

Canning Fruits & Tomatoes

In a Boiling Water Bath Canner

General Directions: Follow directions for hot or raw pack. Pack fruit or tomatoes into hot jars. Leave ½ inch head space except where indicated. Remove air bubbles. Wipe jar rims. Adjust lids. Process in a boiling water bath canner.

Fruit	Preparation	Jar Size	Processing Time in Boiling Water Canner 0-1000 Ft.*
Apples, sliced	Wash, peel, core and slice into ½ inch wedges. Place into anti-darkening solution.¹ Drain slices. Hot pack: Put 5 lbs. of slices in a pot with 2 cups of water, very light, light or medium syrup. Boil 5 minutes. Fill jars with hot slices and hot syrup or water.	Pint or Quarts	20 Minutes
Applesauce	Wash, peel, core. Slice and place into anti-darkening solution.¹ Drain slices. Hot pack: Place sliced apples in large pot, add ½ cup water. Heat until tender. Press through sieve for smooth sauce. Add sugar if desired – 1/8 cup per quart or to taste. Reheat to boiling, fill hot jars with hot sauce.	Pints Quarts	15 Minutes 20 Minutes
Berries, whole (blackberries, blueberries, raspberries)	Wash. Drain, cap, stem. Hot pack: Blanch 1 pound of berries in 1 gallon boiling water for 30 seconds, drain. Add ½ cup hot syrup, juice or water to hot jars. Pack hot berries into hot jars. Fill with more hot liquid.	Pints or Quarts	15 Minutes
Fruit Purees of any fruit except bananas, Asian pears, figs, tomatoes, melons, papaya, ripe mango or coconut	Stem, wash, drain, peel and remove pits. Hot pack: Measure fruit into large pot, crushing slightly if desired. Add 1 cup hot water for each quart of fruit. Cook slowly until soft. Stir frequently. Press through sieve or food mill. If desired, add sugar to taste. Reheat until sugar dissolves. Fill hot puree into hot jars. Leave ¼ inch headspace.	Pints or Quarts	15 Minutes

Fruit	Preparation	Jar Size	Processing Time in Boiling Water Canner 0-1000 Ft.*
Peaches, Apricots, Nectarines	To remove skins from peaches, dip in boiling water for 30-60 seconds until skins loosen. Dip in cold water. Slip off skins. Cut in half, remove pit and slice if desired. Skin removal is optional for apricots. Don't remove nectarine skins. Place into antidarkening solution. ¹ Drain.		
	Hot pack: Place in boiling juice, water or syrup, bring to boil. Fill hot jars with hot fruit. Place halves in layers, cut side down. Fill with hot liquid.	Pints Quarts	20 Minutes 25 Minutes
	Raw pack: Fill hot jars with raw fruit, cut side down for halves. Fill with hot liquid.	Pints Quarts	25 Minutes 30 Minutes
Pears, Halved	Wash, peel. Cut lengthwise in half, remove core. Place into antidarkening solution. ¹ Drain.		
	Hot pack: Boil pears 5 minutes in syrup, juice or water. Fill hot jars with hot fruit. Fill with hot liquid.	Pints Quarts	20 Minutes 25 Minutes
Plums, halved or whole	Wash. To can whole, prick skin on two sides with fork. Freestone varieties may be halved and pitted.		
	Hot pack: Add plums to hot water or very light, light or medium syrup. Boil 2 minutes, cover saucepan, let stand 20-30 minutes. Fill hot jars with hot fruit and cooking liquid or syrup.	Pints Quarts	20 Minutes 25 Minutes
	Raw pack: Fill hot jars with raw plums, pack firmly. Fill with hot water or syrup.	Pints Quarts	20 Minutes 25 Minutes
Rhubarb, Stewed	Select young, tender stalks. Trim off leaves. Wash, cut stalks into ½ to 1" pieces.	Pints or Quarts	15 Minutes
	Hot pack: Add ½ cup sugar to each quart rhubarb and let stand until juice appears. Gently bring to a boil. Fill hot jars immediately.		

Fruit	Preparation	Jar Size	Processing Time in Boiling Water Canner 0-1000 Ft.*
Tomatoes, crushed (with no added liquid)	Wash tomatoes. Dip in boiling water 30-60 seconds or until skins split. Dip in cold water. Remove skins, core. Quarter.		
	Hot pack: Heat about 1 pound of the quarters quickly in large pot, crushing them with a spoon as they're added to pot. Continue heating. Stir. Once boiling, gradually add remaining tomatoes, stir constantly. Remaining tomatoes don't need to be crushed. Boil gently 5 minutes. Add 2 tablespoons of bottled lemon juice OR ½ teaspoon citric acid to each quart jar (1 tablespoon bottled lemon juice or ¼ teaspoon citric acid to each pint). Fill hot jars with hot tomatoes. Add ½ teaspoon salt to each pint jar (1 teaspoon/quart) if desired.	Pints Quarts	35 Minutes 45 Minutes
Tomatoes, whole or halved (packed in water)	Prepare tomatoes as above. Leave whole or halve.		
	Hot pack: Place in pot, cover with water, boil gently for 5 minutes. Add bottled lemon juice or citric acid to jars (see above). Fill hot jars with hot tomatoes. Fill jars with hot cooking liquid. Add ½ teaspoon salt to each	Pints Quarts	40 Minutes 45 Minutes
	pint jar (1 teaspoon/quart) if desired. Raw pack: Add bottled lemon juice or citric acid to jars (see above). Add ½ teaspoon salt to each pint jar (1 teaspoon/quart) if desired.	Pints Quarts	40 Minutes 45 Minutes
	Pack prepared tomatoes into hot jars. Fill jars with boiling water.		

General Instructions:

Preparing and Using Syrups:

Measures of Water and Sugar For 9-pint load (or 4-quart load)

Type of Syrup	Sugar	Water
10% (very light)	½ cup	4 cups
20% (light)	1 cup	4 cups
30% (medium)	1 ¾ cups	4 cups
40% (heavy)	2 ¾ cups	4 cups
50% (very heavy)	4 cups	4 cups

Procedure: Heat water and sugar together. Bring to a boil and keep hot until ready to use. Adding syrup to canned fruit helps retain flavor, color and shape. It doesn't prevent spoilage of these foods.

Canning Fruits without Sugar: Select fully ripe but firm fruits of the best quality. Prepare fruit for hot packs as described in the fruit preparation directions above but use water or commercial unsweetened fruit juices instead of sugar syrup. Unsweetened apple, pineapple, or white grape juice used as is or diluted with water are good packing liquids for fruit. Adjust head space and lid and use processing recommendations given for regular fruit.

¹Anti-darkening Solution: Light colored fruits such as apples and pears will turn dark once cut or peeled. To prevent darkening, hold small batches of fruit in an ascorbic acid (Vitamin C) solution until ready to use. Mix one teaspoon or 3000 mg. of ascorbic acid in one gallon of water. Commercially prepared mixes of ascorbic are also available in supermarkets. Follow the manufacturer's directions. Drain thoroughly before canning.

*Altitude Adjustment: For altitudes of 1,001-3,000 ft. add 5 minutes to processing time.

For more detailed, research-based information on food preservation, go to the **National Center for Home Food Preservation** website – http://www.uga.edu/nchfp/

Adapted from: E. Andress, J. Harrison. So Easy to Preserve. Sixth Edition. Cooperative Extension. The University of Georgia, Bulletin 989, 2014.

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Revised 6/2016