

# COOKSTOP

## Stovetop Fire Prevention

*Each year almost 2400 cooking fires are reported in college residences.*

*NFPA statistics 2002-2005*

**COOKSTOP is safety device for electric stoves that turns a stove OFF when left unattended.** Our belief is that a stove has no reason to be left on, by accident, or otherwise, if no one is around. COOKSTOP is fully programmable, and can address the diverse needs many different types of residents. These people include college students, many of whom may be living away from home for the first time. Here are 3 examples easily set up on the COOKSTOP (all times are configurable and locked):

- Example 1:** Management has determined that cooking is allowed at any time of day, but when the stove-user leaves the cooking area, the stove must shut off after 5 minutes.
- Solution:** CookStop allows the student to cook when they are in the cooking area and will shut off when they are not there. If they leave the cooking area and return during the 5 minute countdown period (called AWAY time), cooking continues unaltered. If they leave and return after the 5 minute AWAY time, they will find the stove power is OFF and they must touch the green COOK button to continue.
- How it's done:** Use of the stove is based on activity in the kitchen. The Administrator wants the tenants to interact with the COOKSTOP when returning as a measure of cooking attentiveness.
- Example 2:** Students here cook for themselves daily, and frequently make soups or casseroles that may cook for extended periods. Management feels that these tenants are capable of more responsibility.
- Solution:** These tenants are allowed to cook as in Example 1, but the AWAY time is 15 minutes. Additionally, they are allowed to manually override the system when they wish to cook for extended periods. During this "override" period, they must return to the kitchen at least once every 30 minutes for cooking to continue uninterrupted. After the Override period expires, it automatically returns to the 15 minute 'Safe' mode.
- How it's done:** The Administrator enabled a "Hold" option that allows the students to cook for up to 30 minutes at a time without returning to the kitchen.

- Example 3:** Here students share a common kitchen. Students are allowed to use the stove between 7:00 AM and 8:00 PM. If they wish to cook after these hours they must check out a Secure Key from the RA office.
- Solution:** The Administrator created a stove-usage profile using his Secure Key. “AWAY” time was set for 5 minutes during allowed cooking hours, and a “Lockout” time disables the stove during the restricted hours. The Student Secure Key allows cooking after hours.
- How it’s done:** The Secure Key is has special encrypted key that is the Administrator programs for one or more stoves. Secure Keys not configured for a particular stove will not work.

### Setting Profiles

Once a profile has been created, it resides on the secure Key so that it can be implemented in COOKSTOP units in other apartments without the need to reprogram each time. All of the examples above, and many more, can reside on the Administrator’s Key and be used whenever that profile is appropriate. Once set, students cannot change the settings.

For safety purposes, it is recommended that the COOKSTOP be set for only a few minutes of AWAY time before it shuts off power to the stove. Anyone, at some time, can lose track of the fact that they are cooking in another room. However, based upon knowledge of their tenants, an Administrator can adjust the COOKSTOP anywhere up or down on a scale of most-restrictive to least-restrictive settings.

### **NOTHING else can do what the COOKSTOP does!**

#### COOKSTOP:

- Turns the stove OFF when someone is not present
- Can be set to disable the stove completely during certain hours or days
- Settings are adjusted and locked down by management’s Secure Key
- Features can be made accessible only with an RA-issued Student Secure Key
- Installs easily without modifying the stove
- Does not require an electrician
- Is UL and CSA Approved as a safety device

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