**Range and oven maintenance tips**

**Broiler pan**

The broiler pan that comes with most range/ovens is porcelain-coated steel. Clean it with a non-abrasive cleanser.

**Control panel**

Most range/oven control panels are glass and/or painted metal. You can safely use non-abrasive cleaners on these surfaces as well as glass cleaners and liquid degreasers.

Note: Never spray cleaners directly onto the control panel. Instead, put some cleaner on a soft, damp rag, then wipe the surface.

**Cook top**

You can clean any porcelain cook top with a non-abrasive cleanser.

Note: Don't pour the cleanser directly onto the cook top. Instead, put some cleaner on a soft, damp rag, then wipe the surface.

**Burner drip pans (bowls)**

You usually need to replace the drip pans or bowls beneath the grates on a gas stove/range and beneath the heating element on an electric stove/range every 2 to 3 years. That's because, once they're stained, it's usually not possible to clean them completely.

If you have your appliance model number, you can order replacement original bowls by give us call so we can order the part for you.

**Glass cook tops and windows**

Always clean glass and ceramic cook tops only with products made for this purpose.

Clean your glass oven windows with any oven glass cleaner. But be careful not to clean glass surfaces that are hot!

**Knob care**

You may be able to safely clean the knobs on your range/oven with a little dish detergent and a damp rag. But, if the numbers or lettering have worn away, you may need to replace the knobs.

If you have your model number, we can also order most replacement knobs. Just give us a call and see if we can help you.

**Light bulbs**

You can replace the light bulb(s) in your range/oven, though you may need to remove a glass covering or dome to reach it. Most interior oven lights require a universal 40 watt appliance bulb.

**Oven**

If your oven is self-cleaning, consult the owner's manual for instructions on how to use this feature. The self-cleaning feature works by heating the interior of the oven to a temperature so hot that it incinerates the residue inside the oven. Normally, it is not a good idea to clean the interior of a self-cleaning oven with a spray cleaner; however, refer to your owner's manual or contact the manufacturer of your oven for further information.

To clean a non-self-cleaning oven, use one of the many oven cleaners that are available at grocery and hardware stores.

**Solid burner element**

Some stove/ranges have heating element burners that are solid metal--there's no coil, and the stove/range isn't glass or ceramic. You can clean these solid burners using our Range Solid Element Cleaner found in most stores.

**Range/stove/oven frequently asked questions**

[**How do I use the self-cleaning feature on my oven?**](http://www.repairclinic.com/RepairHelp/FAQ/112/Range-Stove-Oven-How-Do-I-Use-The-Self-Cleaning-Feature-On-My-Oven?r=%2fRepairHelp%2fRange-Stove-Oven-Maintenance-Tips)

Every self-cleaning oven is different. Review your owner's manual for the correct procedure for your oven. Most self-cleaning cycles are complete within two to three hours.

Often the steps are:

* Set the Start time for the time you want the cleaning to begin.
* Set the Stop time to a time two to three hours after the start time.
* Close and latch the oven door.
* Set the selector switch and/or thermostat to "Clean."

[**There is a red glow in my gas oven, but it isn't heating. Why?**](http://www.repairclinic.com/RepairHelp/FAQ/111/Range-Stove-Oven-There-Is-A-Red-Glow-In-My-Oven-But-It-Isnt-Heating-Why?r=%2fRepairHelp%2fRange-Stove-Oven-Maintenance-Tips)

Most modern gas ovens and many broilers use a "glow-bar" style of igniter that glows red-hot to ignite the gas. If the igniter doesn't reach the proper temperature, the gas valve won't open. You may need to replace the igniter. If this the case you may need to schedule service call for a technician to look at your oven or you may have to replace the range.

**[Why are the burners on my gas stove slow to light?](http://www.repairclinic.com/RepairHelp/FAQ/110/Range-Stove-Oven-Why-Are-The-Burners-On-My-Gas-Stove-Slow-To-Light?r=%2fRepairHelp%2fRange-Stove-Oven-Maintenance-Tips)**

On the side of the burner facing the center of the stove, there are air holes that may be clogged. They help the pilot or spark igniter to light the gas. Make sure your range is powered off and clean out the holes with a fine wire or safety pin.

**[Can I use my oven to heat my home?](http://www.repairclinic.com/RepairHelp/FAQ/180/Range-Stove-Oven-Can-I-Use-My-Oven-To-Heat-My-Home?r=%2fRepairHelp%2fRange-Stove-Oven-Maintenance-Tips)**

No. Ovens are designed to heat food only. Ovens emit small amounts of carbon monoxide which doesn’t present a problem for intermittent use. However, if you run the burners or oven for an extended period of time the carbon monoxide could build up and become dangerous.

**[Why won't my clock keep the correct time?](http://www.repairclinic.com/RepairHelp/FAQ/113/Range-Stove-Oven-Why-Wont-My-Clock-Keep-The-Correct-Time?r=%2fRepairHelp%2fRange-Stove-Oven-Maintenance-Tips)**

If your clock consistently gains or loses time, you may have to replace the clock. They are not repairable.

**[Why won't my oven heat to the set temperature?](http://www.repairclinic.com/RepairHelp/FAQ/114/Range-Stove-Oven-Why-Wont-My-Oven-Heat-To-The-Proper-Temperature?r=%2fRepairHelp%2fRange-Stove-Oven-Maintenance-Tips)**

There are many potential causes for this. You may need to schedule a technician to look at your range.

**[Should I leave the oven door open when broiling?](http://www.repairclinic.com/RepairHelp/FAQ/115/Range-Stove-Oven-Should-I-Leave-The-Oven-Door-Open-When-Broiling?r=%2fRepairHelp%2fRange-Stove-Oven-Maintenance-Tips)**

Many ovens have the broiler built into the oven near the top. If this is true for your oven, it may be best to leave the oven door open a few inches. If the broiler is at the bottom in a drawer, you can leave the door closed.