

EASTER AND EGGS



- Unbroken, uncooked fresh eggs are remarkably resistant to bacteria and can be stored safely in the refrigerator for weeks.
- Boiling an egg causes breakdown of its natural resistance to bacteria such as staphylococci.
 - Hard-boiled eggs covered with water can

absorb water through the intact shell along with any bacterial contaminants in the water.

- During cooling in a pot of cold water, the egg contents shrink, creating a suction effect that allows contaminated water to enter the egg.
- It is important not to let the cooked eggs soak in water.
- Use commercial Easter egg dyes to color the eggs.
- Hard-boiled eggs are cooked food and should not be out of the refrigerator for more than two hours.

Tips for Cooking Hard-Boiled Eggs

- 1. Do not cook eggs in an aluminum pot: they can turn black.
- 2. Place eggs in a pot, cover them with cold water 1/2 inch above the eggs, and cook at low to moderate heat until the water comes to a boil.
- 3. Turn down the heat and simmer the eggs for 15 minutes.
- 4. Remove eggs from hot water and rinse them in cold running water.
- 5. Refrigerate until cool.
- 6. The eggs can now be colored.
- 7. After coloring, refrigerate eggs.

For more information, please contact the Department of Public Health Division of Environmental Health Services

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