

Guide to Using Ovens on Shabbos

It is important to be aware that **it is forbidden to cook on Shabbos**, even if the oven is equipped with a STAR-K certified Sabbath Mode. STAR-K Sabbath Mode is designed only to provide a *lechatchila* method of **keeping food warm** on Shabbos.

OVENS

Before Shabbos – Turn on the oven and activate the STAR-K Sabbath Mode.

- **All** food must be put in the oven before Shabbos. The food should be **fully cooked** before Shabbos. Food cannot be put in the oven on Shabbos.
- The controls should be **covered** even though the oven is in Sabbath Mode.
- Ovens equipped with a **Time Bake** feature offer an ideal way to keep food warm using Sabbath Mode: before Shabbos, set the timer to turn the oven off for before you will want to remove the food. Doing this will turn off the heat at the set time without exiting Sabbath Mode. Once the oven is off, you may open and close the door as often as needed and leave food inside to stay warm.

NOTE: The oven **cannot** be turned on or off on Shabbos, even when in Sabbath Mode, and the oven temperature **cannot** be adjusted on Shabbos.

On Shabbos

- If the oven is deactivated, you may open and close the door as often as needed and leave food inside to stay warm.
- Any time the heating element is active, food may be removed on Shabbos only as follows:
 - The oven may be opened **one time** to remove the food.
 - The oven should not be closed until **all** the food has been removed.
 - Food should not be left in the open oven to keep it warm.
- Ovens with “**New Sabbath Mode**” may be opened and closed multiple times even when the heat is still on, provided no new food is placed in the oven.

NOTE: After a **power outage**, Sabbath Mode will resume upon regaining power, but most ovens will not reactivate the heating elements (so effectively the oven will be off). In this case, the oven may be opened at any time to remove food inside.

COOKTOPS

Electric and Gas Cooktops

In general, cooktops operate separately from the oven and don't have Sabbath Mode. They function as normal even when the appliance is in Sabbath Mode. They may be used on Shabbos as follows:

- Electric and gas burners must be turned on **before** Shabbos.
- The setting of the flame/burner **cannot be adjusted** on Shabbos.
- All food must be placed on the flame **before** Shabbos and should be **fully cooked before** Shabbos. The **flame** should be covered by a blech and **knobs** should be covered.
- Some **glass stovetops** may shatter if they are covered. In such circumstances, it is sufficient to **cover/remove the knobs** or to cover the control panel.

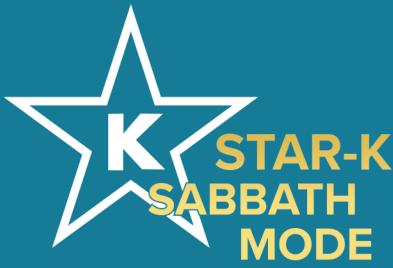
Induction Cooktops

Induction cooktops **cannot** be used on Shabbos since removing the pot deactivates the element.

WARMING DRAWERS generally operate separately from the oven and don't have a Sabbath Mode, even if the oven is in Sabbath Mode. **Some warming drawers turn off when opened and cannot be used on Shabbos under any circumstances.**

If opening the drawer does not turn it off, and no lights or icons are activated by opening the drawer, it may be used as follows:

- Cooked food may be placed in the warming drawer **before** Shabbos begins. None may be placed in the drawer on Shabbos.
- The drawer may be opened **once**, at which time **all** the food should be removed, and the drawer should then be closed.



Guide to Using Ovens on Yom Tov

It is important to be aware that **it is always forbidden to light a new flame or to extinguish an existing one on Yom Tov. It is also forbidden to adjust an existing flame for any non-Yom Tov purpose**, even if the oven is equipped with a STAR-K certified Sabbath Mode. STAR-K Sabbath Mode is designed only to provide a *lechatchila* method of cooking on Yom Tov.

OVENS

Before Yom Tov – Turn on the oven and activate the STAR-K Sabbath Mode.

NOTE: The oven **cannot** be turned on or off on Yom Tov, even when in Sabbath Mode.

On Yom Tov

- Food may be placed in the oven on Yom Tov.
- The oven may be opened and closed at any time on Yom Tov.
- According to STAR-K Rabbinic Administrator Rabbi Moshe Heinemann, the temperature may be changed as needed for Yom Tov. The display will not indicate the change in temperature. (NOTE: Not all models have this functionality.)

NOTE: After a power outage, Sabbath Mode will resume upon regaining power, but most ovens will not reactivate the heating elements. One may not restart the elements. The oven may be opened to remove any food inside.

COOKTOPS

In general, cooktops don't have Sabbath Mode. They function as normal even when the appliance is in Sabbath Mode.

NOTE: Models with responsive lighting or LED display of the burner setting **may not be adjusted** at all on Yom Tov.

Gas Cooktops

- Gas burners should be lit **before** Yom Tov.
- A burner that was not lit before Yom Tov may be lit from a pre-existing flame **if** it is possible to turn on the gas flow without activating the electronic igniter. One should determine if this is feasible for their cooktop **before** Yom Tov.
- A gas burner may be adjusted on Yom Tov as needed **for food preparation**.
- One may lower the flame on a gas burner on Yom Tov **only for the food's benefit** (i.e., to prevent food from burning).
- One **may not** turn off the flame completely.

NOTE: Double-ring burners with a **Simmer Setting** have separate burner flames in each ring that are adjusted by one control. One may not change the burner from *cook* to *simmer*, since this extinguishes the outer flame. Likewise, one may not change it from *simmer* to *cook*, because this ignites the outer flame.

Electric Cooktops – may be used on Yom Tov only in the following manner:

- The electric burners must be turned on **before** Yom Tov.
- The electric burners **cannot** be turned off during Yom Tov.
- Electric burners **may be adjusted** only as follows: the set temperature may be *raised* only when the element is *on* and *lowered* only when the element is *off*. The practicality of this greatly varies from model to model and should be determined **before** Yom Tov.

NOTE: Double-ring burners with a **Simmer Setting** have separate burner coils for each ring that are adjusted by one control. One may not change the burner from *cook* to *simmer*, since this extinguishes the outer coil. Likewise, one may not change it from *simmer* to *cook*, because this ignites the outer coil.

Induction Cooktops

Induction cooktops should not be used on Yom Tov since the presence/removal of the pot activates/deactivates the element.

WARMING DRAWERS generally operate separately from the oven and don't have Sabbath Mode, even if the oven is in Sabbath Mode. **Some warming drawers turn off when opened and cannot be used on Yom Tov under any circumstances.**

If opening the drawer does not turn it off and no lights or icons are activated by opening it, the drawer may be used on Yom Tov in the same manner as the oven.