



Popcorn Machine Safety

Like any other commercial piece of equipment, popcorn machines can be potentially dangerous. Follow all guidelines provided by the manufacture or rental company.

General Precautions

Do not permit the general public to come in direct contact with the equipment. To help prevent burns, injury to the eyes or pinch point injuries, keep the machine out of reach from patrons. Only trained and authorized personnel may operate the popcorn machine. Follow all regulations as they pertain to food handling and safety.

Operating Equipment Safely

- All operators must review and follow manufactures instructions prior to use.
- Verify all switches are in the OFF position before plugging the machine into a receptacle.
- Do not touch hot surfaces. Always use handles or knobs to operate.
- The machine must be grounded – using a 3-prong receptacle or properly matched extension cord (follow manufacturer’s instructions on the gauge and length of the extension cord).
 - If a longer cord must be used, it should be arranged so that it does not drape over the counter-top or table top where it can be pulled on by children or tripped over unintentionally.
- Do not operate the appliance with a damaged cord or plug, or if the machine is malfunctioning or damaged.
- Popcorn machine should be placed on a table or counter sufficient to withstand the weight of the unit.
- Do NOT touch the kettle when it is hot.
- Never place body parts or foreign objects into or near the kettle assembly while motor is running.
- Kettle, warmer or other parts should NOT be immersed in water.
- Use the equipment only for its intended use – no modifications should be made.
- Never leave the kettle heat on when not popping corn.
- Do not use outdoors in inclimate weather (rain, mist, thunder, and lightning).
- Extreme caution must be used when unloading popcorn, ALWAYS USE OVEN MITTS. Be careful that residual hot oil or water does not come into contact with skin, as burns may occur.
- Always keep debris and potentially flammable or combustible materials well away from the popper when in operation.
- A popper that is plugged into an outlet should not be left unattended.

This guideline safety sheet addresses commercial popcorn machines in general terms. Follow instructions provided by the manufacture or leasing company.

This Alliant Risk Control Consulting fact sheet is not intended to be exhaustive. The discussion and best practices suggested herein should not be regarded as legal advice. Readers should pursue legal counsel or contact their insurance providers to gain more exhaustive advice.