used to describe rich and highly flavored soups or stews capable of restoring lost strength. Restoratives, like all other cooked foods offered and purchased outside the home during this period of history, were made by guild members. Each guild had a monopoly on preparing a category of food items. For example, during the reign of Henri IV of France (r. 1589–1610), there were separate guilds for *rôtisseurs* (who cooked *la grosse viande*, the main cuts of meat), *pâtissiers* (who cooked poultry, pies and tarts), *tamisiers* (who baked breads), *vinaigriers* (who made sauces and some stews, including some restoratives), *traiteurs* (who made meat stews) and *porte-chapes* (caterers who organized feasts and celebrations).

The French claim that the first modern restaurant opened one day in 1765 when a Parisian tavern keeper, a Monsieur Boulanger, hung a sign advertising the sale of his special restorative, a dish of sheep feet in white sauce. His establishment closed shortly thereafter as the result of a lawsuit brought by a guild whose members claimed that Boulanger was infringing on their exclusive right to sell prepared dishes. Boulanger triumphed in court and later reopened.

Boulanger's establishment differed from the inns and taverns that had existed throughout Europe for centuries. These inns and taverns served foods prepared (usually off premises) by the appropriate guild. The food—of which there was little choice—was offered by the inn or tavern as incidental to the establishment's primary function: providing sleeping accommodations or drink. Customers were served family style and ate at communal tables. Boulanger's contribution to the food service industry was serving a variety of foods prepared on premises to customers whose primary interest was dining.

Several other restaurants opened in Paris during the succeeding decades, including the Grande Taverne de Londres in 1782. Its owner, Antoine Beauvilliers (1754–1817), was the former steward (chief of the household staff) to the Comte de Provence, later King Louis XVIII of France. Beauvilliers advanced the development of the modern restaurant by offering his wealthy patrons a menu listing available dishes during fixed hours. Beauvilliers's impeccably trained wait staff served patrons at small, individual tables in an elegant setting.

The French Revolution (1789–1799) had a significant effect on the budding restaurant industry. Along with the aristocracy, the revolution generally abolished guilds and their monopolies. The revolution also allowed the public access to the skills and creativity of the well-trained, sophisticated chefs who previously had worked exclusively in the aristocracy's private kitchens. Although many of the aristocracy's chefs either left the country or lost their jobs (and some their heads), a few opened restaurants catering to the growing urbanized middle class.

The Early 19th Century—Carême and Grande Cuisine

As the 19th century progressed, more restaurants opened, serving a greater selection of items and catering to a wider clientele. By midcentury, several large, grand restaurants in Paris were serving elaborate meals, reminiscent of the *grande cuisine* (also known as *baute cuisine*) of the aristocracy. *Grande cuisine*, which arguably reached its peak of perfection in the hands of Antonin Carême was characterized by meals consisting of

grande cuisine the rich, intricate and elaborate cuisine of the 18th- and 19th-century French aristocracy and upper classes; it was based on the rational identification, development and adoption of strict culinary principles; by emphasizing the how and why of cooking, grande cuisine was the first to distinguish itself from regional cuisines, which tend to emphasize the tradition of cooking

Marie-Antoine (Antonin) Carême (1783-1833)

Antonin Carême, known as the "cook of kings and the king of cooks," was an acknowledged master of French *grande cuisine*. Abandoned on the streets of Paris as a child, he worked his way from cook's helper in a working-class restaurant to become one of the most prestigious chefs of his (or, arguably, any other) time. During his career, he was chef to the famous French diplomat and gourmand Prince de Talleyrand, the Prince Regent of England (who became King George IV), Tsar Alexander I of Russia and Baron de Rothschild, among others.

Carême's stated goal was to achieve lightness, grace, order and perspicuity in the preparation and presentation of food. As a pâtissier, he designed and prepared elaborate and elegant pastry and confectionery creations, many of which were based on architectural designs. (He wrote that "the fine arts are five in number, namely: painting, sculpture, poetry, music, architecture—the main branch of which is confectionery.") As a showman, he garnished his dishes with ornamental *hâtelets* (skewers) threaded with colorful ingredients, such as crayfish and intricately carved vegetables, and presented his creations on elaborate socles (bases). As a saucier, he standardized the use of the flour and butter mixture called roux as a thickening agent, perfected recipes and devised





A poultry illustration from Carême showing *hâtelets* (skewers) used as a garnish.

a system for classifying sauces. As a gardemanger, Carême popularized cold cuisine, emphasizing molds and aspic dishes. As a culinary professional, he designed kitchen tools, equipment and uniforms.

As an author, Carême wrote and illustrated important texts on the culinary arts, including Le Maitre d'hotel français (c. 1822), describing the hundreds of dishes he personally created and cooked in the capitals of Europe; Le Pâtissier royal parisien (c. 1825), containing fanciful designs for les pieces montées, the great decorative centerpieces that were the crowning glory of grand dinners; and his five-volume masterpiece on the state of his profession, L'Art de la cuisine française aux XIXe siècle (1833), the last two volumes of which were completed after his death by his associate, Plumerey. Carême's writings almost single-handedly refined and summarized five hundred years of culinary evolution. But his treatises were not mere cookbooks. Rather he analyzed cooking, old and new, emphasizing procedure and order and covering every aspect of the art known as grande cuisine.

Carême died before age 50, burnt out, according to French poet and essayist Laurent Tailhade, "by the flame of his genius and the coal of the spits."

restaurateur a person who owns or operates an establishment serving food, such as a restaurant

gourmand a connoisseur of fine food and drink, often to excess

gastronomy the art and science of eating well

gourmet a connoisseur of fine food and drink

gourmet foods foods of the highest quality, perfectly prepared and beautifully presented

classic cuisine a late 19th- and early 20th-century refinement and simplification of French grande cuisine. Classic (or classical) cuisine relies on the thorough exploration of culinary principles and techniques and emphasizes the refined preparation and presentation of superb ingredients.

dozens of courses of elaborately and intricately prepared, presented, garnished and sauced foods. Other **restaurateurs** blended the techniques and styles of *grande cuisine* with the simpler foods and tastes of the middle class (*cuisine bourgeoise*) to create a new cuisine simpler than *grande cuisine* but more complex than mere home cooking, which often centered around bread.

The Late 19th Century-Escoffier and Cuisine Classique

Following the lead set by the French in both culinary style and the restaurant business, restaurants opened in the United States and throughout Europe during the 19th century. Charles Ranhofer (1836–1899) was the first internationally renowned chef of an American restaurant–Delmonico's in New York City. In 1893, Ranhofer published his "Franco-American" encyclopedia of cooking, *The Epicurean*, which contained more than 3500 recipes.

One of the finest restaurants outside France was the dining room at London's Savoy Hotel, opened in 1898 under the directions of César Ritz (1850–1918) and Auguste Escoffier (1846–1935). There they created a restaurant that attracted royalty and aristocratic women, a group rarely seen dining in public at the time. Escoffier is generally credited with refining the *grande cuisine* of Carême to create *cuisine classique* or **classic cuisine**. He invented such dishes as *Suprêmes de soles à l'aurore* (or "fillet of sole at dawn") in a blushing pink sauce and *Pêche Melba* (or "Peach Melba"), named after Austrian singer Nellie Melba, a guest at the hotel. By doing so, he brought French cuisine into the 20th century.

Auguste Escoffier (1846-1935)

Auguste Escoffier's brilliant culinary career began at age 13 in his uncle's restaurant and continued until his death at age 89. Called the "emperor of the world's kitchens," he is perhaps best known for defining French cuisine and dining during La Belle Époque (also referred to as the "Gay Nineties").

Unlike Antonin Carême, Escoffier never worked in an aristocratic household. Rather he exhibited his culinary skills in the dining rooms of the finest hotels in Europe, including the Place Vendôme in Paris and the Savoy and Carlton hotels in London.

Escoffier did much to enhance grande cuisine as defined by Carême. Crediting Carême with providing the foundation for great—that is, French—cooking, Escoffier simplified the profusion of flavors, dishes and garnishes typifying Carême's work. For example, Carême would present elaborate displays of as many as 150 dishes for guests at a private function. In contrast, Escoffier would offer 11 dishes served tableside to each guest individually. Escoffier also streamlined some of Carême's overly elaborate and fussy procedures and classifications. For example, he reduced Carême's elaborate system of classifying





Tournedos Rossini, a dish created by Escoffier, as it might be served today.

sauces into the five families of sauces still recognized today. Escoffier sought simplicity and aimed for the perfect balance of a few superb ingredients. Some consider his refinement of *grande cuisine* to have been so radical as to credit him with the development of a new cuisine referred to as *cuisine classique* (classic or classical cuisine).

Escoffier's many writings include Le Livre des menus (1912), in which, discussing the principles of a well-planned meal, he analogizes a great dinner to a symphony with contrasting movements that should be appropriate to the occasion, the guests and the season, and Ma cuisine (1934), surveying cuisine bourgeoise. But his most important contribution is a culinary treatise intended for the professional chef titled Le Guide culinaire (1903). Still in use today, it is an astounding collection of more than 5000 classic cuisine recipes and garnishes. In it, Escoffier emphasizes the mastery of techniques, the thorough understanding of cooking principles and the appreciation of ingredientsattributes he considered to be the building blocks professional chefs should use to create great dishes.

The Mid-20th Century-Point and Nouvelle Cuisine

The mid-20th century witnessed a trend toward lighter, more naturally flavored and more simply prepared foods. Fernand Point was a master practitioner of this movement. But this master's goal of simplicity and refinement was carried to even greater heights by a generation of French chefs Point trained: principally Paul Bocuse, Jean and Pierre Troisgros, Alain Chapel, François Bise and Louis Outhier. They, along with Michel Guérard and Roger Vergé, were the pioneers of *nouvelle cuisine* in the early 1970s. Their contemporary, Gaston Lenôtre, modernized the classic pastries of *grande cuisine*, infusing them with the bright, fresh flavors of *nouvelle cuisine*.

Their culinary philosophy was principled on the rejection of overly rich, needlessly complicated dishes and an emphasis on healthful eating. The ingredients must be absolutely fresh and of the highest possible quality; the cooking methods should be simple and direct whenever possible. The accompaniments and garnishes must be light and contribute to an overall harmony; the completed plates must be elegantly designed and decorated. Following these guidelines, traditional cooking methods were applied to nontraditional ingredients, and ingredients were combined in new and previously unorthodox fashions.

The Late 20th and Early 21st Centuries—An American Culinary Revolution

During the last 30–40 years, broad changes launched in the United States have affected the global culinary landscape. Two such trends are bold, ethnic flavors and fresh food, simply prepared.

The popularity of **ethnic cuisine** is due, in large part, to an unlikely source: the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965. Under its provisions, a large number of Asians immigrated to the United States. They brought with them their rich culinary traditions and ignited America's love affair with fiery hot cuisines. By the late 1970s many Americans were no longer content with overly salty pseudo-Chinese dishes. They demanded authenticity and developed cravings for spicy dishes from the Szechuan and Hunan provinces of China, Vietnam and Thailand. In the 1970s Mexican food also left the barrio and became mainstream. Now authentic regional Mexican dishes are commonplace throughout America.

During this same time period, restaurateurs and chefs began Americanizing the principles of French *nouvelle cuisine*. When Alice Waters opened Chez Panisse in Berkeley, California, in 1971, her goal was to serve fresh food, simply prepared. Rejecting the growing popularity of processed and packaged foods, Waters used fresh, seasonal and locally grown produce in simple preparations that preserved and emphasized the foods' natural flavors. Chez Panisse and the many chefs who passed through its kitchen launched a new style of American cuisine that became known as **California** or **New American cuisine**. As the culinary movement launched by Waters's philosophy spread across the United States, farmers and chefs began working together to make fresh, locally grown foods available, and producers and suppliers began developing domestic sources for some of the high-quality ingredients that were once available only from overseas.

These chefs ushered in a period of bold experimentation. American chefs and chefs working in America, such as Wolfgang Puck, began to combine ingredients and preparation methods from a variety of cuisines. Their work resulted in **fusion cuisine**. Fusion cuisine combines ingredients or preparation methods associated with one ethnic or **regional cuisine** with those of another. A fillet of Norwegian salmon might be grilled over hickory wood and then served on a bed of Japanese soba noodles, for example, or a traditional French duck confit may be seasoned with lemongrass, ginger and chiles. Pizzas with untraditional toppings, such as smoked salmon and caviar, which had never been conceived of before, launched Wolfgang Puck's career in Los Angeles, California, in the early 1980s. Today such fusion is commonplace from the creations of Kogi BBQ's Korean Mexican tacos in Southern California to the subtle use of Asian seasonings in the classic sauces prepared by Jean-Georges Vongerichten at his restaurant Jean-Georges in New York City. But in the 1970s and 1980s, fusion represented a breakthrough in cooking and helped establish Puck as the first celebrity chef.

nouvelle cuisine French for "new cooking"; a mid-20th-century movement away from many classic cuisine principles and toward a lighter cuisine based on natural flavors, shortened cooking times and innovative combinations

ethnic cuisine the cuisine of a group of people having a common cultural heritage, as opposed to the cuisine of a group of people bound together by geography or political factors

California or New American cuisine a late 20th-century movement that first became popular in California and spread across the United States; it stresses the use of fresh, locally grown, seasonal produce and high-quality ingredients simply prepared in a fashion that preserves and emphasizes natural flavors

fusion cuisine the blending or use of ingredients and/or preparation methods from various ethnic, regional or national cuisines in the same dish; also known as transnational cuisine

regional cuisine a set of recipes based on local ingredients, traditions and practices; within a larger geographical, political, cultural or social unit, regional cuisines are often variations of one another that blend together to create a national cuisine

global cuisine foods (often commercially produced items) or preparation methods that have become ubiquitous throughout the world; for example, curries and French-fried potatoes

national cuisine the characteristic cuisine of a



Smoked salmon and caviar pizza, a dish created by Wolfgang Puck in the early 1980s.



A dish composed of olive oil poached turnips and mushrooms, potatoes and red cabbage from the vegetable menu of Charlie Trotter's, a Michelin-starred restaurant that operated in Chicago from 1987 to 2012.



Sauce spooned over a dish at a meal prepared in New York City by Thomas Keller and his staff.

farm-to-table or locavore movement an awareness of the source of ingredients with an emphasis on serving locally grown and minimally processed foods in season

molecular gastronomy a contemporary scientific movement that investigates the chemistry and physics of food preparation

modernist cuisine a term that refers to scienceinspired techniques for food preparation; an avant-garde approach to food preparation, sanitation and health concerns based on scienceinspired techniques



Roast foie gras with almond fluid gel cherry chamomile prepared by Heston Blumenthal at The Fat Duck in Bray, England.

Other chefs who were instrumental in changing the way Americans dine imported the exacting standards and culinary techniques of European chefs. In so doing these chefs elevated the style and quality of food served in the United States. Charlie Trotter opened his eponymous restaurant in Chicago in 1987 after several apprenticeships in France. Trotter is noteworthy for introducing the multicourse tasting menus that are a signature of fine dining today. Among the first to dedicate as much attention to vegetables as to meat or fish, Trotter also explored raw food preparations, writing a book on raw foods in 2003. Chef Thomas Keller, who started cooking in restaurants in his teens, worked at renowned restaurants Guy Savoy and Le Taillevent in Paris before opening his own restaurant in 1994. Today experts regard Keller's restaurants, The French Laundry in Yountville, California, and Per Se in New York City among the finest in the world. His cuisine, based on traditional French and modern cooking techniques, utilizes only foods in season, many grown on premises or sourced from local farmers. Known for producing lengthy tasting menus of food with clean flavors as well as his obsessive attention to detail, Keller develops professionalism in his staff who are encouraged to be mindful, organized and "work clean."

The fluidity of international borders, the accessibility of global travel and the Internet have radically changed the way we cook and the foods we eat. Today the world's pantries are available to chefs and home cooks everywhere. Chefs are sourcing ingredients globally as well as working in tandem with farmers to supply their diners with fresh flavors while preserving local agriculture and heirloom varieties. As we discuss in detail later in this chapter, the concern for locally raised ingredients, referred to as the **farm-to-table** or **locavore movement**, has influenced chefs to serve fresh seasonal foods, such as wild greens or seafood from day boat fishermen, that is grown or harvested within a few miles of their restaurants.

Modernist Cuisine

During the 1990s scientists, particularly in the United States, England, France and Spain, began to see food preparation as a distinct and worthy field of exploration. Chefs and scientists wanted to understand why food behaved as it did, why traditional cooking techniques sometimes failed and how to improve culinary methods. Scientists began seeking answers to these questions under the umbrella of **molecular gastronomy**, a term coined by the British physicist Nicholas Kurti and French chemist Hervé This in 1988. Inspired by the experiments of molecular gastronomy, early 21st-century chefs reinvented the notion of cooking by employing ingredients and machinery more common in industrial food manufacturing than in restaurant kitchens. This offshoot of molecular gastronomy is now referred to as **modernist cuisine**, first defined by Nathan Myhrvold (former Chief Technology Officer at Microsoft, co-founder of Intellectual Ventures and the principal author of *Modernist Cuisine*). Among those following modernist techniques is a group of daring, innovative chefs practicing a form of *haute cuisine* that integrates classic French cuisine with the highest-quality ingredients and previously unthinkable presentations such as liquids solidified into spheres and powders.

The founding chef of this movement is Ferran Adrià of elBulli in Spain (1962–). Current practitioners include Heston Blumenthal at The Fat Duck in Bray, England, Gaggan Anand at Gaggan in Bangkok and Grant Achatz at Alinea in Chicago. The hallmarks of this high-tech cuisine include dehydrators, edible menus, gels and spheres, intensely flavored smoke and –30°F antigriddles that "cook" liquefied food. These chefs produce foods that look like one thing, taste like something totally different and smell like child-hood memories. Take Heston Blumenthal's bacon and egg ice cream as one example. It is a plated dessert consisting of ice cream made from a bacon-infused custard. All the elements of the savory breakfast appear on the plate including a cup of tea, served as a sweet jelly, and toast in the form of sweet, caramelized brioche. As Blumenthal says, his goal is to make food exciting by overturning expectations. Although few restaurants are going to the extreme of replacing their cooktops with water baths and chemical freezers, many of the tools and techniques that these avant-garde chefs perfected are now being used and appreciated on a smaller scale by chefs who may add a gelled garnish or spheres of sauce to a traditional dish.

Ferran Adrià (1962-)

Cooking is a language through which all the following properties may be expressed: harmony, creativity, happiness, beauty, poetry, complexity, magic, humor, provocation and culture.

-Ferran Adrià

Ferran Adrià is an experimental Spanish chef called the Salvador Dalí of the kitchen. Adrià's prestigious restaurant elBulli (slang for "the bulldog"), was voted number one on The World's 50 Best Restaurants™ list four times. ElBulli also earned three Michelin stars, the highest Michelin rating, an award it maintained from 1997 until it closed in 2011.

Born near Barcelona, this food futurist planned a business career before a temporary dishwashing job redirected his path. Inspired by classic cuisine and an encouraging chef, Adrià began his self-education, reading *El Práctico*, a cooking manual edited by a Spanish chef heavily influenced by Auguste Escoffier, from cover to cover. A month working at elBulli was an experience so stimulating that he returned there upon completion of his military service in 1984.

At the time, the cuisine at elBulli was heavily influenced by *nouvelle cuisine*, then at its height of popularity. Working alongside the restaurant's chef, Adrià created new versions of acclaimed French dishes, earning the restaurant its first star in the influential Michelin Guide.





Liquid olives, created by Chef Ferran Adrià.

He enhanced his skills and knowledge of classic technique through brief apprenticeships in top kitchens in France. But in 1987 Adrià heard an expression that was to change his direction as a chef; "Creativity means not copying," said Jacques Maximin, then chef of Le Chantecler in

Nice, France. At that moment Adrià and his team committed themselves to reinventing cuisine as we know it.

The food served at elBulli engaged all of one's senses. Dinner was a tasting menu of up to 35 bite-sized dishes. What appeared to be cooked may actually have been flash frozen. An herb clipped to a spoon allowed guests to smell the aroma before tasting the herb in the dish. Warm foam that tasted of carrots or mushrooms, hot gelatin, encapsulated mango purée that resembled egg yolks and ravioli filled with liquid were some of the showstopping techniques for which Adrià became known. At the vanguard of experimental cooking, Adrià and staff spent six months each year working with food technologists, industrial designers and artists experimenting with new techniques. The chef and his staff documented their style of cooking in a 23-point style guide, "Synthesis of elBulli Cuisine." Using the freshest ingredients and mastery of technique are givens, they write. But also all foods are of equal gastronomic value, with a preference for vegetables and seafood to create a "light, harmonic cuisine" based on classic and modern technologies.

Adrià continues his experimentation and research into gastronomy, sharing his knowledge through the Internet and at elBulli Foundation.

MODERN FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS

From Monsieur Boulanger's humble establishment, a great industry has grown. Today more than one million public dining facilities operate in the United States alone. The dramatic growth and diversification of the food service industry is due in part to the Industrial Revolution in the 19th century and the social and economic changes it brought, including the introduction of new culinary technologies, food supplies and consumer concerns.

Culinary Technologies

Technology has always had a profound effect on cooking. For example, the development of clay and, later, metal vessels that could contain liquids and withstand and conduct heat offered prehistoric cooks the opportunity to stew, make soups and porridge, pickle and brine foods and control fermentation. But it was not until the rapid technological advances fostered by the Industrial Revolution that anything approaching the modern kitchen was possible.

One of the most important advancements was the introduction of the cast-iron stove. Prior to the 19th century, most cooking was done on spits or grills or in cauldrons or pots set on or in a wood- or coal-burning hearth. Hearthside cooking did not lend itself

well to the simultaneous preparation of many items or to items requiring constant and delicate attention. With the introduction of cast-iron stoves during the 1800s, cooks could more comfortably and safely approach the heat source and control its temperatures. On the new cook stoves, they could also prepare foods in the small quantities needed to serve individual diners on demand.

Also of great importance were developments in food preservation and storage techniques. For thousands of years food had been preserved by sun-drying, salting, smoking, pickling, sugar-curing or fermenting. Salt-cured codfish and salmon have been staples in Scandinavia for millennia, and the earliest household records and cookery manuscripts from medieval Britain include inventories of bacon and salted meats. Although useful, these ancient procedures dramatically change the appearance and flavor of most foods. By the early 19th century, preserving techniques began to emerge that had minimal effect on appearance and flavor. For example, by 1800 the Frenchman Nicolas François Appert successfully "canned" foods by subjecting foods stored in sterilized glass jars to very high heat. An early mechanical refrigerator was developed by the mid-1800s; soon reliable iceboxes, refrigerators and, later, freezers were available. During the 20th century freeze-drying, vacuum-packing and irradiation became common preservation techniques.

Developments in transportation technology were also underway. During the 19th century steam-powered ships and railroads brought foods quickly to market from distant suppliers. Since the mid-20th century temperature-controlled cargo ships, trains, trucks and airplanes have all been used as part of an integrated worldwide food transportation network. Combined with dependable food preservation and storage techniques, improved transportation networks freed chefs from seasonal and geographic limitations in their choice of foods and expanded consumers' culinary horizons.

Advancements in technology also facilitated or even eliminated much routine kitchen work. Since the 19th century chefs have relied increasingly on mechanical and motorized food processors, mixers and cutters as well as a wealth of sophisticated kitchen equipment from high-carbon stainless steel knife blades to infrared thermometers and ultrasonic homogenizers.

Food Supplies

Modern food preservation, storage and transportation techniques have made both fresh and exotic foods regularly available to chefs and consumers. Because of advances in packaging and transportation, foodstuffs grown or made virtually anywhere in the world are now available to restaurants regardless of season or location.

Last century's advancements in agriculture, such as the switch from organic to chemical fertilizers and the introduction of pesticides and drought- or pest-resistant strains, increased yields of healthy crops. Traditional hybridization techniques and, more recently, genetic engineering have produced new varieties of grains, such as soybeans, corn, rapeseeds and rice, which are resistant to herbicides or insects. Although scientists may argue that such engineering simply speeds up the process of natural selection, consumers are often more concerned about the unforeseen impact on consumer health and unintended consequences to the environment. Governments around the world regulate, restrict or outright ban the sale of foodstuffs containing **genetically modified organisms** (GMOs) on a case-by-case basis.

Additionally, advancements in animal husbandry and aquaculture have led to a more reliable supply of leaner meat, poultry and fish. Foods found traditionally only in the wild (for example, game, wild rice and many mushrooms) are now being raised commercially and are routinely available. The commercialization of foodstuffs has created a backlash among some consumers and chefs, however. New concerns about sustainability and support for local farmers and food producers present the industry with new challenges and new opportunities for chefs to revise their menus and adopt ecologically-based business practices.

genetically modified organism (GMO) refers to a plant, microorganism or animal in which genetic material (segments of DNA) have been modified or engineered in a laboratory in order to change inheritable characteristics, such as resistance to insects or herbicides

Consumer Concerns

Consumer concerns about nutrition and diet have fueled changes in the food service industry. Obviously what we eat affects our health. Adequate amounts of certain nutrients promote good health by preventing deficiencies; studies show that good nutrition also helps prevent chronic diseases and increases longevity. Chefs must now understand human nutritional needs and the various special diets followed by customers. Beyond simply reducing fat and sugar for weight control, chefs must accommodate customers' allergies, specialized diets due to illnesses and ethical or social dining concerns of groups such as vegetarians and locavores.

The public is also rightfully concerned about food safety. Federal, state and local governments help promote food safety by inspecting and grading meats and poultry, regulating label contents for packaged foods and setting sanitation standards. The last line of defense, however, are the restaurant workers who prepare and serve food. It is up to you, as a culinary professional, to follow sanitation and food safety guidelines to protect others from injury or illness.

As noted earlier in this chapter, concerns about nutrition and food safety have also resulted in renewed interest in local and organically grown fruits and vegetables and free-range-raised animals. The local food movement and the concern for sustainable food production are leading chefs to find new sources for ingredients and expand their community involvement.

Local Production

Fresh foods travel from the producer to the consumer by two basic methods: 1) the industrial, commercial system, which operates huge, consolidated farms and global transportation networks; and 2) small local or regional systems. One key difference is how far the food travels from where it is grown or produced to the end consumer. Local systems distribute food items over short distances. These local farms are often family farms, which are defined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as those operated by the people who own the land or the animals and have sales of less than \$350,000 per year.

While the word *local* indicates that the food item is being sold close to where it was grown or produced, there is no consistent definition for it. Many consumers and organizations working in this field, such as farmer's markets, cite a radius of 50–100 miles (80–160 km) from production to point of sale as the determining factor. Weather conditions, urbanization or production capacity of the area also have an impact on the definition of *local*, sometimes extending the acceptable zone into a larger regional area. In 2010 the USDA began using a definition that implies food can be marketed as local or regional if the total distance the product was transported is less than 400 miles (640 km) from where it originated.

Chefs are using the public's interest in eating locally produced foods to create restaurant menus featuring such products. Some chefs, like their pre-industrial predecessors, now grow their own produce, raise their own pigs or chickens and forage from nearby forests for ingredients. They may contract with local farmers, beekeepers, cheese makers or fishermen to supply products, building their menus according to product availability, rather than serving out-of-season items or those transported long distances. In its purest version, farm-to-table means that the foods served come directly from a local farm, without passing through a market, distributor or grocery store. It implies a relationship between the chef and the farmer, with the chef serving the farm's products at their peak of freshness, ripeness and flavor. Farm-to-table menus may change daily due to product availability, and preparation techniques focus on retaining nutrients and freshness.

Sustainability

It is important to keep in mind that coming from nearby or being produced on a small farm does not necessarily mean the foods themselves are healthier, organic or in any

A Very Big Business Indeed

The National Restaurant Association, which closely monitors the economic impact of the U.S. food service industry, issued the following statistics for 2016:

- There are over one million restaurant locations in the United States; total annual sales were approximately \$783 billion.
- Eighty percent of restaurant customers ate ethnic cuisine at least once per month
- The food service industry captured 47% of the U.S. food dollar.
- More than 14.4 million people were employed in the restaurant industry.
- Nearly half of all American adults have worked in the food service industry at some time during their lives.



Chef Raymond Blanc samples radishes grown in the greenhouse at Belmond Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, Oxford, England.