



Standard Test Method for Performance of Convection Ovens¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the energy consumption and cooking performance evaluation of convection ovens. The test method is also applicable to convection ovens with limited moisture injection. The results of applying it can be used by the food service operator to select a convection oven and to understand its energy consumption and performance.

1.2 This test method applies to general purpose, full-size, and half-size convection ovens and bakery ovens used primarily for baking food products. It is not applicable to ovens used primarily for slow cooking and holding food product, to large roll-in rack-type ovens, or to ovens that can operate in a steam-only mode (combination ovens).

1.3 This test method is intended to be applied to convection ovens that operate close to their rated input in the dry heating mode, with the circulating fan operating at its maximum speed.

NOTE 1—Ovens that can operate in steam-only mode should be evaluated using ASTM F2861.

1.4 The oven's energy consumption and cooking performance are evaluated in this test method specifically with respect to the following:

1.4.1 Thermostat calibration (10.2),

1.4.2 Energy input rate and preheat energy consumption and time (10.3),

1.4.3 Pilot energy rate (if applicable) (10.4),

1.4.4 Idle energy rate (10.5),

1.4.5 Cooking energy efficiency and production capacity (10.6),

1.4.6 Cooking uniformity (10.7),

1.4.7 White sheet cake browning (10.8), and

1.4.8 Bakery steam mode, if applicable (10.9).

1.5 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

D3588 Practice for Calculating Heat Value, Compressibility Factor, and Relative Density of Gaseous Fuels

F2092 Specification for Convection Oven Gas or Electric

F2093 Test Method for Performance of Rack Ovens

F2861 Test Method for Enhanced Performance of Combination Oven in Various Modes

2.2 *ASHRAE Documents*:³

1989 *ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals*, Chapter 6, Table 2—Thermodynamic Properties of Water at Saturation

ASHRAE Guideline 2-1986 (RA90) "Engineering Analysis of Experimental Data"

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F26 on Food Service Equipment and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F26.06 on Productivity and Energy Protocol.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE), 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *average preheat rate*—rate ($^{\circ}\text{F}/\text{min}$) at which cavity temperature is heated from ambient temperature to the oven's thermostat set point.

3.1.2 *bakery steam mode*—a single injection of water/steam into the baking cavity at the start of a bake cycle. Injection time not to exceed 60 seconds per baking event.

3.1.3 *convection oven*—an appliance for cooking food by forcing hot air over the surface of the food using a fan in a closed cavity.

3.1.4 *cook time*—time required to cook potatoes during a cooking energy efficiency test.

3.1.5 *cooking energy*—energy consumed (kBtu or kWh) by the oven as it cooks potatoes during the cooking energy efficiency tests.

3.1.6 *cooking energy efficiency*—the ratio of the quantity of energy absorbed by the food product to the quantity of energy input to the oven during a cooking energy efficiency test expressed as a percent.

3.1.7 *cooking energy rate*—average rate of the oven's energy consumption (kBtu/h or kW) during a cooking energy efficiency test.

3.1.8 *fan and control energy rate*—the rate of energy consumption (kW) by an oven's controls and fan motor.

3.1.9 *heavy load*—the testing capacity of the convection oven based on a minimum spacing of 2.75-in. (70mm) between adjacent racks.

3.1.10 *idle energy rate*—oven's rate of energy consumption (kBtu/h or kW), when empty, to maintain its cavity temperature at the thermostat set point.

3.1.11 *measured energy input rate*—peak rate (kBtu/h or kW) at which an oven will consume energy, measured during a period (typically, its preheat period) when it is known that the oven is operating at full input, including the fan at high speed.

3.1.12 *pilot energy rate*—rate of energy consumption (kBtu/h) by a gas oven's standing pilot during non-cooking periods, if applicable.

3.1.13 *preheat energy*—amount of energy consumed (kBtu or kWh) by the oven while preheating its cavity from ambient temperature to the oven's thermostat set point.

3.1.14 *preheat time*—time (min) required for the oven cavity to preheat from ambient temperature to the thermostat set point.

3.1.15 *production capacity*—maximum rate (lb/h (kg/h)) at which a convection oven can bring the specified food product to a specified "cooked" condition. May also be referred to as throughput.

3.1.16 *steam injection cycle*—a period whereby steam/water is introduced into the baking cavity during baking.

3.1.17 *uncertainty*—a measure of the combination of the bias and precision error in specified instrumentation or the measure of the repeatability of a reported test result.

4. Summary of Test Methods

4.1 *Thermostat Calibration*—The accuracy of the oven thermostat is checked at 350°F (177°C), the set point for all but the browning test, which is 300°F (149°C). This is accomplished by comparing the oven's temperature control setting with the temperature at the center of the oven's cavity. If necessary, the control is adjusted so that the maximum difference between its reading and the temperature at the center of the cavity is no more than $\pm 5^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($\pm 2.8^{\circ}\text{C}$).

4.2 *Preheat Energy Consumption and Time*—The time and energy required to preheat the oven from room temperature ($75 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{F}$) to 340°F is determined.

4.3 *Energy Input Rate*—The input rate of the oven is determined to check whether the oven is operating properly. If the measured input rate is not within 5 % of the rated input, all further testing ceases until the appliance can be made to operate within this specification. For gas ovens, the pilot energy rate and the fan and control energy rate are also determined.

4.4 *Idle Energy Rate*—The idle energy rate (kBtu/h or kW) is determined with the oven set to maintain $350 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^{\circ}\text{C}$).

4.5 *Cooking Energy Efficiency and Production Capacity*—The cooking energy efficiency and production rate are determined during heavy-load cooking tests.

4.6 *Cooking Uniformity*—The uniformity of heating within the oven's cavity is determined and reported based on the average temperature on each rack during cooking tests.

4.7 *White Sheet Cake Browning*—The uniformity of browning from rack to rack is documented using white sheet cakes.

4.8 *Bakery Steam Mode*—The recovery performance convection oven's baking steam delivery system is characterized by assessing the amount of steam produced on repeated bake cycles.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 *Thermostat Calibration*—This test is conducted to ensure that all test results are determined at the same bulk oven cavity air temperature.

5.1.1 The results of the following tests can be used by an operator to select a convection oven based on its energy consumption performance or its cooking performance. Also, the results allow an operator to understand an oven's energy consumption.

5.2 *Energy Input Rate*—This test is used to confirm the test oven's rated input and to ensure its proper operation during all testing.

5.3 *Fan and Control Energy Rate*—Information from this test can be used to estimate the cost of electricity required to operate a gas oven. This cost can be added to the cost of gas consumed to estimate the total cost of energy necessary to operate the oven.

5.4 *Pilot Energy Rate*—This test provides a measure of a gas oven's energy consumption rate during periods when its burner is not on.

5.5 *Preheat Energy Consumption and Time*—This test provides a measure of time and energy required to preheat the oven cavity from ambient temperature to the thermostat set point temperature.

5.6 *Idle Energy Rate*—This test provides a measure of an empty oven's energy consumption at a typical cooking temperature setting. It also provides an indicator of the combined effectiveness of components of the oven's design (for example, insulation, door seals, and combustion efficiency) that influence its energy consumption.

5.7 *Cooking Energy Efficiency*—This test provides a measure of the oven's energy efficiency while heavy loads of a standard food product are being cooked.

5.8 *Production Capacity*—This test provides information that allows an operator to select an oven that matches food output requirements.

5.9 *Cooking Uniformity*—This test provides information regarding the oven's ability to cook food at the same rate throughout the oven's cavity.

5.10 *White Sheet Cake Browning*—This test provides information regarding the oven's ability to brown white sheet cakes uniformly through its cavity.

5.11 *Bakery Steam Performance*—This test provides information on a bakery convection oven's ability to consistently create steam for a baking cycle.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Watt-Hour Meter*, for measuring the electrical energy consumption of an oven or oven fan motor/controls, having a resolution of at least 10 Wh and a maximum uncertainty no greater than 1.5 % of the measured value for any demand greater than 100 W. For any demand equal to or less than 100 W, the meter shall have a resolution of at least 1 Wh and a maximum uncertainty no greater than 10 %.

6.2 *Gas Meter*, for measuring the gas consumption of an oven, which shall be a positive displacement type with a resolution of at least 0.01 ft³ and a maximum uncertainty no greater than 1 % of the measured value for any demand greater than 2.2 ft³/h. If the meter is used for measuring the gas consumed by the pilot light, it shall have a resolution of at least 0.01 ft³ and a maximum uncertainty no greater than 2 % of the measured value.

6.3 *Calibrated Exposed Junction Thermocouples*, 20-24 GA wire Type K with a range from -20 to 400°F (-30 to 200°C), with a resolution of 2°F (1°C) and an uncertainty of 1°F (0.5°C), for measuring temperature of potatoes.

6.4 *Shielded Air Thermocouple Probe*, 20-24 GA wire, Type K with a range from -20 to 400°F (-30 to 200°C), with a resolution of 2°F (0.1°C) and an uncertainty of 1°F (0.5°C), for measuring temperature of the oven cavity.

6.5 *Temperature Readout Device*, for reading thermocouples, shall be capable of displaying required average temperature(s) during cooking energy efficiency and cooking uniformity tests (minimum of 20 thermocouples needed).

6.6 *Counter Scale*, with a capacity of 20.0 lb (9.1 kg), a resolution of 0.01 lb (0.005 kg), and an uncertainty of ±0.01 lb (0.005 kg) to measure the weight of potatoes for the cooking energy efficiency tests, water for the cooking uniformity tests, and cake batter for the browning test.

6.7 *Canopy Exhaust Hood*, 4 ft (1.2 m) in depth, wall mounted with the lower edge of the hood 6 ft, 6 in. (1.98 m) from the floor, with the capacity to operate at a nominal exhaust ventilation rate of 300 cfm per linear foot of active hood length. This hood shall extend a minimum of 6 in. (152 mm) past both sides of the cooking appliance and shall not incorporate side curtains or partitions. Makeup air shall be delivered through face registers or from the space, or both.

6.8 *Stopwatch*, for measuring time to the nearest 1 s.

6.9 *Gas Temperature Probe*, for measuring the temperature of natural gas supplied to an oven with a range from 50 to 100°F (10 to 37.8°C), resolution of 1.0°F (0.6°C), and uncertainty of ±1.0°F (±0.6°C).

6.10 *Gas Pressure Gage*, for measuring the pressure of natural gas supplied to an oven, with a range from 0 to 15 in. H₂O, resolution of 0.1 in. H₂O, and uncertainty of ± 0.1 in. H₂O.

6.11 *Barometer*, for measuring atmospheric pressure, with a range from 28 to 32 in. Hg, resolution of 0.2 in. Hg, and uncertainty of ± 0.2 in. Hg.

6.12 *Flow Meter*, for measuring total water consumption of the oven during the optional bakery steam mode tests, having a resolution of 0.005 gal and an uncertainty of 0.005 gal for flows of 0.1 gpm and higher.

7. Reagents and Materials

7.1 Potatoes shall be fresh, whole, prewashed, U.S. No. 1 Russets. Size shall be 100 count. The potatoes shall be weighed and grouped such that the weight of 15 potatoes is 7.25 ± 0.3 lb.

NOTE 2—Additional cases of larger (e.g., 80 Count) and smaller (e.g., 120 Count) sizes may be required to meet the 7.25 ± 0.3 lb for 15 potatoes weight and count requirements for the heavy-load cooking test.

7.2 *Macaroni and Cheese*, a sufficient quantity of frozen, commercial-grade, ready-to-cook macaroni and cheese entrees, with a nominal weight between 4.5 and 4.75 lb per unit, shall be obtained from a food distributor. The frozen macaroni and cheese shall have an initial moisture content of 68 ± 2 %, by weight. The moisture content shall be verified using the procedure in [Annex A2](#).

NOTE 3—Stouffer's Traditional macaroni and cheese has been shown to be an acceptable product for testing by PG&E.

7.3 *Aluminum Sheet Pans*—A sufficient number for three replicate heavy-load cooking tests on the test oven. Sizes required: 18 by 26 by 1 in. (457 by 660 by 25 mm) for full-size ovens and 18 by 13 by 1 in. (457 by 330 by 25 mm) for half-size ovens.

7.4 *Mixer*, commercial, for mixing cake batter (browning test).

7.5 *White Cake Mix*, 5 lb (2.3 kg) per box. A minimum of 20 lb (9.1 kg) is required for full-size oven browning tests and a minimum of 10 lb (4.5 kg) is required for half-size oven browning tests.

NOTE 4—Pillsbury Deluxe White cake mix has been shown to be an acceptable product for testing by PG&E.

7.6 *Paper Baking Liners*, to line sheet pans for browning tests.

7.7 *Hotel Pan*, to be used to collect water runoff during bakery steam performance testing.

7.8 *Water*, supplied to the rack oven shall be $65 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($18 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$). If outside this range, hot and cold water supplies may be mixed to achieve the required inlet temperature.

8. Sampling, Test Units

8.1 *Oven*—A representative production model shall be selected for performance testing.

9. Preparation of Apparatus

9.1 Install the appliance according to the manufacturer's instructions under a 4-ft (1.2-m) deep canopy exhaust hood mounted against the wall, with the lower edge of the hood 6 ft, 6 in. (1.98 m) from the floor. Position the oven with the front edge of the oven door inset 6 in. (152 mm) from the vertical plane of the front edge of the hood, at the manufacturer's recommended working height. The length of the exhaust hood and active filter area shall extend a minimum of 6 in. (152 mm) past both sides of the oven. In addition, both sides of the oven shall be a minimum of 3 ft (0.9 m) from any side wall, side partition, or other appliance. The exhaust ventilation rate shall be based on 300 cfm per linear ft of hood length (for example, a 3-ft (0.9-m) wide oven shall be ventilated, at a minimum, by a hood 4 by 4 ft (1.2 by 1.2 m), with a nominal air flow rate of 1200 cfm. The application of a longer hood is acceptable, provided the ventilation rate is maintained at 300 cfm per linear foot over the entire length of the active hood.) The associated heating or cooling system shall be capable of maintaining an ambient temperature of $75 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($21 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$) within the testing environment when the exhaust ventilation system is working. The ambient air temperature shall be measured during each test at a location that is approximately 2 ft (0.6 m) horizontally from either side of the oven at a vertical height equal to the distance from the floor to the center of the oven cooking cavity.

9.2 Connect the oven to a calibrated energy test meter. For gas oven installations, a pressure regulator shall be installed downstream from the meter to maintain a constant pressure of gas during all tests. Install instrumentation to record both the pressure and temperature of the gas supplied to an oven, as well as the barometric pressure, during each test so that the measured gas flow (ft³) can be corrected to standard conditions. For electric oven installations, a voltage regulator may be required to maintain constant name plate voltage during tests if the voltage supply is not within 2.5 % of the manufacturer's nameplate voltage.

9.3 For a gas oven, adjust (while the oven is preheating) the gas supply pressure downstream from the oven's pressure regulator to within 2.5 % of the operating manifold pressure specified by the manufacturer. For gas ovens, make adjustments to the oven following the manufacturer's recommendations for optimizing combustion.

9.4 For an electric oven, adjust (while the oven is preheating) the supply voltage to within 2.5 % of the operating voltage specified by the manufacturer.

NOTE 5—If an electric oven is rated for dual voltage (for example, 208/240 V), the voltage selected by the manufacturer or tester, or both, shall be

reported. If an oven is designed to operate at two voltages without a change in the resistance of the heating elements, the performance of the oven (for example, preheat time) may differ at the two voltages.

NOTE 6—It is the intent of the testing procedure herein to evaluate the performance of an oven at rated gas pressure or electrical voltage.

9.5 Make the oven ready for use in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

9.6 The average temperature must be monitored using thermocouples and a readout device in the cooking energy efficiency test (10.6) and the cooking uniformity tests (10.7). The average temperature can be measured using two basic approaches during these tests. In one, the thermocouples are wired in parallel, so that the voltage each generates is averaged with that of other thermocouples. The resistance of all thermocouple circuits connected in parallel must be equal to obtain a true average temperature. If one or more thermocouples circuits are open-circuited, the indicated read will no longer be the true average. The second method is to do the averaging of the appropriate thermocouples in a data logger and display it with the data readout. This is also susceptible to open-circuited thermocouples.

9.7 If applicable, install a flow meter to the oven water inlet such that total water flow to the appliance is measured and a pressure regulator downstream from the meter to maintain a constant pressure of water for the steam performance tests. Also install a thermocouple probe in the inlet water line to the rack oven for monitoring inlet water temperature.

9.8 Adjust the water pressure to the manufacturer's recommended operating water pressure.

10. Procedure

NOTE 7—Prior to commencement of testing, the tester should read the operating manual to understand thoroughly the operation of the oven being tested.

10.1 General:

10.1.1 For gas convection ovens, the following shall be recorded for each test run:

- 10.1.1.1 Gas higher heating value;
- 10.1.1.2 Gas temperature (measured at energy meter);
- 10.1.1.3 Gas pressure (measured at energy meter);
- 10.1.1.4 Barometric pressure;
- 10.1.1.5 Gas volume consumed, where applicable; and
- 10.1.1.6 Measured energy input rate during test run.

NOTE 8—The preferred method of determining the higher heating value of gas supplied to the oven under test is with a calorimeter or gas chromatograph used in accordance with accepted laboratory procedures. It is recommended that all testing be performed with gas having a higher heating value (HV) of between 1000 and 1075 Btu/SCF.

10.1.2 For a gas oven, add electric energy consumption to gas energy for all tests, with the exception of the energy input rate test (see 10.3).

10.1.3 For electric ovens, the following shall be recorded for each test run:

- (1) Voltage while elements are energized;
- (2) Electricity consumed, where applicable; and
- (3) Measured energy input rate during test run.

10.1.4 For an electric oven, adjust the voltage (while heating elements are energized) to the rated voltage $\pm 2.5\%$ at the beginning of each test run. Ensure that the voltage is within 2.5% of the rated appliance voltage during each test run. throughout the test.

10.1.5 For each test run, confirm that the measured energy input rate (kBtu/h for a gas oven and kW for an electric oven) is within 5% of the rated name plate input. If the difference is greater than 5%, testing shall be terminated and the manufacturer contacted. The manufacturer may make appropriate changes or adjustments to the oven or choose to supply an alternative oven for testing.

10.1.6 Control options may allow the oven to be operated at different input rates, fan modes, moisture injection options, and moisture vent settings. For all tests, the oven shall be operated at the control setting that corresponds to its rated input. The fan shall be operated in the continuous mode at its highest speed setting. Lights that can be controlled by the operator shall be turned on for all tests. No moisture shall be injected into the oven, and manually-operated moisture vents shall be in the fully opened position for all tests. An automatically-controlled vent shall be operated per manufacturer's design specifications.

10.1.7 During all testing, the ambient air temperature shall be maintained at $75 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($21 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$). No tests are to be conducted without operating the exhaust ventilation system.

10.2 Energy Input Rate and Thermostat Calibration:

10.2.1 Install a thermocouple at the geometric center of the oven cooking cavity to record the center of the oven temperature. The vertical location of the oven's geometric center is on a rack placed in the center rack position. If the test oven has an even number of rack positions, the vertical location is half the distance between the two middle rack positions. The horizontal location of the geometric center is half the distance between the rear wall of the cavity and the oven door and half the distance between the left and right cavity wall.

10.2.2 Set the temperature control to 350°F (177°C) and preheat the oven.

10.2.3 Calculate and record the oven's energy input rate and compare the result to the rated nameplate input. For gas ovens, only the burner energy consumption is used to compare the calculated energy input rate with the rated gas input; any electrical energy use shall be calculated and recorded separately as the fan/control energy rate.

10.2.4 Allow the oven to idle for 60 min after the burners or elements commence cycling at the thermostat set point.

NOTE 9—Heater cycling can be observed by noting when the heaters turn on and off. Some ovens are equipped with an oven ready light or heat on light to exhibit heater cycles.

10.2.5 After the 60-min idle period, record the center of oven temperature at 30-s intervals for 15 min. Calculate the average of the 30 temperatures recorded, and record the resulting average center of oven temperature as described in 11.4.1. If this recorded temperature is $350 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$), the oven's thermostat is calibrated.

10.2.6 If the average center of oven temperature is not $350 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$), repeat the step given in 10.2.5, and adjust the oven's temperature control following the manufacturer's instructions until it is within this range. Record the oven temperature control setting corresponding to $350 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$) as described in 11.4.2. If calibration is not recommended or not easily accomplished, mark (on the dial) the exact position of the temperature control that corresponds to an average center of oven temperature of $350 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$).

10.3 *Preheat Energy Consumption and Time:*

10.3.1 The preheat test shall be run as the first test of the day after allowing the oven to cool down for a minimum of 12 hours.

NOTE 10—It is the intent of the preheat test to determine the amount of time for the oven to reach a ready-to-cook state after it has been off for an extended period (e.g., overnight). The preheat tests should be conducted as the first appliance operation on the day of tests.

10.3.2 Verify that the oven cavity temperature is $75 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($24 \pm 3^\circ\text{F}$). Set the calibrated temperature control to 350°F , set the fan set to operate in the maximum speed, and turn the oven on.

10.3.3 For a gas oven, monitor and record the electricity consumed by the oven's fan and controls. Connect its electrical supply cord to an electrical meter capable of recording the electricity consumed to the nearest watt hour. Start recording this consumption when the burners actually ignite (not when the oven ready light comes on), and stop at the end of the preheat.

10.3.4 With the temperature controls set to maintain the average cavity air temperature at $350 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$) (as determined in 10.2), turn the oven on.

10.3.5 Record the oven cavity temperature at a minimum of 5-s intervals during the course of preheat.

10.3.6 Record the time and energy consumption required to preheat the oven cavity air temperature from $75 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ to 340°F ($21 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$ to 177°C).

10.3.7 Continue recording oven cavity temperature at a minimum of 5-s intervals until the temperature has exceeded, then returned to 350°F to characterize any possible temperature overshoot.

10.3.8 In accordance with 11.6, calculate and report the preheat energy consumption and time, and generate a preheat temperature versus time graph.

10.4 *Pilot Energy Rate:*

10.4.1 For a gas oven with a standing pilot, set the gas valve controlling gas supply to the oven at the pilot position. Also set the oven's temperature control to the off position.

10.4.2 Light and adjust the pilot according to the manufacturer's instructions.

10.4.3 Monitor gas consumption for a minimum of 8 h of pilot operation. Calculate and report the pilot energy rate (11.7).

10.5 *Idle Energy Rate:*

10.5.1 With the temperature controls set to maintain the average cavity air temperature at $350 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$) (10.2), turn the oven on. Allow it to idle at 350°F (177°C) for at least 60 min after the cavity has reached 340°F before beginning to monitor its energy consumption. For the gas oven, monitor only the gas consumed by the burner(s). Allow the burners or elements to cycle on, then off again before beginning to record idle energy consumption.

10.5.2 Record the oven's energy consumption while it is idling at 350°F (177°C) for a minimum of 3 h. Record the length of the idle period (11.8.1).

10.5.3 Calculate and record the oven's idle energy rate (kBtu/h or kW) for an average cavity air temperature of $350 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($177 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$) (11.8.1).

10.6 *Cooking Energy Efficiency and Production Capacity:*

NOTE 11—Cooking energy efficiency tests are run using potatoes as the food product. Potatoes are used since their composition makes it relatively easy to calculate the amount of energy they absorb during cooking.

10.6.1 The convection mode cooking energy efficiency test shall be repeated a minimum of three times. Additional test runs may be necessary to obtain the required precision for the reported test results (Annex A1). The reported values of cooking energy efficiency, production capacity, and cooking energy rate shall be the average of the replications (runs).

10.6.2 Determine the number of pans to be used for the heavy-load cooking-energy efficiency test:

10.6.2.1 Place the top oven rack so that it is a minimum of 2.75 in. (70mm) from the top of the cavity.

10.6.2.2 Place the bottom oven rack so that it is a minimum of 1-in. (25mm) from the bottom of the cavity.

10.6.2.3 Place the remaining oven racks in the oven such that adjacent racks are no closer than 2.75 in. (70 mm) from each other. Racks should be spaced as evenly as possible throughout the cavity.

10.6.2.4 Count the number of racks. This is the maximum pan load for the heavy-load cooking tests.

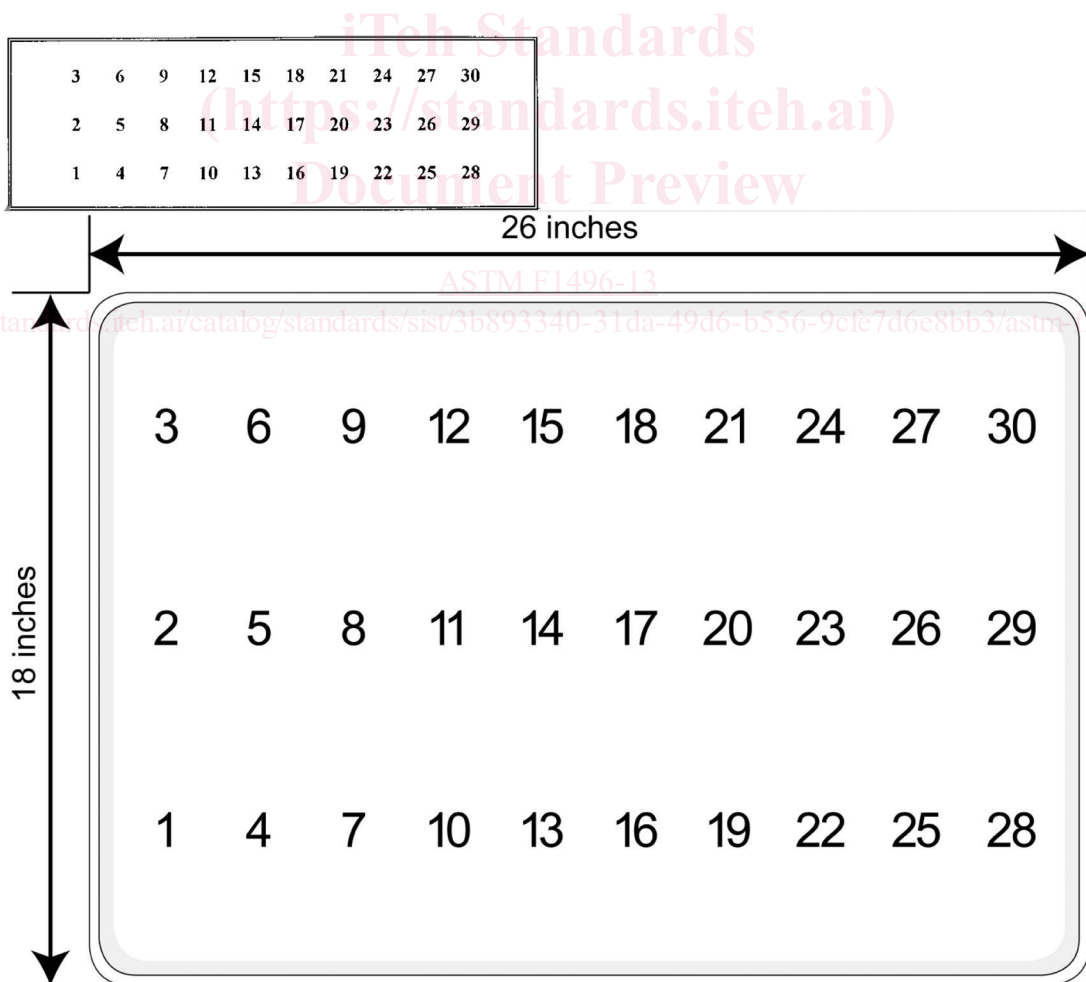
10.6.2.5 For testing a full-size oven, use full-size (18 by 26 by 1-in. (457 by 660 by 25-mm)) sheet pans. For a half-size oven, use half-size (18 by 13 by 1-in. (457 by 330 by 25-mm)) sheet pans. Identify each sheet pan with an individual number. Three times the capacity determined in 10.6.2.4 will be required for the three replicate test runs. For each test run, record the dry weight of each sheet pan to the nearest 0.01 lb (0.005 kg). For heavy-load tests, use the number of pans determined in 10.6.2.

10.6.3 Prepare a minimum number of loads for three test runs using the number of pans required for the loading scenario (see 10.6.2). For testing a full-size oven, place 30 potatoes (three rows of ten potatoes per row) on each pan. The weight of the potatoes on each pan shall be 14.50 ± 0.30 lb (6.6 ± 0.14 kg). For a half-size oven, place 15 potatoes (three rows of five potatoes per row) on each pan. The weight of the potatoes on these pans shall be 7.25 ± 0.30 lb (3.3 ± 0.14 kg). Ensure that all potatoes are dry and at $75 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($21 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$) prior to weighing out. Record the weight of the potatoes on each pan. For each test run, record the total weight of all of the potatoes as the initial potato weight. Record all weights to the nearest 0.01 lb (0.005 kg).

NOTE 12—If the weight of the potatoes on a pan is outside the 14.50 ± 0.30 -lb (6.6 ± 0.14 -kg) or 7.25 ± 0.30 -lb (3.3 ± 0.14 -kg) weight range specified above, substitute smaller or larger potatoes, as necessary, until the weight of the potatoes on each pan is within one of the appropriate required weight ranges.

10.6.4 Once the pans of potatoes have been prepared, mark selected potatoes to be monitored for temperature. Mark randomly selected potatoes on each pan (three for heavy-load runs). For each test run, record the position of the marked potatoes on each pan according to the positions shown in Fig. 1 for Full-Size ovens and Fig. 2 for Half-Size ovens.

NOTE 13—For a given pan, monitor potatoes at different combinations of locations for each test run. For example, if for Run No. 1, potatoes on Pan No. 5 are monitored at Location Nos. 5, 17, and 29, potatoes on this pan are not to be monitored at this same combination of locations during subsequent test runs.



Not to Scale

FIG. 1 Position of Potatoes on Full-Size Sheet Pans

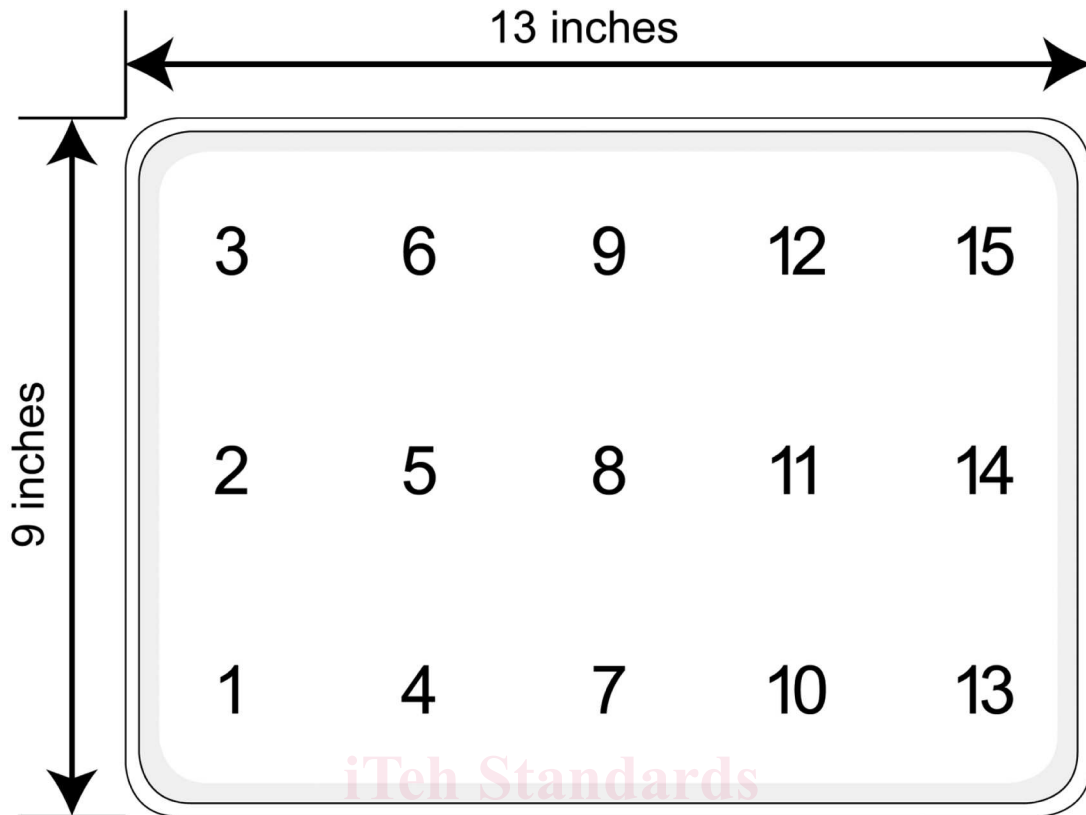


FIG. 2 Position of Potatoes on Half-Size Sheet Pans

10.6.5 Shortly before each test run, position the bead of a bare junction thermocouple into the center of the marked potatoes being cooked. Secure each thermocouple lead wire in such a manner that its junction will remain at the center of the potato throughout the cooking period. Ensure that the temperature readout device displays the average temperature of all of the monitored potatoes (see 9.6). The temperature of the potatoes at the start of each test shall be $75 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ($21 \pm 2.8^\circ\text{C}$).

10.6.6 Preheat the oven to 350°F (177°C), and allow it to idle for 1 h prior to the start of the first test run. Once this time period has elapsed, wait for the oven elements or burners to cycle one additional time before starting the test run to ensure that the oven cavity air temperature is at 350°F (177°C).

10.6.7 When the heaters cycle off, begin recording the oven energy consumption. Open the oven door immediately, and allow it to remain open for the entire loading period, as indicated in 10.6.7.1. Do not close the door, even if the pan loading is completed in less than the allotted time. Load the pans of potatoes by centering them on the oven racks during this period. At the end of the load period, close the oven door and record the initial average potato temperature to the nearest 0.1°F (0.06°C). Record the time as the beginning of the cooking period.

10.6.7.1 The total loading time (the time from opening the door to closing the door) shall be the total of 10 s per pan for each load used (for example, the total loading time for a heavy-load test of a five-pan capacity, full-size oven would be: $10 \text{ s/pan} \times 5 \text{ pans} = 50 \text{ s}$).

10.6.8 Monitor the average potato temperature during cooking. When it reaches 205°F (99°C), shut the oven off immediately, and record the amount of energy consumed and elapsed cook time to the nearest 0.1 min. (Cook time is the time from when the oven door is closed until the oven is shut off.) Remove the thermocouples from the potatoes, and quickly remove all of the pans from the oven prior to weighing them. Record the final weight of each pan of potatoes within 5 min as measured from the time at which the oven was shut off. Calculate and record the final weight of the potatoes in each pan. Record the sum of these five weights as the final potato weight. Record all weights to the nearest 0.01 lb (0.005 kg). Calculate the oven's cooking energy efficiency, production rate, and cooking energy rate (see 11.9). Once the pans have been removed from the oven, close the door and restart the oven. Idling the oven for 1 h between test runs is not necessary.

10.6.9 Perform Run Nos. 2 and 3 by repeating the steps given in 10.6.4-10.6.8. Follow the procedure in Annex A1 to determine whether more than three test runs are required. Report the results for the cooking energy efficiency, production rate, cooking energy rate, and cook time as described in Annex A1.

10.7 Cooking Uniformity Test:

NOTE 14—The objective of this test is to evaluate the cooking uniformity of the oven under heavy food loading conditions such as heating pans of frozen food. The results of this test describe the oven’s cooking uniformity by a comparison of the average temperature of food on each rack. Each rack’s reported average temperature is obtained by averaging the results of three test runs. This test is to be performed so that the variation in the average temperature among the racks is minimized.

10.7.1 Obtain the required number of pans of frozen macaroni and cheese entrees. Use four times the number of test pans as determined in 10.6.2 for a full-size oven test or two times the number of test pans as determined in 10.6.2 for a half-size oven test. Install one thermocouple in the center of each pan by drilling a small hole in the frozen mass and running the thermocouple underneath the foil cover (see Fig. 3). Secure the thermocouple to the pan with a small binder clip to prevent it from coming loose during the test.

10.7.2 Install stops on oven racks to ensure that pan placement on each rack is the same from test run to test run. This is accomplished by positioning the pans on the racks so that the four- or two-pan group is as close to the center of the rack as possible, with 0.5 in. (12.7 mm) of space left between pans, left to right and back to front (see Fig. 4).

10.7.3 Perform three test runs as indicated in 10.7.4-10.7.8, using the correct loading sequence as determined in 10.7.7. Average the temperatures obtained from the three test runs for each rack. Report the average temperature for each rack as indicated in 11.10.

10.7.4 Weigh and record the initial weight of each macaroni and cheese pan. Stabilize the instrumented pans of macaroni and cheese in a freezer at $-5 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$.

10.7.5 Preheat the oven to 350°F (177°C), and allow its cavity to stabilize for 1 h.

10.7.6 Allow the oven to cycle one additional time, and then open the oven door when the oven ready or heat on light shuts off. Leave the oven door open for the entire allowable loading period: 5 seconds per pan (see 10.6.7.1). Do not close the door, even if the pan loading is completed in less than the allotted time.

10.7.7 Load the pans of macaroni and cheese into the oven from back to front. Place each pan into the oven with its longest side parallel to the back of the oven. Place four pans on each rack when testing a full-size oven and two pans on each rack when testing a half-size oven. Follow the manufacturer’s recommendation for loading the pans from the top to bottom rack or vice versa. If a recommended loading sequence is not provided, follow the steps given in 10.7.7. Otherwise, perform each test run as described in 10.7.8-10.7.10.

NOTE 15—The intent of this test procedure is to load the oven (that is, top down or bottom up) so that the variation in average temperature among the racks is minimized.

10.7.8 Close the oven door at the end of the loading period, and begin to monitor the elapsed time, oven energy consumption, and the average temperature of the macaroni and cheese. Terminate the test run when the average macaroni and cheese temperature reaches 170°F (71°C). Record the elapsed time from when the oven door was closed as the cook time.

10.7.9 Weigh and record the weight of the cooked pans of macaroni and cheese.

10.7.10 Identify which rack had the highest average macaroni and cheese temperature. Record this rack as the fastest cooking rack. Record the average temperature on each of the other racks. Identify the slowest cooking rack.

10.8 *Browning Test (White Sheet Cakes):*

NOTE 16—The objective of this test is to evaluate the browning uniformity of the oven using white sheet cakes. The oven’s browning uniformity is reported by describing the browning pattern of the sheet cake baked on each rack. As with the cooking uniformity test, this test is to be performed so that the variation in browning from rack to rack is minimized.

10.8.1 Place racks in the oven as described in 10.6.2.

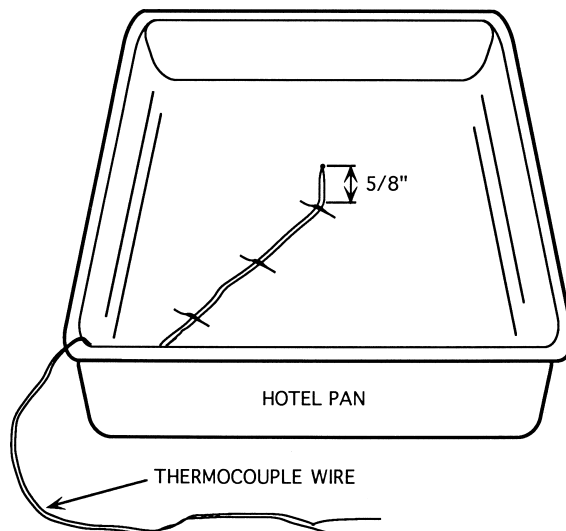


FIG. 3 Thermocouple Probe Placement in Hotel Pan

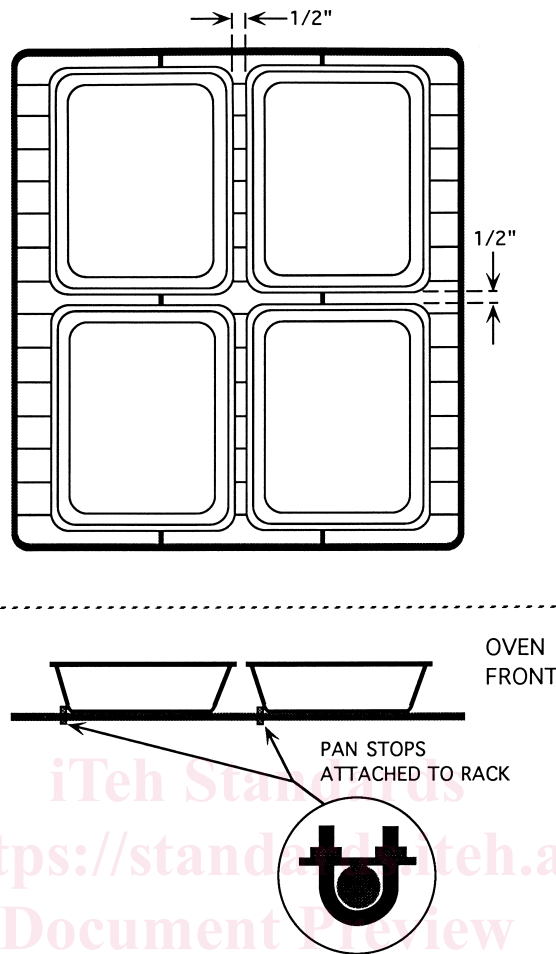


FIG. 4 Hotel Pan Placement on Oven Racks

ASTM F1496-13

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/3b893340-31da-49d6-b556-9cfe7d6e8bb3/astm-f1496-13>

10.8.2 Preheat the oven to 300°F (149°C), and allow its cavity temperature to stabilize for 1 h.

10.8.3 Use the same number of sheet pans for the browning uniformity test as determined in 10.6.2. Prepare the 18 by 26 by 1-in. (457 by 660 by 25-mm) sheet pans for testing a full-size oven or five 18 by 13 by 1-in. (457 by 330 by 25-mm) sheet pans for testing a half-size oven by lining each sheet pan with a paper liner.

10.8.4 Scale 5.0 ± 0.1 lb (2.3 ± 0.05 kg) of cake batter into each 18 by 26 by 1-in. (457 by 660 by 25-mm) sheet pan or 3.0 ± 0.1 lb (1.4 ± 0.05 kg) of batter into each 18 by 13 by 1-in. (457 by 330 by 25-mm) sheet pan. Level the batter in each pan with a spatula. Lightly drop each pan several times to reduce the number of air bubbles in the batter.

10.8.5 If more than one pan orientation on the racks is possible, obtain and follow the manufacturer's recommendations for orienting the pans. If a recommendation is not provided, load each pan with the longest side of the pan parallel to the back of the oven and centered on the rack. Record by rack which pan orientation is used for the test.

10.8.6 In performing the test, obtain and follow the manufacturer's recommendations for the pan loading sequence (that is, from top rack down or from bottom rack up). If this loading sequence is not provided, follow the steps given in 10.8.7 to determine the correct loading sequence. Otherwise, proceed to 10.8.8.

10.8.7 To determine the correct pan loading sequence, perform at least two test runs following the procedure given in 10.8.8 and 10.8.9. The objective of these runs is to determine which loading sequence (top-down or bottom-up) has the least effect on the browning uniformity from rack to rack. This occurs when the first cake loaded is no darker than another cake at the end of the test. For the first run(s), load the first pan onto the top rack and work down. If the cakes are found to be overdone or underdone, run additional tests using this loading sequence until the cake doneness criteria given in 10.8.9 are satisfied. Once these criteria have been satisfied, record whether the cake on the top or on the bottom rack is darker. Next, reverse the loading sequence by loading the first pan onto the bottom rack and working up. Again, if the cake doneness criteria are not satisfied, repeat the test with this loading sequence until they are satisfied. Then report which cake is darker, the one on the top rack or the one on the bottom rack. Finally, determine which type of run, top-down or bottom-up, resulted in the minimum variation in browning uniformity. Use the results of that test run in reporting the test results as described in 11.11.