

Why is it necessary to handle food properly?

- To prevent the growth of harmful bacteria caused by contamination:
 - at the growth stage
 - during processing
 - during delivery
- Proper cooking temperatures will kill these microorganisms

What are the ways to handle food properly?

- Control the time food spends in the danger zone (40-140 degrees F.)
- Always use clean utensils and cutting surfaces.
- Always clean and sanitize after each use
- Use proper thawing techniques
- Use the "first in-first out" method of selecting foods to use

What are the right cooking temperatures?

- Poultry, stuffed meats, pastas 165° F
- Ground beef 155°F
- Pork, ham, bacon, sausage 155° F
- Fish and other foods 145° F

(These are minimum safe temperatures)

What are proper methods to serve food safely?

- Never touch food or food contact surfaces with the hands
- Place serving utensils with the handle pointing out
- Check temperature to make sure it is at the safe holding temperature:
- Stir food continually
- Always use a ice scoop for ice
- Provide new plates for each return trip to the food line.

How should foods be cooled?

- Foods should be cooled within 2 hours to 40 degrees F. or less:
 - Breakdown thick foods (chili, beans) into shallow pans of 2" or less and refrigerate
 - Liquid products (soups) should be placed into pans of 3" inches or less
 - Cut thick meats and place into shallow pans
 - Place in an ice bath
 - Stir or agitate frequently
 - Use stainless steel containers
- Check temperature, cover, date and place in cooler on top shelves

This completes the Cooking and Serving Course.

Please click the "NEXT" button to begin your test.

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Thanks for participating!