

101 THINGS° TO DO WITH A

SLOVI POOKER

A home-cooked meal is never easier than with a slow cooker and this collection of simple yet delicious "throw and go" dishes!

RECIPES INCLUDE:

#13 Peanut Butter Fondue

#20 Spicy Tomato Beef Soup

#39 Lasagna

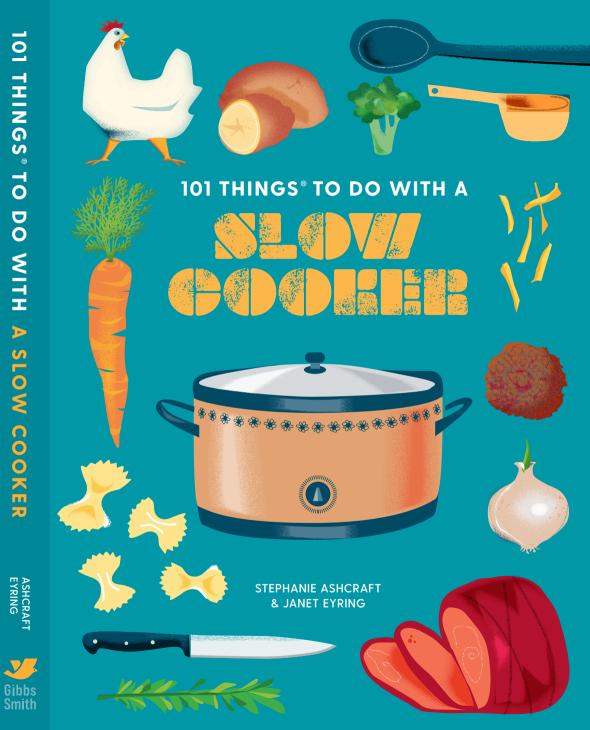
#62 Lemonade Chicken

#96 Cherry Biscuit Cobbler

... and 96 more!

\$12.99 U.S.





CONTENTS

Helpful Hints » 8

#1-6 Beverages

Party Hot Chocolate » 12 Mallow-Mint Hot Chocolate » 13 Almond Hot Chocolate » 14 Hot Cranberry Punch » 15 Hot Spiced Cherry Cider » 16 Holiday Wassail » 17

#7-13 Dips & Fondues

Mild Chili-Cheese Dip » 20 Bodacious Bean Dip » 21 Pizza Fondue » 22 Cheese Fondue » 23 Chocolate Fondue » 24 Caramel Fondue » 25 Peanut Butter Fondue » 26



#14-31 Soups & Stews

Hearty Vegetable Soup » 28 Quick Stew » 29 Zesty Minestrone » 30 Burton's Minestrone » 31 Cowboy Soup » 32 Alphabet Soup » 33 Spicy Tomato Beef Soup » 34 Santa Fe Cheese Soup » 35 Salsa Fever Soup » 36 Simple Chili » 37 Chicken Noodle Soup » 38

Tortilla Soup » 39

Turkey and Rice Soup » 40

Broccoli-Cheese Soup » 41

Four-Hour Stew » 42

Easy Taco Soup » 43

Vegetable Cheese Soup » 44

Chicken and Wild Rice Soup » 45



#32-49 Beef

Sunday Roast » 48 Cola Roast » 49

South-of-the-Border Pot Roast » 50

Easy Swiss Steak » 51

Beef and Mushrooms » 52

Simple Beef Stroganoff » 53

French Dip Sandwiches » 54

Lasagna » 55

Burritos » 56

Easy Flank Steak » 57

Sweet-and-Sour Beef » 58

Unbelievably Simple Brisket » 59

Family Favorite Brisket » 60

Tri-Tip Roast » 61

Shepherd's Pie » 62

Aunt Patty's Italian Barbecue » 63

Onion Meatballs » 64

Barbecued Meatballs » 65

#50-76 Chicken

Chicken and Potatoes » 68

Chicken and Rice Casserole » 69

Scalloped Chicken » 70

Whole Cranberry Chicken » 71

Mama's Italian Chicken » 72

Favorite Barbecue Chicken » 73

Cheesy Chicken Noodles » 74

Tater-Tot Casserole » 75

Hawaiian-Style Chicken » 76

Easy Chicken Bake » 77

Sunday Chicken » 78

Pineapple Chicken » 79

Lemonade Chicken » 80

Sweet-and-Sour Chicken » 81

Hawaiian Haystacks » 82

Creamy Italian Chicken » 83

Italian Chicken with Mushrooms » 84

Creamy Chicken Soft Tacos » 85

Orange Chicken » 86

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Chicken Teriyaki » 87

Chicken Cacciatore » 88

Chicken in a Bag » 89

Almond Chicken » 90

Chicken Fajitas » 91

Parmesan Chicken » 92

Chicken Enchiladas » 93

Cooked Chicken for Entrées, Soups, and Stews » 94

#77-91 Pork

Savory Pork Roast » 96

Cranberry Pork Roast » 97

Barbecued Pork Chops » 98

Sweet-and-Sour Pork » 99

Polynesian-Style Pork Chops » 100 Pork Chops and Mushrooms » 101

Pork Chop Casserole » 102

Ehlers' Pork Ribs » 103

Barbecue Pork Sandwiches » 104

Shredded Pork Burritos » 105

Pork Sausage Casserole » 106

Ham and Potatoes » 107

Red Potatoes with Ham » 108

Holiday Ham » 109

Shredded Ham Sandwiches » 110



#92-101 Desserts

Carrot Cake » 112

Caramel Rolls » 113

Rich Chocolate Cake » 114

Sugar and Spice Cake » 115

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Cherry Biscuit Cobbler » 116

Easy Granola Apple Crisp » 117

Cherries Jubilee » 118

Lemon Custard Cake » 119

Pineapple Upside-Down Cake » 120

Chocolate Custard Cake » 121

Notes » 122

About the Authors » 128

Helpful Hints

- To make cleanup easier, spray the inside of a slow cooker with nonstick cooking spray before adding ingredients.
- To test the cooking temperature of a slow cooker, fill it ³/₄ full of water, cover, and turn on high heat for 4 hours. With an instant-read thermometer, test water temperature immediately after the lid is removed. The temperature should be at least 180 degrees. If the temperature is lower, we recommend replacing the slow cooker. If it is higher, check all recipes for doneness after 3 hours of cooking time.
- As a general rule, lifting the lid off the slow cooker lengthens the cooking time by 30 minutes to 1 hour.
- Stirring is generally not necessary until time to serve.
- Your slow cooker should be at least ½ full to ensure proper cooking.
- Recipes that contain raw poultry or beef should cook a minimum of 3 hours on high heat. Combinations of raw meat and fresh vegetables should cook at least 4 hours on high heat.
- Adapting favorite oven recipes for a slow cooker:

CONVENTIONAL OVEN	SLOW COOKER	SLOW COOKER
Baking Time	High Cooking Time	Low Cooking Time
15–30 minutes	1 ¹ / ₂ –2 hours	4-6 hours
35-40 minutes	3-4 hours	6-10 hours
50 minutes-3 hours	4-6 hours	8-18 hours

- One hour on high heat is equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours on low heat. (High heat=275–300 degrees; low heat=200 degrees. Heat varies from brand to brand.)
- If your stoneware is removable, never place it on a stovetop burner.
- At cleanup, cool the stoneware liner somewhat before adding water; this will prevent cracking.
- Ground beef should be browned and drained before adding to slow cooker.
- Fresh milk, cream, sour cream, and cream cheese should be added during the last hour of cooking to prevent curdling. Evaporated milk does not curdle and can be substituted for fresh milk in most recipes.
- Long-grain converted (parboiled) rice is recommended for rice dishes.
- Root vegetables (onions, carrots, potatoes, turnips) take longer to cook than meat. Place vegetables on the bottom and around sides of slow cooker so they get the most direct heat.
- Tough, inexpensive meat cuts work well. The moist, gentle heat slowly tenderizes these cuts as they cook.
- Don't add more liquid than a recipe calls for, since liquid is retained.

Hot Spiced Cherry Cider

MAKES 10-15 SERVINGS

3½ quarts apple cider
2 cinnamon sticks
1 package (3 ounces) cherry-flavored gelatin

To a 4- to 6-quart slow cooker, add apple cider and cinnamon sticks and stir. Cook on high 3 hours. Stir in gelatin. Cook on high heat 1 more hour, until gelatin dissolves, stirring once or twice. Turn to low heat to keep warm. Remove cinnamon sticks before serving.

For a more intense cherry flavor, add an additional package of gelatin. #6

Holiday Wassail

MAKES 12-15 SERVINGS

3 sticks (3-inch pieces) cinnamon
2 teaspoons ground cloves
8 cups water
3/4 cup frozen cranberry juice cocktail concentrate
3/4 cup frozen raspberry juice concentrate
3/4 cup frozen apple juice concentrate
1/2 cup sugar
1/3 cup lemon juice orange slices, optional

In $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to 5-quart slow cooker, combine all ingredients except orange slices. Cover and cook on high heat 2–3 hours or on low heat 5–6 hours. Float orange slices in slow cooker the last hour of cooking, if using.

16 BEVERAGES BEVERAGES 17

Vegetable Cheese Soup

MAKES 4-6 SERVINGS

1 can (15 ounces) cream-style corn
3 to 4 new or red potatoes, quartered

1/2 cup shredded or julienned carrots
chopped onion or 1/4 cup
dried minced onion

1/4 teaspoon pepper
2 cans (14 ounces each) vegetable broth
11/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Combine all ingredients except cheese in greased $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to 5-quart slow cooker. Cover and cook on high heat 4–5 hours or on low heat 6–8 hours. Just before serving, stir in cheese until melted.

Serve with a salad of lettuce, thawed frozen green peas, sliced green onion, and crumbled bacon.

#31

Chicken and Wild Rice Soup

MAKES 6-8 SERVINGS

1 can (10 ounces) condensed cream of chicken soup

2 cups cooked chicken, chopped

1 cup shredded carrots

1 cup celery, diced

2 packages (4 ounces each) long-grain and wild rice mix, with seasoning packets, such as Rice A Roni brand

5 cups chicken broth

5 cups water

Combine all ingredients in greased $4\frac{1}{2}$ - to 6-quart slow cooker. Cover and cook on low heat 4–6 hours, or until rice is done. Do not overcook.

Serve with zucchini bread or applesauce muffins.

44 SOUPS & STEWS SOUPS & STEWS

Sweet-and-Sour Beef

MAKES 4-6 SERVINGS

2 pounds stewing beef, cubed
1 bottle (10 ounces) sweet-and-sour sauce
1 cup shredded carrots
4 to 6 cups hot cooked rice

Combine all ingredients in greased 2- to $3\frac{1}{2}$ -quart slow cooker. Cover and cook on low heat 6–8 hours. Ladle over hot cooked rice.

Serve with a vegetable stir-fry.

#43

Unbelievably Simple Brisket

MAKES 6-8 SERVINGS

4 to 5 pounds fresh beef brisket
1 envelope dry onion soup mix
1 can (4 ounces) mushrooms, with liquid

Trim all excess fat from meat. In a medium bowl, combine soup mix with mushrooms and mushroom liquid. Place meat in greased $4\frac{1}{2}$ - to 6-quart slow cooker, cutting to fit if necessary. Spread onion soup mixture over brisket, moistening well. Cover and cook on low heat for 10-14 hours. Remove meat and cut across grain into thin slices. Serve with meat juices poured over top of slices.

Serve with baked sweet potatoes sprinkled with cinnamon-sugar.

58 BEEF 59

Italian Chicken with Mushrooms

MAKES 4 SERVINGS

4 boneless, skinless
chicken breasts
1 envelope Italian salad dressing mix
water
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1 can (10 ounces) cream of chicken soup
1 can (4 ounces) mushroom stems and
pieces, drained

Place chicken in greased $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to 5-quart slow cooker. In a small bowl, combine salad dressing mix and water; pour over chicken. Cover and cook on high heat 3 hours. In a small mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and soup until blended. Stir in mushrooms. Pour over chicken. Cook 2 hours longer on high heat, or until chicken juices run clear.

Serve over hot noodles. Accompany with a spinach salad.

#67

Creamy Chicken Soft Tacos

MAKES 6-8 SERVINGS

4 frozen boneless, skinless chicken breasts
1 jar (16 ounces) salsa
1 cup sour cream
6 to 8 flour tortillas

Place chicken in greased $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to $4\frac{1}{2}$ -quart slow cooker. Pour salsa over the top. Cover and cook on high heat 6–8 hours or on low heat 10–12 hours. Shred chicken by pulling apart with two forks. During last hour of cooking, stir in sour cream. Fold chicken mix inside flour tortillas to serve.

Serve with toppings such as lettuce and grated cheddar cheese, if desired.

84 CHICKEN S5

Pork Sausage Casserole

MAKES 2-4 SERVINGS

1 pound bulk sausage
1 envelope dry chicken soup mix
1 cup long-grain converted rice, uncooked
2 stalks celery, diced
1/3 cup slivered almonds
4 cups water
1/2 teaspoon salt

Combine all ingredients in greased $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to 5-quart slow cooker and stir well. Cover and cook on high heat for 3–4 hours or on low heat for 7–9 hours, until rice is tender.

Serve with a fresh sauté of Swiss chard or baby spinach, red onion, and crumbled bacon. Season with balsamic vinegar.

#88

Ham and Potatoes

MAKES 4-6 SERVINGS

1 package (32 ounces) frozen hash brown potatoes

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon pepper

1 can (10 ounces) cream of chicken soup
1 can (12 ounces) evaporated milk

11/2 cups cooked ham, chopped
2 cups grated cheddar cheese, divided

Mix all ingredients except one cup cheddar cheese in greased $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to 5-quart slow cooker. Cover and cook on low heat 5–6 hours. Thirty minutes before serving, sprinkle reserved cheddar cheese over the top.

Serve with cold green beans and red peppers with vinaigrette dressing.

106 PORK 107

Cherry Biscuit Cobbler

MAKES 6-8 SERVINGS

1/3 cup brown sugar
cinnamon
1/3 cup melted butter or margarine
2 packages (8 ounces each) refrigerator biscuits,
separated and quartered
1 can (21 ounces) cherry pie filling

Mix together brown sugar, cinnamon, and melted butter in a small bowl. Mixture will be lumpy. In greased $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to 5-quart slow cooker, layer 1 package biscuits, half the cinnamon-sugar mixture, and then half the pie filling. Add the second package of biscuits; cover with the remaining half of the cinnamon-sugar mixture, and top with the remaining half of the pie filling. Cover and cook on high heat $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 hours, or until biscuits are done in the center.

#97

Easy Granola Apple Crisp

MAKES 6-8 SERVINGS

2 cans (21 ounces each) apple pie filling
2½ cups granola cereal
1½ teaspoons cinnamon
⅓ cup sugar
⅓ cup melted butter or margarine

Place pie filling on bottom of greased 3- to $4\frac{1}{2}$ -quart slow cooker. In the order listed above, sprinkle remaining ingredients over the pie filling. Cover and cook on low heat 3 hours.

Serve warm with vanilla ice cream or whipped topping.

116 DESSERTS DESSERTS 117