

Just Make It Hot!

Old Design

The toaster oven's old controls are cumbersome and error-prone.

Warm? Toast? Bake? Just make my food hot!

Unplugged? Timer still runs, only this dim little light indicates that nothing is cooking.

My fingers are in the way of the numbers, I can't read anything!

I'd like my bagel a light golden-brown, soft in the middle, but set that dial a millimeter off, and it'll be crunchy all the way through.

Why is the most-often-used knob all the way at the bottom? With my toaster sitting on a counter, I have to stoop to see this. Ouch.



New Design

Two vertical controls replace the three knobs. A slider manages temperature, while a lever controls cooking time. Once the lever is set, it creeps upward as time runs out. Lights along the lever's groove and on the lever itself glow softly while the toaster oven cooks, as long as the appliance has power.

Interaction now closely resembles that of a conventional oven. Temperature slider is similar to those on equalizers, while the timer lever resembles a toaster.

Icons to make toasting easy are maintained.

Timer markings are spaced farther apart for small values, where higher accuracy is often required.

Lever rises as time runs out, as marking indicates how much time is left.

Large slider, grooved for a good grip, can be operated with one finger.

Prominent strips of light clearly indicate that toaster oven has power.

A single control manages heat intensity.

