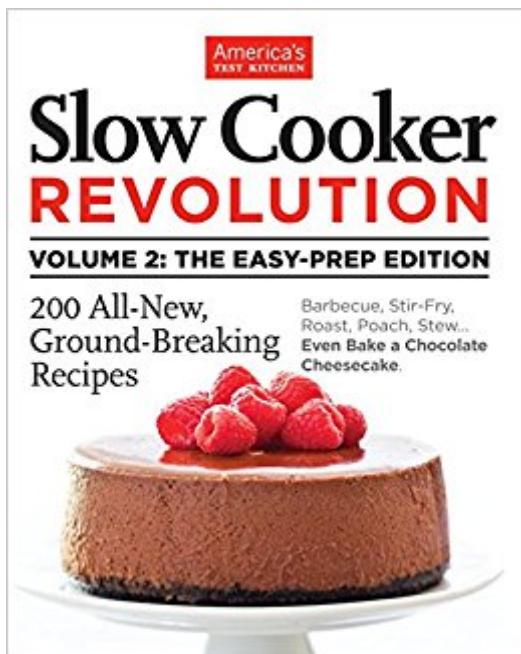


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Slow Cooker Revolution Volume 2: The Easy-Prep Edition: 200 All-New, Ground-Breaking Recipes



Synopsis

Volume 2 brings more slow cooker recipes for your family to enjoy. The test cooks at America's Test Kitchen have worked their magic again, developing and perfecting an all-new collection of 200 slow-cooker recipes. With this volume, we looked at this must-have appliance in new ways to truly maximize its potential. You'll learn how to make a host of dishes like Garlicky Shrimp, Chicken Soft Tacos, and Flourless Chocolate Cake--recipes you'd never expect to see coming out of a slow cooker. The moist heat of the slow cooker is tailor-made to serve up flavorful stews, chilis, and braises (and don't worry--we've included a good number of these), but with our smart strategies and clever ingredient selections, we were also able to pull off spice-rubbed roast chicken, ziti with meaty ragu, rare roast beef, poached salmon and even cheesecake.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: America's Test Kitchen; First Edition edition (September 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1936493578

ISBN-13: 978-1936493579

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.8 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 359 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #16,724 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking Methods > Slow Cooking #69 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Entertaining & Holidays #140 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Kitchen Appliances

Customer Reviews

America's Test Kitchen is well-known for its top-rated television shows with more than 4 million weekly public television viewers, bestselling cookbooks, magazines, websites, and cooking school. The highly reputable and recognizable brands of America's Test Kitchen, Cook Illustrated, and Cook Country are the work of over 60 passionate chefs based in Boston, Massachusetts, who put ingredients, cookware, equipment, and recipes through objective, rigorous testing to identify the very best. Discover, learn, and expand your cooking repertoire with Julia Collin Davison, Bridget Lancaster, Jack Bishop, Dan Souza, Lisa McManus, Tucker Shaw, Bryan Roof, and our fabulous team of test cooks!

I got this book two days ago and have already tried two recipes, the Garlicky Poached Shrimp and the Fudgie Brownie Wedges. Both recipes were amazing and highlight the fact that this cookbook has much more than the typical set-and-forget braises you find in most slow cooker recipes (though there are still plenty to satisfy). I was pleased by the number of soups which look bright and fresh. I also appreciate that America's Test Kitchen listened to the complaints from volume 1. Volume 1 recipes required a good deal of prep and took much of the convenience out of using a slow cooker. As the "easy prep" volume, all recipes require 15 minutes or less of preparation. This is very convenient and means I will be cooking from this cookbook in years to come. Given the choice between volume 1 and 2 I would pick volume 2. It is the unequivocal winner. You will learn to use your slow cooker in creative ways and get the convenience of a slow cooker mixed with ATK's near perfect recipes. Update (11/16/2013): Since purchasing this book, I have made 17 of the recipes contained in the book. Of those recipes only one was a recipe I will not be making again (Tortellini with Creamy Wild Mushroom Sauce). The rest of the recipes are fantastic. These recipes came from various sections including desserts, recipes for two, casseroles, and appetizers. In response to some comments which have criticized the use of convenience products and the nutrition of some recipes, please understand that this book focuses first on flavor and second on convenience. This book is balanced in its use of convenience products (only when necessary to prevent problems that plague slow cooking) and contains a fair balance of healthy and unhealthy recipes. Though many of these recipes stray from the typical 8-10 hour stews and use shorter cooking times (3-6 hours in some cases) also note that these recipes are designed for modern slow cookers which are often programmable. In general, I stick by my five star review. This cookbook covers a much broader range of recipe styles than most and will change the way you think about slow cooking. In this book you will find everything from comfort food to vegetarian to cooking-for-two to dessert. Here are some of the five star recipes I have tried: Chicken Mole, Asian Chicken Lettuce Wraps, Farmhouse Chicken Casserole, Thanksgiving Turkey Pot Pie, Quinoa and Vegetable Stew, Hearty Vegetarian Chile, White Chocolate and Cherry Bread Pudding.

In Volume 2 of America's Test Kitchens "Slow Cooker Revolution", the recipes have been chosen for easier prep as well as being the usual hearty, American-style foods most of us want to see on the table, especially in the colder months. But some of the recipes are not what you'd expect in a slow cooker, such as fish or shrimp or chicken breast dishes that take about one to two hours. The prep is fast and then there aren't too many steps--even a stir fry goes into the pot. So when would you make these? Instead of 20 minute dishes after work, you'd have to wait a couple of hours. So these

would be more suited to weekends for working people, or during the day for a busy at-home person, who didn't have time to stand over a stove. In a way, I find a 2 hour slow cooker dish not something I want to make, but there are some advantages. For example, desserts. There is a carrot cake and chocolate cheesecake. If you want a cake in summer, you have to heat up the oven and no one I know likes to turn on the oven when the air conditioning is going. But a slow cooker on the countertop can act as an oven and keep the house clean and it's energy efficient. As to ovens, there's even a roast beef, again, you could make a Sunday dinner if you like roast beef (saving some for sandwiches, perhaps, the next day) but not heat up the house. This is not "your mother's slow cooker" book. It expands what you can do with this appliance, even poach salmon and make cheeseburgers. Don't expect an entire book of six to eight hour recipes. This is more innovative, with ideas you may never thought possible in a crockpot. If you want more recipes to use the slow cooker, this is a great book. If you are looking for cook-ahead recipes that can run all day while you are at work, I'd probably look for a different book.

Great cookbook! I had volume one but didn't like that it had so many steps when the point of the slowcooker is to put things in, walk away and come back to a good meal. Volume 2 is more for people who want to get everything in the slowcooker at once and just walk away - they give shortcuts using the microwave and prepared products (instead of everything from scratch). My favorite recipe in here is the mac n cheese - I put it all together in the morning and by lunchtime it's done (I'm a teacher & sometimes we can sell food to help make money for student clubs/organizations) . It sells out every time! The students like the fact that it's not "from the box" and that it's cooked from scratch. I highly recommend this cookbook!

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