UL 136

STANDARD FOR SAFETY

Pressure Cookers

UL Standard for Safety for Pressure Cookers, UL 136

Eighth Edition, Dated June 16, 2009

Summary of Topics

This revision to ANSI/UL 136 dated March 11, 2026 includes the following changes in requirements for the Cover Misalignment Test; 4.3, Section 8A, 13.3.

Text that has been changed in any manner or impacted by ULSE's electronic publishing system is marked with a vertical line in the margin.

The new and revised requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated October 10, 2025 and January 23, 2026.

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Third Edition – May, 1973
Fourth Edition – September, 1979
Fifth Edition – October, 1990
Sixth Edition – November, 1995
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Eighth Edition

June 16, 2009

This ANSI/UL Standard for Safety consists of the Eighth Edition including revisions through March 11, 2026.

The most recent designation of ANSI/UL 136 as an American National Standard (ANSI) occurred on March 11, 2026. ANSI approval for a standard does not include the Cover Page, Transmittal Pages, and Title Page.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to ULSE at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in the Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at https://csds.ul.com.

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover household-type cooking utensils known as pressure cookers or pressure sauce pans which operate at a nominal pressure of 15 psig (103 kPa) or less. They are intended for use over gas- or electric-top burners of residential-type cooking ranges.

1.2 These requirements do not cover pressure cookers intended for pressure frying with oil.

1.3 These requirements do not evaluate the toxicity of coatings or the physiological effects of consuming food prepared by use of these appliances.

1.4 These requirements do not evaluate the operation or use of removable or replaceable parts.

2 General

2.1 Components

2.1.1 Except as indicated in 2.1.2, a component of a product covered by this standard shall comply with the requirements for that component.

2.1.2 A component is not required to comply with a specific requirement that:

a) Involves a feature or characteristic not required in the application of the component in the product covered by this standard, or

b) Is superseded by a requirement in this standard.

2.1.3 A component shall be used in accordance with its rating established for the intended conditions of use.

2.1.4 Specific components are incomplete in construction features or restricted in performance capabilities. Such components are intended for use only under limited conditions, such as certain temperatures not exceeding specified limits, and shall be used only under those specific conditions.

2.2 Units of measurement

2.2.1 Values stated without parentheses are the requirement. Values in parentheses are explanatory or approximate information.

2.3 Instructions

2.3.1 A copy or draft of the manufacturer's instructions covering care and use of the pressure cooker (that shall accompany each product as produced) is to be furnished with the sample submitted for investigation. These instructions are to be used as a guide in the examination and test of the product. For this purpose, a printed edition is not required. See Instruction Manual, General, Section 15, for details.

2.4 Undated references

2.4.1 Any undated reference to a code or standard appearing in the requirements of this standard shall be interpreted as referring to the latest edition of that code or standard.

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CONSTRUCTION

3 Materials

3.1 Pressure-holding parts, or parts of relief mechanisms or pressure-relief devices, shall comply with the requirements in this standard and shall have corrosion resistance.

3.2 A gasket or seal used as a pressure-holding part shall be configured so that a substitute part is not capable of being fabricated using ordinary gasket materials available in sheet form.

3.3 *Deleted*

4 Assembly

4.1 The product shall be constructed so that an ordinary user is capable of assembling it as intended in a manner to reduce the risk of injury.

4.2 *Deleted*

4.3 The cover shall be constructed to comply with all of the following:

a) The cover shall be removable only after the pressure within the cooker is 0.58 psig (4 kPa); and

b) The opening of the cover when the cooker is under pressure shall not result in hazardous displacement of the cover or escape of steam or liquid that would result in burn or injury to persons.

5 Pressure Reliefs

5.1 A pressure vessel shall be provided with a reliable pressure-relief valve of the spring- or weight-loaded type. It shall be located in the cover of the cooker.

5.2 A pressure-vessel cover shall also be provided with a secondary or emergency pressure-relief device (such as a replaceable blowout or fusible plug) or with an arrangement of a clamped and/or gasketed cover to effectively limit pressure in the vessel and prevent distortion of the vessel when the cooker is tested in accordance with these requirements.

6 Pressure Gauges

6.1 A pressure-indicating device, if provided, shall have a range and dial indicator that is capable of indicating pressures at least 50 percent in excess of the maximum pressure allowed by the operation of the pressure-relief valve.

6.2 The dial is not required to be capable of indicating pressures above the maximum operating range, when the dial is marked "CAUTION" or the equivalent in the areas of excess pressure.

PERFORMANCE

7 Maximum and Normal Operating Pressure and Leakage Test

7.1 The maximum operating pressure of a cooker shall be the maximum pressure allowed by the operation of the pressure-relief valve under conditions described in 7.5. No leakage of steam or water shall occur at the joint between the body and cover at the maximum operating pressure determined during the test.

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