

How to Use a Garbage Disposal

Simple steps on how to use a garbage disposal properly

Steps:

1. Turn on the cold water. Using cold water is important because it causes the food to harden. Harder food breaks up more easily. It also knocks off the substance that builds up on the blades, keeping the blades sharp.
2. Turn on the garbage disposal. Take care to keep utensils and your hands out of the drain.
3. Feed the disposal a little at a time. Disposals are not designed for large quantities of food. Disposals are designed to grind small pieces of food.
4. Let the food clear the disposal - you can hear when it's clear.
5. Turn the disposal off.
6. Let the water run for 15 to 30 seconds more to flush the pipe.
7. Turn the water off.

Tips:

- Garbage disposals are dangerous. Keep your hands far from moving parts.
- Corn husks and other fibrous items, such as celery, lettuce, and potato peels, shouldn't be put into the disposal as they may clog the drain.
- Don't fill disposer with a lot of vegetable peels all at once. Instead, turn the water and disposer on first, and then feed the peels in gradually.
- Glass, plastic, and metal should not go into the disposal.
- For a fresh smell, grind a slice of lemon or orange in the disposal.