

# Cuisinart®

## INSTRUCTION BOOKLET



**Compact Single-Serve Coffeemaker**

**SS-6C**

For your safety and continued enjoyment of this product,  
always read the instruction book carefully before using.

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# IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

When using electrical appliances, basic safety precautions should always be taken to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock and/or injury to persons, including the following:

1. **READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS.**
2. Do not touch hot surfaces. Use handles and knobs.
3. To protect against electric shock and injury to persons, do not place cord, plug, or base unit in water or other liquids.
4. Close supervision is necessary when any appliance is used by or near children or individuals with certain disabilities.
5. Always unplug from outlet when not in use and before cleaning. Allow to cool before putting on or taking off parts and before cleaning the appliance.
6. Do not operate any appliance with a damaged cord or plug, or after the appliance malfunctions or has been dropped or damaged in any manner. Return appliance to the nearest Cuisinart Repair Center for examination, repair, or electrical or mechanical adjustment.
7. The use of accessory attachments not recommended by Cuisinart may cause injuries, fire, electric shock or other injury to persons.
8. Do not use outdoors.
9. Do not let cord hang over edge of table or counter, or touch hot surfaces.
10. Do not place on or near a hot gas or electric burner, or in a heated oven.
11. Always fill water reservoir first, then plug cord into the wall outlet. To disconnect, turn controls to Off, then remove plug from wall outlet.
12. Scalding may occur if the water filter compartment cover is removed during the brewing cycle.
13. Do not use appliance for other than its intended use.

14. Do not lift handle to open the lid of the brewer while brewing is in progress.
15. Do not overfill the water reservoir with water. Use **ONLY WATER** in this appliance! Do not put any other liquids or foods in the water reservoir except as instructed in the cleaning instructions in this guide.
16. Do not clean drip tray with cleansers, steel wool pads, or other abrasive materials.
17. **WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE THE BASE PANEL. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS ARE INSIDE. REPAIR SHOULD BE DONE ONLY BY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL.**
18. Do not operate your appliance in an appliance garage or under a wall cabinet. **When storing in an appliance garage, always unplug the unit from the electrical outlet.** Not doing so could create a risk of fire, especially if the appliance touches the walls of the garage or the door touches the unit as it closes.

## SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOUSEHOLD USE ONLY

### SPECIAL CORD SET INSTRUCTIONS

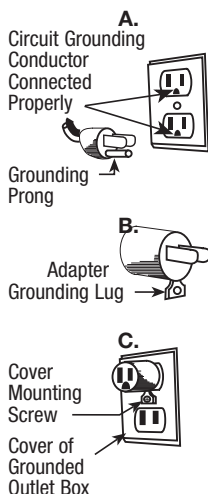
A short power-supply cord is provided to reduce the risks resulting from becoming entangled in or tripping over a longer cord.

Longer extension cords are available and may be used if care is exercised in their use.

If a long extension cord is used, the marked electrical rating of the extension cord must be at least as great as the electrical rating of the appliance, and the longer cord should be arranged so that it will not drape over the countertop or tabletop where it can be pulled on by children or tripped over.

## NOTICE

If you have a diecast metal unit, for your protection it is equipped with a 3-conductor cord set that has a molded 3-prong grounding-type plug, and should be used in combination with a properly connected grounding-type outlet as shown in Figure A.



If a grounding-type outlet is not available, an adapter, shown in Figure B, may be obtained so that a 2-slot wall outlet can be used with a 3-prong plug. As shown in Figure C, the adapter must be grounded by attaching its grounding lug under the screw of the outlet cover plate.

**NOTE:** Do not remove the grounding prong.

**CAUTION:** Before using an adapter, it must be determined that the outlet cover plate screw is properly grounded. If in doubt, consult a licensed electrician. Never use an adapter unless you are sure it is properly grounded.

**Note:** Use of an adapter is not permitted in Canada.

## IMPORTANT UNPACKING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the box on a large, sturdy, flat surface.
2. Remove the instruction book and any other literature.
3. Turn the box so that the back side of the brewer is down and slide the brewer from the box.
4. After removing the brewer, place the box out of the way and take the side pulp-molded inserts away.
5. Remove the polybag covering the brewer.

We suggest you save all packing materials in the event that future shipping of the machine is needed. Keep all plastic bags away from children.

## WARNING: RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK



The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated, dangerous voltage within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of fire or electric shock to persons.



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

	<b>WARNING</b> RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT OPEN	
<b>WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK,</b> <b>DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK)</b> <b>NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE</b> <b>REPAIR SHOULD BE DONE BY AUTHORIZED SERVICE PERSONNEL ONLY</b>		

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# The Quest for the Perfect Cup of Coffee

## Element 1

### **WATER**

Any hot beverage is made up primarily of water. Often overlooked, the quality of the water is as important as the quality of the coffee, tea or cocoa. A good rule of thumb is that if your water doesn't taste good from the tap, it won't taste any better in your beverage. That's why the Cuisinart® Compact Single-Serve Brewer has added a charcoal water filter that removes chlorine, bad tastes and odors, for the purest cup of coffee every time.

## Element 2

### **COFFEE**

While the bulk of the liquid is water, all of the flavor should be from the coffee, tea or cocoa. To achieve a great quality beverage, you need to use the same quality ingredients. By using the best single serve coffee capsules, you can be assured that you're getting the finest product with every cup you brew. If you choose to use your own coffee in a reusable coffee capsule (not included), make sure all your ingredients are at their freshest.

## Element 3

### **GRIND**

The grind of coffee and cocoa, or the refinement of your tea leaves, is critical for proper flavor extraction. With the pre-measured, pre-ground ingredients found in every single serve coffee capsule, you can rest easy knowing that it'll brew perfectly each and every time, locking in maximum flavor and freshness.

## Element 4

### **PROPORTION**

No matter which cup size you choose, the Cuisinart® Compact Single-Serve Brewer, working in conjunction with a single-serve capsule, will always produce the perfect cup every time. When grinding your own coffee and using it in a reusable coffee capsule (not included), remember to add the amount of ground coffee that corresponds to the number of ounces being brewed.



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## Features and Benefits

- 1a. Charcoal Filter Holder**
- 1b. Charcoal Water Filter**
- 2. Reservoir Lid**
- 3. 48-ounce (1.4L) Water Reservoir**
- 4. Brewer Handle**
- 5. Brew Head**
- 6. Brewing Chamber**  
holds Removable Capsule holder or reusable coffee capsule (not included)
- 7. Housing**
- 8. Removable Drip Tray Plate**
- 9. Drip Tray**
- 10. Drip Tray Base**
- 11. Removable Capsule Holder**
- 12. Add Water Indicator**
- 13. Power Button**
- 14. Brew Buttons**  
6 oz. (177 ml) button; 8 oz. (236 ml) button; 10 oz. (295 ml) button
- 15. Power Cord** (not shown)
- 16. Auto-off Function** (not shown)  
Unit will automatically turn off after 30 minutes of being idle. To reactivate, press the Power button.
- 17. BPA Free** (not shown)  
All materials that come in contact with water or coffee are BPA free



## Buttons and Indicators

### Power Button

Press to turn the brewer on and off.



### Add Water Indicator LED

Indicator will illuminate blue and flash when water level is low. Fill the water reservoir with cold water up to 48 oz.



### Brew Buttons

When all buttons are illuminated blue it indicates that a selection needs to be made. Once selected, button flashes blue, indicating water is heating, and dispensing of beverage will begin within seconds.



### Your Next Brew

When the brewing process is complete, all buttons illuminate blue indicating you can begin making the next beverage, or you can power off.

### Automatic Shut-Off

As a safety feature, your brewer will automatically shut off when it is idle for longer than 30 minutes. Press the Power button to restart.

## Setting Up Your Brewer

### Initial Cleaning

**Perform an initial cleaning before making your first beverage. Follow these instructions, without inserting a capsule.**

1. Remove water reservoir from the unit.
2. Fill the reservoir in sink and put back on unit.



3. Plug the power cord into an independent outlet. Press the Power button to turn the unit on.



4. Open and close the brew head. Do not add a capsule.





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5. Place mug on the drip tray.
  6. Press the 10 oz. (295 ml) cup button.  
Light will start flashing and the hot water will start to dispense momentarily.
  7. The one-time cleaning process is complete.  
Discard hot water. Your brewer is ready to use.
  6. Place the assembled water filter holder into the water reservoir, pushing it down to fit into place.

## Charcoal Water Filter

Your brewer comes with a charcoal water filter that eliminates chlorine, bad tastes and odors from tap water.

### Inserting the Water Filter

1. Remove the filter and filter holder from the polybag.
2. Soak the filter, fully immersed in cold tap water, for 15 minutes.
3. Place the charcoal water filter in the holder and snap the holder cover closed. Be careful – improper placement can tear the filter skin (see figure below).



4. Flush the filter and holder by running fresh water through the hole in the bottom of the compartment for 10 seconds.
5. Allow the filter to drain completely.



**Note:** We recommend changing the water filter every 60 days or after 60 uses, and more often if you have hard water. Replacement filters can be purchased in stores, or by calling Cuisinart Consumer Service, or at [www.cuisinart.ca](http://www.cuisinart.ca)

## Brewing

1. Remove water reservoir to fill.



2. Add water into the 48-ounce (1.4L) water reservoir. Replace on unit.
3. Press the Power button.
4. The Power and Brew buttons will illuminate.
5. Place mug on the drip tray. The drip tray can be removed to accommodate travel mugs.
6. Select a capsule.

**Note:** Do not remove the foil lid or puncture the capsule.

7. Open the brew head and place a capsule in the brewing chamber.

**Caution: There are two sharp needles in the brewing chamber that puncture the capsule, one above and one below. To avoid risk of injury, do not put your fingers in the capsule brewing chamber.**



8. Press the desired brew button (6, 8, or 10 oz.). The beverage will start to dispense momentarily. Selected brew button will flash while brewing.

**Note:** To cancel brewing, simply press the selected brew size once again and the brewing process will be stopped.

**Caution: There is very hot water in the capsule chamber during the brewing process. To avoid risk of injury, do not lift the handle or open the capsule chamber or remove water tank during the brewing process.**



9. Once fully dispensed, all lights will illuminate. Lift the handle, then remove and dispose of the used capsule. Close the brewing head.

**Caution: Capsule will be hot.**



10. Enjoy your cup of coffee! Your brewer is ready to use again or you can power it off.

**Note:** When Add Water LED starts to flash, no brewing can be done. Once you refill the reservoir, your unit is ready to brew.

## Brewing with a Reusable Coffee Capsule

The Cuisinart® Compact Single-Serve Brewer can be used with a reusable coffee capsule (not included), which allows you to use your own ground coffee. (MAX 2.5 scoops or 16 g.)



1. Fill the filter basket within the reusable capsule with ground coffee, making sure not to fill past the max indicator. Adjust the amount to your personal preference. Do not tamp the grounds. Make sure there are no grounds remaining on the upper rim of the filter basket. Close lid.
2. Remove the capsule holder from the brewing chamber by pulling toward you.



- 2a. Drop the reusable coffee capsule into the brewing chamber. There is no need to snap it into place.
- 2b. Follow brewing instructions on page 10.

**Note:** To cancel brewing, simply press the selected brew size once again and the brewing process will be stopped.

**CAUTION:** There are two sharp needles in the brewing chamber that puncture the capsule, one above and one below. To avoid risk of injury, do not put your fingers in the brewing chamber.

3. After brewing, raise the handle and remove the reusable coffee capsule.  
**Use caution as the reusable coffee capsule will be hot.**
4. Replace the capsule holder, ensuring that the arrow on capsule rim aligns with the arrow on the brewing chamber. Gently push the capsule holder to snap into place.

**Note:** This coffeemaker is compatible with most reusable coffee capsules.

# Cleaning and Maintenance

## Cleaning External Parts

We recommend regular cleaning of the brewer's external components.

1. Never immerse the brewer in water or other liquids. The housing and other external components may be cleaned with a soapy, damp, non-abrasive cloth.
2. To remove the drip tray, simply slide it toward you, keeping it level at all times in order to prevent spills. The drip tray and drip tray plate are dishwasher safe. Do not clean drip tray with cleansers, steel wool pads or other abrasive materials.

## Cleaning the Capsule Holder

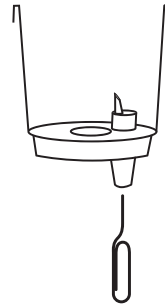
1. The capsule holder is top-shelf dishwasher safe (use low temperature cycles). To remove, lift the handle to open the brewing chamber. Grasp the top of the capsule holder and pull toward you. After cleaning, replace the capsule holder, being sure to align the arrow on the capsule holder rim with the arrow on the brewing chamber.
2. Cleaning the Funnel – To remove funnel from capsule holder, hold funnel in left hand, twist bottom away from you slightly and pull away from capsule holder to remove. The funnel is top-rack dishwasher safe. To replace, line up tabs in funnel with notches on capsule holder, twist towards you until you feel it lock into place. The capsule holder is now ready to be used in unit.



**Note:** The funnel may be tight the first few times you go to remove it, this is normal and will loosen with continued use.

3. Cleaning the Exit Needle – The exit needle is located on the inside bottom of the capsule holder assembly. Should a clog arise because of coffee grounds, it can be cleaned using a paper clip or similar tool. Remove capsule holder and insert the paper clip to loosen the clog and push it out.

**CAUTION: There are sharp needles that puncture the capsule above and below. To avoid risk of injury, do not put your fingers in the capsule brewing chamber.**



## Cleaning the Water Reservoir

It is normal over time for discoloration, spotting or staining to appear in the water reservoir. Results will vary depending on the mineral content of the water used, but will not affect the operation of the brewer. However, be sure to clean the water reservoir regularly to minimize buildup.

Clean inside the water reservoir with a damp, lint-free cloth as necessary.

## Maintenance

Any other servicing should be performed by an authorized service representative.

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## De-Scaling Your Brewer

Mineral content in water varies from place to place. Depending on the mineral content of the water in your area, calcium deposits or scale may build up in your brewer. Though scale is non-toxic, it can hinder brewer performance. De-scaling your brewer will help maintain the heating element and other parts that come in contact with water.

For optimal performance, de-scale your brewer every 3 to 6 months. It is possible for calcium deposits to build up faster, making it necessary to de-scale more often. When all the lights flash in sequence upon turning the unit on, this indicates the need to de-scale.



**Note:** Before de-scaling your brewer, remember to remove the charcoal water filter from the water filter holder located in the water reservoir.

To begin, you will need the following:

- 13 oz. (384 ml) of distilled white vinegar
- 26 oz. (768 ml) of water
- 16 oz. (472 ml) ceramic mug or container (do not use paper cup)
- Access to a sink

### Step 1: First Vinegar Rinse

- Fill water reservoir with 13 oz. (384 ml) of white vinegar and 26 oz. (768 ml) of water.
- Place the ceramic mug or container on the drip tray.
- Press and hold Power and 6 oz. (177 ml) buttons for 2 seconds to start de-scale function.
- Discard contents of mug into the sink.
- Repeat until ADD WATER light comes on.
- When de-scaling is complete, all LED lights will be on.
- Discard any remaining diluted vinegar into sink.

### Step 2: Fresh Water Rinse

- Repeat Step 1 three times, using fresh water in place of vinegar.
- This will clean the brewer plumbing and remove any residual vinegar taste. The brewer is now ready for normal use.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
Brewer does not have power.	Plug brewer into an independent outlet.
	Make sure the brewer is securely plugged in.
	Plug into a different outlet.
	Reset your home's circuit breaker.
	Confirm the power has been turned on and the On/Off and brew buttons are illuminated.
Brewer will not brew.	Turn off and unplug the brewer for 30 seconds or more. When you plug the brewer back in, be sure to turn the power back on.
	If the Add Water indicator is illuminated, check to make sure the water reservoir is properly filled. If not, add at least 11 oz. (325 ml) of water. If the Add Water indicator is illuminated even after adding at least 11 oz. (325 ml) of water to the water reservoir, contact Consumer Service at 1-800-472-7606.
	The exit needle may be clogged (see page 12).
	Make sure brew head is fully closed.
Chlorine or mineral taste in coffee.	Consider using bottled water, filtered water or replacing the Cuisinart Charcoal Water Filter.
Brewer doesn't brew a full cup.	Turn off and unplug the brewer for 30 seconds or more. When you plug the brewer back in, be sure to turn the power back on.
	The exit needle may be clogged (see page 12).
	Clean the brewing chamber (refer to Cleaning and Maintenance, page 12).
	De-scale the brewer (refer to page 13). If you have repeated the de-scaling procedure two times and it is still brewing only a partial cup, contact Consumer Service at 1-800-472-7606.
Coffee is too weak or watery.	Consider brewing a smaller cup size or try an Extra Bold capsule. It has 30% more ground coffee in each portion pack.
All lights are flashing in sequence when turning on unit.	De-scale the brewer (refer to page 13). If you have repeated the de-scaling procedure two times and it is still brewing only a partial cup, contact Consumer Service at 1-800-472-7606.

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# WARRANTY

## LIMITED

## THREE-YEAR WARRANTY

We warrant that this Cuisinart product will be free of defects in materials or workmanship under normal home use for 3 years from the date of original purchase. This warranty covers manufacturer's defects including mechanical and electrical defects. It does not cover damage from consumer abuse, unauthorized repairs or modifications, theft, misuse, or damage due to transportation or environmental conditions. Products with removed or altered identification numbers will not be covered.

This warranty is not available to retailers or other commercial purchasers or owners. If your Cuisinart product should prove to be defective within the warranty period, we will repair it or replace it if necessary. For warranty purposes, please register your product online at [www.cuisinart.ca](http://www.cuisinart.ca) to facilitate verification of the date of original purchase and keep your original receipt for the duration of the limited warranty. This warranty excludes damage caused by accident, misuse or abuse, including damage caused by overheating, and it does not apply to scratches, stains, discolouration or other damage to external or internal surfaces that does not impair the functional utility of the product. This warranty also expressly excludes all incidental or consequential damages.

Your Cuisinart product has been manufactured to the strictest specifications and has been designed for use only in 120 volt outlets and only with authorized accessories and replacement parts. This warranty expressly excludes any defects or damages caused by attempted use of this unit with a converter, as well as use with accessories, replacement parts or repair service other than those authorized by Cuisinart.

If the appliance should become defective within the warranty period, do not return the appliance to the store. Please contact our Customer Service Centre:

**Toll-free phone number:**

1-800-472-7606

**Address:**

Cuisinart Canada  
100 Conair Parkway  
Woodbridge, Ont. L4H 0L2

**Email:**

[consumer\\_Canada@conair.com](mailto:consumer_Canada@conair.com)

**Model:**

SS-6C

To facilitate the speed and accuracy of your return, please enclose:

- \$10.00 for shipping and handling of the product to Cuisinart Canada
  - Return address and phone number
  - Description of the product defect
  - Product date code\*/copy of original proof of purchase
  - Any other information pertinent to the product's return
- \* Product date code can be found on the underside of the base of the product. The product date code is a 4 or 5 digit number. Example, 90630 would designate year, month & day (2009 June 30th).

**Note:** We recommend you use a traceable, insured delivery service for added protection. Cuisinart will not be held responsible for in-transit damage or for packages that are not delivered to us.

To order replacement parts or accessories, call our Customer Service Centre at 1-800-472-7606. For more information, please visit our website at [www.cuisinart.ca](http://www.cuisinart.ca)

# Cuisinart®



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Cuisinart™ offers an extensive assortment of top quality products to make life in the kitchen easier than ever. Try some of our other countertop appliances and cookware, and Savour the Good Life®.

**[www.cuisinart.ca](http://www.cuisinart.ca)**

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