## Cooking Encounters with H.B. Crockpot Tips & Safety

- Crockpot & Slow Cooker are the same thing.
- Slow cookers are meant to be left on for several hours and several modern cookers come with auto-shut-off features and timer options.
- Use on a heat-proof surface away from walls and cook on low heat if you are leaving it unattended or overnight.
- Do not cook frozen foods in the crockpot. Thaw food based on package directions before cooking in a crockpot.
- Add a little liquid to your slow cooker just as a safety precaution even if the recipe doesn't call for it.
- You can use cooking spray to help prevent sticking.
- Do not overfill. This could lead to spillovers.
- Like rice DO NOT open the lid while cooking. It is best to 'set it and forget it' concerning lifting the lid during cooking.
- PREHEAT your cooker. Even if you are cooking on low it is best to preheat your crockpot just like you would your oven.
- for more information visit: www.fsis.usda.gov/food-safety

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