

Barbecue Tips

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- Start with a clean grill.
- Wash everything after handling raw meat.
- Coat grate with vegetable cooking spray, or brush with cooking oil to prevent food from sticking.
- Toss in a handful of aromatic wood chips such as mesquite, hickory, alder, or fruitwood chips over the coals.
- Get the grill up to temperature before you put the food on.
- Cook white-meat poultry until juices run clear and the meat reaches an internal temperature of 1700 to 1750F and dark meat to 1800 to 1850F on a meat thermometer.
- To reduce the chance of overbrowning, apply tomato- based sauces or those containing sugar or other sweeteners only during last 20 to 30 minutes of grilling.
- Cook low and slow for the most tender meat.
- Add secret ingredients. For the best burgers, mix part ground beef, part ground sausage and a little milk to keep them moist.
- Be attentive to the grill. Don't leave it unattended.
- Keep a fire extenguisher handy.
- Marinade meats for added tenderness.
- Make sure meats are cooked to appropriate temperatures.
- Give meat time to 'rest' after you pull it off the barbecue especially steaks. Cover lightly and leave alone for five to seven minutes to allow juices time to settle back into the meat.