



CLOVER SAFE

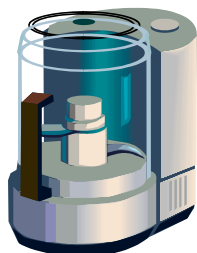
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



#37

FOOD PROCESSOR SAFETY

Clover Safe notes are intended primarily for 4-H volunteers and members nine years and older.



Information available from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission indicate more than 2,800 people were treated in hospitals for food processor related injuries during 2006. Nearly all of the injuries were finger lacerations caused when cleaning, removing, or installing the food processor S-blade or slicer/shredder disc. Many of the injuries were caused by the food processor user being careless or inattentive and could have been prevented by taking several simple precautions.

Pre-Use Activities

- Thoroughly review and understand information provided in the food processor operator's manual with particular attention given to descriptions of safety procedures.
- Before using, always inspect the food processor for damage or disrepair including examining the electrical cord and plug for defects. In addition, assure the S-blade and slicer/shredder disc are sharp and other food processor parts such as the bowl, feed chute, and food pusher are not chipped, cracked, or broken.
- If the food processor fails your inspection, inform your group leader, parent, or guardian and remove it from use.

Operating Precautions

- Never wear a tie or loose clothing or jewelry when using a food processor. Tie long hair back or secure under a cap.
- Do not put a food processor motor base in water or other liquids.
- Keep the food processor and power cord away from stove burners or other sources of heat.
- Do not leave a plugged in food processor unattended.
- Only use the food processor for the period of time or with the amount and type of ingredients recommended by the manufacturer.
- Secure the processing bowl in place before attaching the S-blade or slicer/shredder disc.
- The S-blade and slicer/shredder disc are very sharp so handle them with extreme caution.
- Always use the food pusher to feed food into the feed chute. Never use your fingers, knives, spatulas, or other implements to push food into the feeder.
- Assure the processing bowl cover is securely locked in place before turning the food processor on.
- Remove the processing bowl cover, S-blade, slicer/shredder disc, and/or processed food after the food processor has been turned off and is at a complete stop.
- Always unplug the food processor when cleaning the appliance or after you are done using it.
- If you suffer an injury while using a food processor, tell your group leader, parent, or guardian. Seek medical attention if the injury is serious.