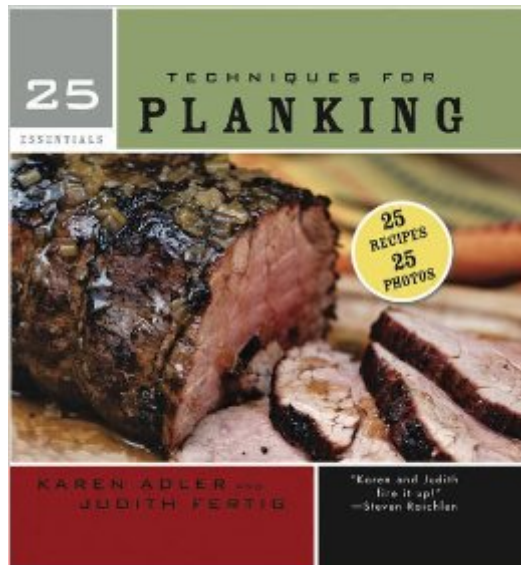


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# 25 Essentials: Techniques For Planking



## Synopsis

Got wood? You should. Cooking on a plank is the simplest way to infuse your food with the subtle taste and aroma of smoke. Best part is, you don't need a fancy rig, special equipment, or complicated directions to start planking. All you really need is a board and this book. With the 25 essential techniques you'll find in these pages, you'll be planking like a pro in no time - outdoors and in. This book features tempting fare such as Griddle-Planked Brie with Amaretto-Peach Chutney and Cranberry Conserve, Plank-Roasted Pears with Blue Cheese, Cheese- and Herb-Stuffed Planked Portobello Mushrooms, and Garlic and Rosemary-Slathered Planked Pork Chops. Armed with this concise and handy primer, anyone can become a planking and grilling pro in no time!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm a cookbook junkie, especially when it comes to unusual recipes and cooking methods, so this small, spiral-bound book on planking seemed perfect. Yes, this has only twenty-five recipes, but who would have thought that there would be that many that use planks? The introduction offers good instruction about the different plank cooking methods and where to buy specific kinds of planks for cooking. I especially enjoyed the brief description of the different woods and the kinds of flavor they impart. And the recipes are all innovative: griddle-planked brie with amaretto-peach chutney and cranberry conserve (a hit at a recent party); plank-roasted pears with blue cheese; planked red and yellow tomatoes with frizzled herbs; kiss-of-smoke planked shrimp with bearnaise butter; proscuitto-wrapped sea scallops with fresh herb aioli; planked beef filets with porcini slather;

planked figs with pancetta and goat cheese. All recipes are extremely easy to follow, and most are quick to prepare -- other than soaking the planks in advance. I have two complaints about this cookbook, despite the delicious recipes: 1. the specialty planks some recipes call for (e.g., a "baking" plank) are not readily available and 2. not all recipes benefit from the smoke supposedly given off by the wood since they cook too quickly. The brie recipe listed above is a perfect example: although the flavor was wonderful and easy to fix while dining outside with guests, I was never able to find the special "baking" plank nor did I have a griddle attachment. I used a regular plank which, according to the introduction, should have given it more of a grilled/smoky flavor; however, because of the brie's rind, only the chutney and conserve were affected. Still, the result was first-rate.

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