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Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

Posted by [Bushrod \(My Page\)](#) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:10

I am a first time visitor in the appliance forum, however, I felt somewhat compelled to post. With no malice toward anyone in particular, the air is just a wee bit stuffy in here. Having skimmed several pages of posts, class warfare certainly seems alive and well. Being someone who has chosen a minimalist lifestyle by choice, not by means, I can see how first time members visiting the appliance forum could be easily turned off. Probably 75% of folks appliance shopping purchase at the big box stores that are constantly berated here for selling "bottom-of-the-line" and "low end" appliances. If one lives for their "stuff", then by all means, congratulations, you'll probably have lots of nice "stuff". But to speak condescendingly of the things that the other 75% of human beings must purchase is just . . . well, you can fill in the blank.

Enough heaviness on my part, so to lighten things up a little, here is what the posts on this forum sound a bit like this from an outsider's view:

Original Poster: I am so stressed - can someone please offer advice? Christmas was just a few weeks ago and I was so disappointed with the performance of my new high-end range. It is beautiful - looks just like all the photographs in current kitchen design magazines. However, the food wasn't exactly like I remember it at Grandma's house growing up. Please help . . .

Follow Up 1: Have you tried the new Excalibur 1400 model range? It has more BTU's than the old 1300 model. They were able to increase the power by 3% by encapsulating the uranium core in exotic titanium that can only be found at the bottoms of natural glacier lakes in Iceland. In my opinion, it is well worth the extra \$8,000 over the 1300 model.

Original Poster Replies: Yes, I have the Excalibur 1400 in my kitchen. But my mashed potatoes just aren't as fluffy as Grandma's.

Follow Up 2: I think it might be the refractive properties of the stainless steel finish on the 1400 model. I purchased a French made Penuche. I don't get as much glare from the hand-sanded stainless steel as do many high-end ranges. The finish is done in the Alps by a group of Monks who have perfected this metal finishing technique using abrasive pads made from fur of rare alpacas that have been hand-raised and bottle-fed at the monastery. I thought the extra \$4,000 for the custom finish was well spent.

Original Poster Replies: Yes, I had a Penuche for my last range. I loved the finish but it didn't pan sear my pork cutlets nearly as well as Granny's.

Follow Up 3: What about the intakes on the gas manifold of the 1400. I hope you didn't go for the brass intakes that can be found on box store bottom-of-the-line ranges. I upgraded to the platinum intakes with diamond-plated bearings. The platinum they use is only found in Brazilian mines located near old growth forests. I've heard that over time, the brass intakes will actually tarnish. Even though the intakes are behind the range and can't be seen, I just couldn't stand the thought of having tarnished intakes on my gas manifold. Being that the platinum intakes are endorsed by Emeril, the extra \$8,500 upcharge was a real bargain.

Original Poster Replies: Of course I have the platinum intakes, my cousin's husband's boss has a sister that works in the kitchen of a five star restaurant. She highly recommended them. But you know, I can still never manage to get my gravy as creamy as Mamaw's.

Follow Up 4: It sounds like your grandmother had a real gem of a range. Can you give us more information about it? It sounds like just the thing I might be looking for.

Original Poster Replies: Well, I never actually saw the brand, but it was this cast iron box that she put wood in. I think it may have even had an actual fire inside of it – there was some type of smoke stack thingy coming out of the top of it.

Follow-Up Postings:



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [spewey](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:27

We see this sort of reverse class snobbery in here occasionally as well. But not everyone who has high-end appliances is necessarily rich or elitist. They may have chosen to forgo other pleasures like vacations and the like to scrimp up enough to afford that BlueStar range because cooking is a passion for them.

People may well express pleasure about their higher-end appliances, but I don't see forum posters condemning people for their other choices or insisting they buy something they cannot afford. Yes, we do relate horror stories from our own experiences now and then and do urge people thinking about buying appliances that have given us problems to consider other options, but no one expects everyone to buy a LaCanche range if all they want to do is heat up canned chili.

My house is full of builder-grade appliances and for the most part, they are not very satisfactory. I have a GE fridge, for instance, but I don't begrudge someone else for having a \$3,500 Viking built-in. That's their choice, and may they be happy with it.

This is perhaps the friendliest forum on THS; there is no need to stir anything up here.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [agrizzlyman](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:29

Since you admit to a compulsion, I suggest you seek therapy..... elsewhere. You are indeed a

person of great discernment to have discovered our very essence in only a few minutes of reading. No doubt, having found us to be both shallow and unaccomplished in our cooking skills, you will not bother yourself with our forum again.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [donna_ct](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:38

Hahahaha.....Great post and so very, very true.

A bit over a year ago I came on the appliance forum while doing my kitchen remodel and had many laughs over some of the posters who thought they were purchasing the "Best".

If one did not pay over \$3000-4000 for their appliances, they were deemed "bottm of the line".

After a years break from the place, I couldn't resist comming back for a peek and some much needed laughs. :)

Fantastic post!



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [mes444](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:41

I think you must be Dave Barry's brother/sister. SOOOO Funny.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Khloris](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:44

Bushrod, thank you for a much needed laugh! :-)



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [reno_fan](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:50

I haven't laughed that hard in I can't remember how long. Literally. That's the funniest and truest thing I've ever heard.

As far as this being the friendliest forum, I beg to differ, and I'm not alone. Bushrod, check out this conversation, but look quickly, as it won't be around much longer....

Here is a link that might be useful: [What others think as well...](#)



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Steve_o \(My Page\)](#) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:51

Thanks for the chuckle, Bushrod!

Many of the folks here are regular Joes and Janes and are fine to chat with. But I do wonder about the air here sometimes when a \$1,500 range is considered "mid-priced" and expensive appliances not appearing on time or performing up to expectation are considered "disasters." If nothing else, recent geological events (*true* disasters) should put some perspective on the comfort in which almost all of us -- and so little of the rest of the world -- live.

In fairness, though, posters in some of the other forums display the same sensibilities. I don't think I'd admit for a moment that I have aluminum siding on my house -- and no intention of replacing it.

Oops.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [imacboy \(My Page\)](#) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 19:55

Personally, I think these forums are invaluable. But just like in life, there are the drama queens that fret over the silliest of things and there are genuine people who care about others, offer sound advice and are good souls. Again, like in real life, you can choose to let yourself get caught up in that drama or CHING CHING...take a deep breath and laugh off those that annoy and then embrace those that make a difference.

Lighten up...I think you lost your sense of humor somewhere! If my self worth was really tied up and reflected in the thoughts of complete strangers online, I would have to think who really had the problem? Good for those people who have the time, energy and resources to occupy their existence with issues of does my iridium finish match my stainless steel whatever. One good thing to remember, at least they aren't out selling crack to kids! See every side has a positive.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [sccc \(My Page\)](#) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 20:02

Tell me, are you REALLY excited about your "low-end" appliances that you would check in here

everyday to see what's new??

No offense, but I have had "low-end" in the past and never got too excited about them. I think people come here who are excited about the new things out there and a lot of that seems to be on the "high-end".

I am passionate about cooking (although, not good) and am interested in the performance, which in many cases is the top of the line.

I for one, like talking about "high-end" appliances and it is nice to come somewhere where people that have the same understanding, as my friends could care less about this "stuff", so I can see myself reading this forum for years to come.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [kevcoll12](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 20:06

while I agree we all must focus on the most important things in life- I do not need to apologize for wanting and being able to purchase some high end luxury items like a wolf duel fuel range or a having a home theater- I have worked extremely hard to get where I am - and my wife has had to do alot of sacrificing of her own to raise our children and maintain our household- this is America- work hard, and you too can live the good life-it does not keep me from donating to charities, or caring for others, or crying over lost or sick loved ones- in fact, I am fortunate enough to spend my days helping others on a daily basis as a physician- so thanks for the input, but the real snobbery here is your judgemental attitude about what we all here deem important.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [gweeta](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 20:12

As a lurker here and on many other forums at many different sites, I have two general observations.

First, this forum (and the Kitchens forum) are like a page right out of Emily Post compared to many, many, many other forums (not necessarily at GardenWeb). Take a gander at some of the exchanges on car forums about U.S. versus Japanese trucks.

Second, if there is a bias toward high-end stuff here, it's still worth wading through for the amazing amount of good information. I also would reemphasize the point that it's easy to be misunderstand when communicating via hastily composed text messages. Based on what I've read here, it seems that most posters deserve the benefit of the doubt.

For the OP, I have one comment. Your post is so laden with value judgments it's hard to know what to say. As such, let me just assume that you also believe in live and let live, and that although you may not like the way other people spend their money, you respect their right to do it.

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [synchro](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 20:18

Hey, I also spend a lot of time on a particular car forum and when things get too heavy over there I tend to point people over here...as in, "well, you know, you COULD be spending bandwidth talking about friggin' APPLIANCES!"

That tended to shut most folks up pretty good. :)

The thing to remember is that ANY Internet forum is generally a self-selecting community of "enthusiasts." No matter how important or universal we think we are, 99% of the rest of the world doesn't care a wit for what we're discussing...and for good reason. With that in mind, I tend to give folks pretty wide license in discussing things like \$5000 stoves. In the real world this is of course total folly. And some of us come here for that very reason.

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [sds1234](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 20:47

Bushrod - no one made you read all of those posts. If you don't like them, don't read them. Simple.

Synchro - great post, thanks.

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [janedibber](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 21:02

The Excalibur 1400 is an alarm, not a range...

Here is a link that might be useful: [new and improved Excalibur 1400](#)


**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [Lanzz](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 22:07

Bushrod, I could not agree with you LESS.

This forum, and others on THS, are chock full of good first-hand information about dilemmas and choices that others are making for their own home renovation projects. Since we all embark on these projects infrequently, the opinions and experiences of others are especially important.

I personally never felt judged by anyone here until I read your post.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [riotbrdd](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 23:15


This is definitely the nicest forum I have ever been on. People are *incredibly* helpful to each other, and very tolerant. That said, the original post was fun-ny!

Smiles all around!

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [laurel125](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 23:26

riotbrdd - My sentiments exactly!!

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [Colo_Lady](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 23:35

Whew! For a minute there, I thought you were being sarcastic!

..
..
..

Apparently your minimalism doesn't extend to your judgemental-ism. I say live and let live. How about you?

p.s. My granny's cooking sucked, but I'm pretty sure it might have been better if she'd had a Wolf rangetop.

post p.s. I haven't seen very much condescension in here, present company excluded.

Addendum to my p.s. Some free advice: as in life, I suggest you sift through the chaff and look for the grain.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [Khloris](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 23:37

I took the original post as a funny piece of creative writing, not as an insult to anyone. I have a magazine-format parody of the trendy Smith & Hawken catalog, that was written in the same vein, and it's hilarious (it's called "Smythe & Hawk'em"!). I laugh at everything in Smythe & Hawk'em, but I still always look through the Smith & Hawken catalogs when they come in. And sometimes I actually buy something from them -- when they have a sale! :-)



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [houseenvy \(My Page\)](#) on Wed, Jan 5, 05 at 23:47

Earth to Bushrod ... some ranges are engineered to produce superb reliability and functionality. Others are spartan and cost a lot less. By definition and design, the latter ARE "bottom of the line," "low-end" appliances. What the heck is wrong with that, and why is it condescending to say so?? While we're at it, what the heck is wrong -- or even surprising -- about the fact that people spend a lot of time researching stuff that is expensive, and that the "high end" consumers are therefore likely to post more? Finally, in 14 months I have never seen a single post "berating" (your word) stores that sell "low end" appliances, but only those that sell appliances that don't work, whether high or low end.

If you're looking for snobbery, you're in the wrong place.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Fredmc \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 1:25

HA!!

If you think the posters on this forum(who are mostly Americans) get off on boasting about the cost of their high-end appliances you should see the jollies we Canadians get because our dollar is worth approx. 25-35% less than the US greenback.

So, for example a F&P double oven that cost approx. \$3000 in the U.S. cost over &6000 in Canada. Now if you don't think a \$6000 oven in Canada has snob appeal then I don't know what has.

Fred Mc.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Shappy \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 2:46

Bushrod- You are a riot! Many people are very helpful on this forum. But some people get VERY upset when you post that maybe these high-end appliances aren't all they're cracked up to be. When I first posted about how cheap and unreliable my Viking gas range is a whole new thread was

started to bash me so I obviously hit a nerve. In my opinion, a good cook can cook on anything-- Anyway maybe this high end kitchen snobbery was started in part when people started using their homes as ATM machines and financing their remodels. Remember, much of America's good life was made in China (made two purchases today--a much coveted All-Clad Grande griddle to cover the worthless viking grill and a kitchen aid timer since Viking is too high end for a timer - both made in China.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Wildchild \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 5:17

Too funny.....Bushrod. I once got flamed on this very forum for suggesting to someone who complained his Vent-A-Hood wasn't handling bacon grease that they should "just turn down the heat".

We did invest in a DCS 36" All Gas (white) because it will be our forever stove. The DCS's of a couple years back were open-burner and engineered so simply that its basic "plumbing" will always be available. No electrical to worry about other than ignitors and oven light. Simple.

On the other hand I will not pay more than \$600 or so for a dishwasher.

In fairness most here are pretty nice peeps. There are a few who could stand to get a "life" but they're a minority.

It does bother me somewhat of how little the general public understands about how things are manufactured and and the hype that goes into marketing. If you try to educate some peeps they get upset instead of taking the information and evaluating what will best suit their needs.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [janedibber \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 9:16

"..maybe this high end kitchen snobbery was started in part when people started using their homes as ATM machines and financing their remodels."

shappy - is there actually a correlation, or are you riding brushrod's humor wagon?



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [dchristiansen \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 9:29

Great post, Bushrod. If people don't believe that reverse snobbery exists on these boards, they aren't

reading closely enough or they've got their heads in the sand. This topic has been discussed on many boards - Furniture, Buying & Selling Houses, Appliances, Plumbing, Kitchens...I could go on. You hit the nail on the head.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [snoop_dog](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 9:55

Bushrod - You did it! You finally convinced me to register on Gardenweb so that I could post. You are one hilarious dude! That is the funniest thing I've ever read on any of these forums! Can I get your phone number; when I pass on one of these days, you can definitely write the eulogy for my funeral!

I drop by all the forums occasionally that deal with "stuff", as Bushrod affectionately calls it, just to be humored by how people rationalize to themselves spending \$60,000 on an automobile or \$30,000 on appliances for their kitchen. I have come to form the opinion that these forums are much like support groups for buyers who make these purchases.

Just as the automobile forum that I most frequent, there are some underlying attitudes toward the "have nots" that are unpleasant in all of the "stuff" forums. With this forum, I disagree with the original poster's view of folks being berated here, but undertones of classism do definitely exist.

In closing, to all of you who had a hearty chuckle from the original post, I'm right there with you. To those of you who took offense, lighten up, it is okay to laugh at yourself every once in a while.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [measure_twice](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 10:05

Too funny! And I can't take offense about either end of the spectrum!

If you're looking for snobbery, you're in the wrong place.

Naw, just the right place! 'scuse me. I gotta get my nose out of the ceiling and go in search of a life now...

(still chuckling over the "smoke stack thingy")



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Sandra_zone6](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 10:25

I got a good chuckle out of the post and the entire thread. The thing I agree with most is the comment about how a good cook can utilize any appliance, doesn't need to be a high end one. I like to come here, like to read, I do have some nice things like my Miele vacuum, but my kitchen is 20 years old, I have formica countertops, GE double ovens and a Jenn-air electric cooktop, all original with the house. My fridge is a very large Kenmore that we bought on clearance, may not have a nice brand name, but it works, keeps the foods fresh and tasty, fulfills its job requirements and met the budget when we bought it. I spend approx 3 hours per day in the kitchen, I love to cook and bake, cook almost everything from scratch. I do have what I consider decent quality but not overly costly kitchentop appliances, mostly but not all KitchenAid brand. I buy them for the quality that I have experienced over the years and the incredible customer service the company has shown me when I have had issues. Would I love to have a higher end, more attractive kitchen? Sure, who wouldn't! Would it make me a better cook or make the things I cook/bake taste differently? Not likely! I am not tied into labels, name brands so much. When shopping for a new dishwasher a few years ago, I could have bought anything, I bought a TOL Kenmore Elite that has not disappointed me in the least. I could have had a brand name appliance, but I went for what I felt was a good quality, dependable dishwasher. I may buy a name brand, but first I look at the quality, the build, how it will either fit my lifestyle or improve on it. I don't buy labels to show them off to people, I am not brand loyal across the board. I like to select an appliance for it, not who makes it. I do love to read about things here, it is very enlightening and maybe someday if I ever hit the jackpot, then again maybe not!



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [gweeta](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 10:59

Although the OP was clearly trying to be funny (and succeeded), the not-so-subtle message was not light-hearted. It was a value judgment. Responding to it that way doesn't mean someone needs to lighten up.

Another thing is worth pointing out. Those who post here and who talk about high-end stuff make themselves easy targets for this kind of criticism because they are implicitly saying something about themselves—that they like expensive stuff.

The people who deliver the criticism, on the other hand, typically only reveal enough to make themselves look good by whatever standards they are proffering.

For example, the OP in just a few words ("Being someone who has chosen a minimalist lifestyle by choice, not by means, . . .") tells us that he or she makes a lot of money but chooses to devote it to more worthy things than high end appliances. In other words, "I'm one of the good rich guys."

That's too easy. We're exposed and make juicy targets, while the OP gets to hide behind selectively revealed pieces of his or her character.

I guess that's what bugs me about posts like that. I think they're fundamentally cheap shots (even if they are funny).

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [measure_twice](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 11:39

gweeta:

Cheap shot? I agree it is a tough call. You may be right. Or it may be a matter of individual comfort level with criticism. I think the original poster did a pretty good job of softening with humor. Ya know, I do find it difficult to get excited about our mid-range appliances. They are just tools for us.

But, if you feel the need for a different target, I'll state:

I'm a reverse snob.

Flame away. And if it is funny, I'll laugh at myself along with you!

Best,
M2X

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [gweeta](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 11:51

Measure twice- agree that the post was funny, but for me at least, the language I quoted was a bit too holier than thou.

Personally, I'm conflicted. I like quality (read high-end) stuff, but I also believe we'd all be better off in a world where we consumed less. (I think E.F. Schumacher had it right in "Small is Beautiful.")

In all honesty, I think this conflict does make be a bit thin skinned on this point.

Now, I gotta get back to work. There's a whole world (or what's left of it) out there to rape.

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [spanky67](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 12:16

I think it's a riot that you all are being dragged into a class discussion with some one from.....KENTUCKY!!

Please read that comment with the same laughing smile that I have while typing.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [FLChad](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 12:24

hey Bushrod - why dont you go load up that POS GE in your pick em up truck because I know you cant afford delivery!!!! You'll get there one day - this is America buddy.

I dont know what to consider my KA applicances? To me they are high end, but maybe not to others - I really could care less. I know alot of people talk about the higher end stuff on here, but I just weed thru it to get to the info for the stuff I am buying.

I like the humor value...



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [susan6](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 13:13

I've had some of the same reactions to some of the threads since checking out these forums. Up till now I've used the gardening forums and hadn't updated my kitchen in 30 years. Dadblamed appliances just keep on working like they did when new and I've adjusted to any quirks they have. I've loved finding first hand experience with some of those appliances I've been considering, but have also mentally gasped at folks who have 5 SubZeros in one kitchen. My arbitrary judgement that it must be either a physician or a trial lawyer was subsequently confirmed. That said, it has made me look around at people I know and reflect on how they choose to spend their money. I only look askance at those like my younger sister who must have the newest and fanciest of everything, but who haven't saved a dime. And while I try hard not to impose my reverse snobbery on others, it's sure fun to read a post like Bushrod's!



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Carli](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 15:34

I completely agree with Gweeta!

A typical Zen minimalist philosophy also encompasses the virtue of being non-judgemental, and yet the OP's entire post was purely judgemental. What's next - will he provide us with a list of what our approved expenditures should be - what's "appropriate" and what's not? Who's to be the ultimate judge in what is true minimalism - is that his job? Just as Gweeta says, he's well insulated from criticism because he hasn't discussed his "stuff"...if his choices were as open to judgement, would he appear truly minimalist? Maybe he could be even more minimalist than he is now...maybe there's a minimalists forum that would jump all over him for having too much "stuff" or maybe it would be wrong if he discussed his options in gleeful anticipation before he purchased his "stuff." See how this judging thing could go on and on?

The whole purpose of this forum is to obsess a bit about our appliances (high end, low end or

whatever), not tell people how they should morally conduct their lives. I'm interested in the debate and have opinions about the whole materialistic/consumerism issue myself, but for that, I'll read the editorial in my newspaper or have a discussion with my friends and family.

It's a little silly to read here about one person's belief system and to be told that what we're discussing is unimportant...duh! In this world, especially these days with what's happening in southeast Asia, we know this is not important. No one here is saying this stuff is important in the big picture. We're just harmlessly obsessing a little about our appliances and their performance. It's not as if it's a choice between, say, solving world hunger or obsessing about appliances, and those of us shallow enough to participate on this forum have chosen to obsess about appliances. As we'd say back east, Puh-leez! Give me a break!



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Gibby3000 \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 15:35

I say to each their own - it's entirely a personal choice how people want to spend their money. If you don't agree with the high-end, snob appeal approach ignore it and seek out the info that matches what you're looking for. That's what I have done. Interestingly I was sure when I started planning for my new kitchen it would be modest since I'm not into the high-end, snob appeal approach. However as I learned more and things progressed I upgraded far beyond what I ever thought I would do. I'm typically quite cheap and conservative though I can afford not to be (and I'm not a trial lawyer or MD). In the case of the kitchen, I decided I will enjoy nicer things so I'm getting them. My house is paid for, I have no debt, I work hard, I love to cook - I'm having a nice, expensive kitchen. On the other hand I've been quite happy with my current \$700 stove, \$750 fridge, and \$500 dishwasher and would certainly never put down anyone else who chooses similar. I also bear no ill will or negative feelings toward others spending 2-3x what I am on appliances. It's just great to get a new kitchen no matter how you do it.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [JudeNY \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 17:17

I got a good laugh. I interpreted it as observation presented comically, not criticism. And if it was criticism, I don't care, it's still funny. But then I refer to my new carefully, thoughtfully chosen and very expensive-to-me appliances as my 'new toys'.

After 2 months, I still can't bake chicken as well in the new Bosch oven as I did in the pos Welbilt stove. Presumably, the Viking cooktop (if the gas is ever hooked up) will present less of a challenge. The HagenDaz tastes the same out of the Subzero as it did from the pos Sanyo it replaced. I never apologized for my old appliances nor will I for my new ones.

Bushrod is not the first to make those observations about some of the responses to inquiries about mid-low range appliances. Maybe some reflection on being more inclusive wouldn't be out of line ?

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [spewey \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 17:35

I certainly saw nothing funny in that opening barrage. As I pointed out in my reply, not everyone that has a "high-end" appliance is necessarily rich or elitist. A person of average means whose chief passion is cooking may well pass up on other pleasures such as vacations, cable tv, etc. in order to scrimp up enough to buy that dream range with high-output burners. But evidently anyone that has a higher end appliance is stereotyped as some wealthy person who simply has a fixation on material goods.

Sure, there are plenty of posts here about \$3,000 ranges and the like, but there are also those on \$20 Bodum coffee pots and Sears goods. I don't see people complaining "You're low-life trash for making coffee in a cheap French press instead of a Jura semiauto." People here are almost always civil, and "stirring the pot" just to make judgements against posters is so uncalled for.

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [RGB1000 \(My Page\)](#) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 18:30

I look at this forum as a way to get others opinions and more importantly, reasons why those opinions are held. It is for me to evaluate those opinions before I form or modify my own opinion.

A number of people have much nicer homes and appliances than I do. In turn, I have much nicer things than many others do. It does not bother me if someone has more than me any more than I am bothered if some have less.

As persons we are all the same. As individuals we are very different.

I see more anti-snobbery sentiments here than actual snobbery. Some are just obsessed with this stuff and like to talk about it. I drive a 10 year old Ford pick-up with a rusty rear bumper but I am buying a Wolf range. As Steve Martin's grandmother taught him: "criticize things you don't know about"

Thicker skins all around I say!

My definition of appliance snobbery: Those who do not know anything about the appliance they have but talk about it just because it is expensive.

Definition of appliance anti-snobbery: Those who feel the need to tell you that you can cook just as well on a hotplate as you can on a professional range (this in the context of a discussion of different professional ranges).

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [wheely_boy](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 20:46

Nothing like pulling the pin, dropping the gernade in the fox hole and then running like hell. '

In my case, my wife is one of the so-called snobs that wants a \$4500 range and this forum has been invaluable in providing information.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [seekingadvice](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Jan 6, 05 at 23:42

From a simple analytical perspective, I find it insulting and rude. I suppose you'll have to call me some names now, like thin-skinned and stuffy.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [akchicago](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 0:57

Bushrod, under the guise of humor, you meanly criticized the bright, informed and kind people who enjoy participating in this forum. You did it to feel smug about your "minimalist lifestyle" (by the way, I have no idea what that means, but it sounds way-hip), and to broadcast that you are a person "of means".

Frankly, I think "thou dost protest too much"--perhaps, deep deep down, you have appliance envy??

Instead of being supercilious, Bushrod, why don't you just ADMIT IT. Admit that you crave those Wolf red knobs, that Gaggenau cooktop, those cool F&P dishdrawers, that Miele dishwasher? Oooh, for just one day with that gorgeous 60" Dacor Epicure dual-fuel range! You are burning with envy for these appliances, and the only way you can deal with the envy is by writing what you did.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [jeannieo](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 1:05

Do you guys realize how amusing this is? Especially for us innocent bystanders who spent less than \$1,000 for our new ranges?

Sorry if any blood, sweat or tears were shed over Bushrod's post, but really sometimes it doesn't hurt to step outside oneself and take a long look.

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [abqMOM](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 1:28

I lurked for 2 years before I decided to buy a LaCanche range. I bought it because of the posts I read on the appliance forum. Am I a snob? I've wanted a French range for years and we bought one. If I posted photos you would see it is installed in a c.1947 kitchen with turquoise metal cabinets, NO GARBAGE DISPOSAL and a wood floor that the previous owner covered in porch paint. Most Lacanche owners have new homes or are remodeling kitchens. Might they gasp that I don't have marble, cherry floors and room for an island with prep sink and warming cabinets, let alone a garbage disposal? I doubt it. Because I am not remodeling, I have not bonded with other Lacanche owners. That doesn't imply elitism. Someday, I'll have a kitchen, in this house or another, with creamy white custom cabinets, soapstone counters and a garbage disposal. When that time comes, I am happy to know that there are the Pirulas, Zolablues and AnnaLeeFs out there to aid me in my decisions. One thing is certain, the range moves with us!

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [sds1234](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 7:27

Of course, we all have given this guy just what he wanted.....

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [teeboxer](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 8:40

Dreaming of the day (sooner rather than later, finally) that I'll be "stirring the pot" on my brand new Wolf 36" all gas range, which will be sitting close (but not too close) to my brand new Miele DW, which will be sitting quite a ways (because my new kitchen will be rather large) from my matching, intergrated, 36" SZ frig and frez, not to mention (OK, I will) my lovely new Miele Master Chef Oven and WD. My MW and garbage disp. are so low end, IMHO, they aren't worth a mention. :O)

Gotta love being put down for working hard, saving and having the ability to put your money where you can enjoy it, share it with others and someday get a return on it. Oh well, it's a hefty price to pay, but someone's gotta do it.

Oh yea, no one's mentioned the positive effect on the economy and the jobs provided by those who buy these products. HmMMMMM

AND, thanks to all the nice people on the appliance thread, as abqMOM said, who took the time to help me make informed decisions before chosing the products on which to spend all that heinous money. Thanks to all!

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [synchro \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 9:01

** Posted by: sds1234 (My Page) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 7:27*

Of course, we all have given this guy just what he wanted.....

You said it, sds1234. Nothing like feeding the trolls ;)

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [sccc \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 10:29

teeboxer, I'm right there with ya! Now, YOUR post was funny!

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [dchristiansen \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 10:41

"Gotta love being put down for working hard, saving and having the ability to put your money where you can enjoy it, share it with others and someday get a return on it. Oh well, it's a hefty price to pay, but someone's gotta do it."

This isn't what the OP said at all. The post offered absolutely NO criticism of those who work hard and save for high-end goods, or even those folks who have ample resources to obtain these products.

The criticism was laid at the feet of those folks who berate others for purchasing "low end" goods. No mention was made of whether the folks doing the criticizing own high-end or low-end goods (or something in between). All that was said was, it's easy to see how first-timers could be turned off by some of the attitudes here. The point was that no one should speak condescendingly of any products - low end or high end. If one has practical experience with a product and can offer constructive criticism, I think that's helpful for everyone. But, to look down your nose at low-end gear, or to say "sour grapes" to someone who owns high-end equipment - that's uncalled for.

**RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [teeboxer \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 10:58

Sorry for the misunderstanding DC. You're right. Should of said, Gotta love "feeling" like I'm being

put down....

And thanks sccc, I was just trying to be funny as I "feel" this whole thread is hilarious. (I think or should I say feel, (tee hee) they call it a satire.

DC, your so right condescending attitudes are uncalled for, rude and boring.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Bushrod \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 10:58

Hello to all! My first time back since the original post; I intended to "stir the pot" a little but it seems I've spilled the entire pot on top of the Excalibur 1400! My post was aimed at no particular member, just the folks that feel the need to put an adjective, such as "high-end" or "top-of-the-line", in front of everything they own; as well as putting adjectives such as "big box store", "low-end", and "bottom-of-the-line" in front of the things, that are for some reason, not up to their standards. Why not simply refer to a GE as a GE, rather than a "low-end-range"? Or, call a Viking a Viking, rather than a "high-end-range"? I see no other reason than classism and division to use these adjectives. Honestly, from an outsider's perspective, it could be a turn-off for some and preclude them from posting and making a contribution.

I was accused by a couple of posters of hiding being my post and not making myself open for criticism, so here goes (feel free to let loose on me after reading my background). I am an early-retired Ohio native, age 51, with a degree in mechanical engineering from Ohio State University. Upon graduating, I was hired and trained as a turbine engineer by a well known company. After spending about ten years with them, I was headstrong that I could set out on my own, which I did; and, being tired of Midwest winters, we moved to Tampa for our business start up. After another five years of work, we were up and running with five employees (including three full-time engineers) and working in all 48 contiguous states. I pulled off from so much travel and began working on a new turbine control system and three years later, I had a product that all the "big boys" were salivating for. I sold the control system back to my original employer (that was fun), with the terms that my business would be dissolved in order to be noncompetitive. I then went into early retirement.

Part of my perspective comes from many years' experiences of chasing particular brands. Especially during our time in Tampa, I felt I had to live in a particular neighborhood, drive a certain vehicle, and wear certain clothes. We never were big cooks, so we never actually got into "ultra high-end" appliances, but I know the general line of thought.

However, the majority of my perspective comes from my post-retirement life. Within a year after retiring, my mother-in-law was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. My wife, a Kentucky native, was determined to move back home and take care of her. So, in short order, we sold our home and moved to Hart County, Kentucky. Even though we live in the south-central part of Kentucky, we are classified as being in an Appalachian area due to the high level of poverty in the county. My wife adapted back very quickly, but the first six months I thought I had died and gone to hell. The only store near our home was a Dollar General; we had to drive 45 minutes to even find a Wal-Mart. Luckily though, all of my predispositions for the area and feelings of self-pity for having to live here soon went away. Having acclimated myself to my new home, I soon began to embrace the simplicity of the life in a rural community . . . if your lawn has crabgrass, no one really cares; if you

need help moving something heavy, you actually know your neighbor well enough to ask; and if you have vehicle problems in the parking lot of the Dollar General, in short order you will have a half dozen complete strangers asking if they can help.

So, in closing, we no longer have the 4,000 square foot home in a gated development – we now have a 30 year old ranch on fifteen acres; gone are the Lexus for myself and the Volvo for the wife and kids – she drives a five year old Buick and I drive an older Ford pick-up; and we spent all of \$2,000 for a range/oven, refrigerator, and dishwasher when we moved into our fixer-upper. And, what some of you might find amusing is that we are happier than we have ever been in our twenty-five years of marriage.

So, for those of you who stated that I was hiding behind my post, there you go folks, I'm right out in the open . . . fire away!

But before closing, I had to reply to a couple of the follow-ups to my original post:

To: donna ct, mes444, khloris, reno fan, Steve o, riotbrd, laurel125, Shappy, Wildchild, dchristiansen, and measure twice; thanks for seeing the humor in the chasing of material things.

To: snoop dog; I'd love to write your eulogy some day. My father passed away in November and I wrote and read the eulogy at Dad's funeral. Not a dry eye in the house, though most were from laughter and not sadness.

To: Spanky67; I know what you mean! At times, I still can't believe I am now a Kentuckian myself. One time, I went to pick up my cousin at the airport, he had flown into Louisville for a visit. He was always riding me about the Kentucky thing. I dressed in bib overalls and my gardening boots and picked him up the old Ford pick-up. I had the last laugh there.

To: FlChad; (chuckle, chuckle) I would load up the POS GE in the truck and haul in away, but I can't because it is an Amana. In addition, I know what you mean by getting there someday – we just got access to DSL internet service about three months ago.

To: wheely boy; I'm back I didn't intend to "run like hell after the grenade went in the foxhole" – things just got busy for a few days.

To: akchicago; No appliance envy here – now if this forum was about natural male enhancement, you might have a point about the envy (Ha! Ha!).

Last but not least: jeannieo; thanks for seeing the real intent of the original post – you got it.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [chiefneil](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 11:01

Some people might poke fun at high-end appliances, or be offended by the fact that some people own or aspire to them. But the simple fact is that the high end in any product is what drives improvement across the board.

High end products are desirable because they have features not available on the low end. Yes, I

count appearance as a feature but not the brand name. The desirability drives the high price. Knowledge of the high price drives the overall impression that a product is superior even among those who don't know anything about it. But in the meantime manufacturers at the cheaper end of the scale see the sales success of the high-end and copy the features at a more affordable price point.

Who came out first with burners over 15k? It wasn't GE. But when GE saw the profit margins being made on cooktops with 15k burners, they came out with them at a lower price point. How can that be bad? Who came out first with ABS? It wasn't GM, but now GM cars have available ABS when they saw it was a desirable feature on BMW's. Same thing with refrigerators - SubZero has the dual compressors and this has driven GE to come out with the dual-evaporator refrigerators. The low-end absolutely benefits from the high-end, IMHO.

Now there'll always be some people who are pleased with themselves for spending a lot of money without knowing exactly what they got. But they wouldn't have those expensive products to buy without all the people who knowingly spent the extra money in order to get features not available elsewhere (e.g. all the people on this forum). Once a high-end brand loses its competitive advantage, it's a short trip to either the graveyard or mediocrity. Just look at Maytag, Cadillac and Lincoln if you want examples.

Bushrod clearly doesn't care about the unique features of high-end appliances and that's fine. But his satirical story, while funny, misses the point completely by implying that there is no performance advantage to the high-end appliances, and that's simply not true. What might've been more funny while striking a note of truth would be something along the lines of:

Q: After using my new Wolf for the first time the bottom of my Target pots have a strange clear coat on the bottom, what happened?

A: The incredible heat output from the Wolf turned the bottom carbon layer of your cheap pots to diamonds. Diamonds are a lousy conductor and you won't get a decent stir fry anymore with those pots. Get some decent anodized aluminum pots like Calphalon to avoid this problem.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [reno_fan](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 11:22

Bushrod, you're a gem. If you ever decide to remodel your kitchen, we'd LOOOOOOOOOOVE to have you on the Kitchens forum. Your wit would be welcome there....

And bravo for coming back; it only makes me appreciate the humor in the OP even more.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [sds1234](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 11:23

Oh, all right! I'm glad you checked back in. I'm sorry to hear about your MIL and father. My dad and brother died within 10 months of each other a few years back - our family went the humour

route, too. It's the only way to get through things as far as our family is concerned! I guess that means I forgot to bring my sense of humor when I read your post. I think it's stuck somewhere in the middle of my kitchen remodel stress.....

Welcome to the forum!

Stacey



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Colo_Lady \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 11:47

I have to add something here. The world is filled with anti-this and anti-that, and it is also filled with lots of hatred and violence and poverty and despair. There are lots of people out there that don't care about how hurtful they are, and they go about their day saying and doing things with no regard about how what they say and do may impact another.

We can't, for the most part, do all that much to change the world. But we can do our little part daily by saying and doing things that are NOT hurtful to other people, by being sensitive and considerate.

Granted, words like "low-end" and such can be hurtful and should be avoided.

However, sarcasm, while funny to some, can certainly be hurtful to others. You have to be an imbecile to not know this. I suggest people put their energy into something more useful, like volunteering somewhere where you might brighten someone's day instead of going to the trouble of trying to be funny and taking the chance of angering even one person.

I've been in a position in the past where I had nothing and then later where I had very little. I didn't care for it. That does not make me classist, elitist, or anything like it. Life is too short not to be enjoyed to the fullest.

Bushrod - don't you have better things to do?



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)


- Posted by: [aek15 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 11:57

A while back, I posted a message on this forum about my elderly Mom's difficulty with a Thermador wall oven, what Bushrod would dismissively term a high-end appliance. I received the kindest responses and advice from this forum. The Appliances Forum is full of kind, helpful people who generously give their knowledge and advice to others. Bushrod, your put-down was uncalled for, your smarmy tone was aimed at hurting people's simple enjoyment of this forum. And I ask you, why can't you be OK with people talking about what is interesting to them? So what if they use adjectives like high-end and low-end? Why can't you just let us be?

I am with akchicago's diagnosis. Yup, Bushrod has a bad case of appliance envy. His second posting bears this out even more than his first with its self-aggrandizing, overly wordy, overly long, discussion about himself, himself and himself. Bushrod, we are not here to talk about you. What


interests us are appliances, high-end and low-end and everything in-between.

By the way, I found Bushrod's condemnation of adjectives hilarious. This is a forum for the discussion of appliances, for pete's sake. The use of adjectives, therefore, is unavoidable. It is inappropriate, not to mention unconstitutional, for Bushrod to dictate which adjectives must be censored. Next he'll be wanting us to remove certain adverbs he doesn't like, then nouns, etc.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [Linda1215 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 12:02

I spent a lot of younger years pining for things I couldn't afford and envying those who could, spent the next bunch of years realizing how lucky I was to be living on this miraculous planet, things or not, and have now gotten to a place where I can afford a few nice things for their beauty and function but in no way do I need them to be happy or to impress anyone.(Hey, am I a grownup now???) It would appear that Bushrod came to the same ending although he had the "things" to begin with. All that is truly important in this life and all the keys to happiness are within. (But I still want a Wolf oven!!!!)

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [dchristiansen \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 12:19

chiefneil - I don't think Bushrod misses the point that high-end appliances have features that offer performance advantages. The point that he makes is that these features are often lost on folks who buy these items just BECUASE they're labeled "high-end". The humor stems from the fact that posts frequently tout "high-end" features without even knowing what they mean. I applaud everyone here who buys high-end goods BECAUSE they have features or components that really make a difference in their cooking or cleaning or whatever. But I've read too many posts (as I guess Bushrod has, too) from people who say, "I just love my \$10,000 Excalibur 1400 because it has platinum-lined burner rings" without even knowing WHY the platinum-lined burner rings matter. Clearly I'm making up an illustration here. Too many folks come here and gloat over their recent purchases, but when you drill down a little, you find that all they do is make grilled cheese sandwiches with their new Viking range. That's one of Bushrod's points. Not that "high-end" appliances aren't any better than run-of-the-mill equipment.

 **aeK15**

- Posted by: [dchristiansen \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 12:22

aeK15 - Did you read ALL of the posts on this thread? Bushrod only told us so much about himself BECAUSE SOMEONE ASKED HIM FOR THE INFORMATION. Someone chided him for "throwing the grenade in the foxhole and running" and not sharing enough about himself. So, my

guess is that he added all of the personal information to satisfy the request, not to be self-important.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [aek15 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 12:33

dchristiansen - if people don't know why "platinum-lined" etc. matters, then they're on this forum to find out, so what is wrong with that? It sounds like you are criticizing people for not being as knowledgeable as you. That's unfair. Maybe people buy the "Excalibur", or Viking, or Wolf, because it looks pretty in their kitchen. What's wrong with that? They're entitled to get what they want for the reasons they want, which may have nothing to do with cooking.

And if people are cooking grilled-cheese sandwiches on their Viking, that is their choice, and their money, and if they derive happiness from grilled-cheese sandwiches on their Viking, who are you to look down your nose at that? By the way, I've had some bad soggy mealy grilled cheese sandwiches. I bet making a grilled-cheese sandwich on a high-Btu Viking will get you a delicious sandwich with crisp toasty outsides, and perfectly-melted insides. Not sure why you think the grilled cheese example makes your point. I think you've done just the opposite!



dchristiansen

- Posted by: [aek15 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 12:44

dchristiansen - I agree with you that Bushrod was asked to provide more info about himself. But really, the 15 years of employment history, where he got his degree, the number of employees he had (including "3 full-time engineers"), the victory over his previous employer, and the careful mention of the 4000 s.f. home, and even the models of cars he drove--don't you think that was a bit much? Like I said, self-aggrandizing, and Me, Myself and I.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [spewey \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 12:55

It's the interjection of class warfare into this forum that I find objectionable, as well as the assumption that anyone who purchases a high-end appliance is rich and elitist. Again, how do we know or not if the person who purchased that Viking range is rich and elitist, or simply some person of limited means that chose to scrimp and save by giving up new clothes, new furniture, vacations, etc. in order to buy a nice range because his/her greatest passion was cooking. I can't recall anyone ever claiming they bought a LaCanche range because they were "wealthy and classy."

And as far as snobbery, I don't detect it on this forum. People may well extoll the merits of their \$3,500 range or their \$15 Bodum French press, but I have never seen anyone even imply that because they had that Viking range, they were a better person than someone with a salvaged

Tappan range or a \$3,000 Jura espresso machine.

I have no problem with using the terms "high-end" or "low-end" either, as I find them no more offensive than speaking of high temperatures or low temperatures. Now if someone starts talking about "low-class GE appliances," I'll be the first to agree such and adjective is uncalled for.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [reno_fan](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 13:09

Can we start bumping this off yet?



//RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [reno_fan](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 13:09

Please.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [dchristiansen](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 13:09

aeK15 - My point must not have been clear. Like Bushrod, I tire of folks who come to this forum and brag about their "high-end" appliances. I'm all for sharing information and taking the time to explain why a "high-end" appliance performs better than something else. There's absolutely nothing wrong with coming here seeking information. And I think it's great if folks make grilled cheese sandwiches with their Vikings. It's the snobbery and the unconstructive criticism that we can all do without.

And I don't think it's fair to bash someone for providing more information than you think is necessary. Another poster pressed Bushrod regarding "materialism", so I think he was just trying to give enough background to support his original post. Bushrod had no idea how much or how little personal background was required. I applaud him for having the confidence to share so much about himself on a public board.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [spewey](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 13:33

What is wrong with someone sharing their excitement about their high-end appliances? Many of us are interested in such things. If we aren't interested in a Gaggenau oven, we don't have to read the threads.

I have a kitchen with lots of low-end appliances, but I don't begrudge anyone with better stuff. I'd hoping to get some nicer stuff someday myself, so I welcome reports on ALL manner of appliances.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Steve_o \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 13:44

However, sarcasm, while funny to some, can certainly be hurtful to others. You have to be an imbecile to not know this.

Now *that* was thoughtful and considerate. Supports your argument so well, too. <-- not sarcasm



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [terriks \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:02

"Tell me, are you REALLY excited about your "low-end" appliances that you would check in here everyday to see what's new?? No offense, but I have had "low-end" in the past and never got too excited about them. I think people come here who are excited about the new things out there and a lot of that seems to be on the "high-end". "

"The whole purpose of this forum is to obsess a bit about our appliances"

Just a comment on these 2 quotes. This forum does not belong only to those who get excited about their appliances and the whole purpose of the forum is not to obsess a bit about them. Maybe Spike needs to split the appliances forum into one for the "Appliance Obsessed" and another for those of us who just want to stop in here when we are trying to replace an appliance or put in a new kitchen and want the best appliances for our budget. Even if our budget is "low end"



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [spewey \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:09

Where are we going to talk about "low-end" Miele dishwashers if we can't afford the Platinum model?



RE: Just Stirring the Pot

- Posted by: [Steve_o \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:09

^^^ Ah, that should read just "sarcasm." But, if sarcasm was the point of the person who posted that verbiage, it should have come with a smiley or something to make that point.

I have no problem with anyone buying the appliances of their dreams (well, some if all they're doing is making grilled-cheese sandwiches; that's a terrible waste of finite resources). In a sense, though, those folks are early adopters, and that's great for those of us who cannot or will not spend thousands on any individual appliance, as the improvements *do* tend to trickle down. I applaud that.

I have no problem skipping threads of no interest to me. But so many of them get hijacked. (I've seen threads in which someone asked about \$200 upright vacuums where the conversation quickly jumps to the relative merits of \$600 vacuums from Miele or Sebo; or someone looking for a simple range pretty much is told that it's not a range unless it comes with gas, convection, and high-output burners. That doesn't serve the original posters at all and, in a way, shows a lack of consideration for the OP's situation, if, indeed, we know anything about it.)

And a little perspective would be nice. I was over at the Bob Vila forum checking out prospective refrigerator brands (sorry folks; top freezer snoozer from Sears, Whirlpool, or Frigidaire) and was a little surprised at the number of people who are trying to keep Kenmore Series 80 washers going. I guess I've become too "calibrated" to this site. Meanwhile, over in the Laundry forum, someone posted that having a "reversed" laundry room for their \$2500 washer and dryer was a "disaster." Sure, it may be annoying as anything (I know; I figured out -- too late -- that my LR is "reversed"), but considering the hundreds of people in Florida who would be happy to have their laundry rooms back in any usable shape, or those who would be happy to not have to schlep to a laundromat -- well, I fail to see perspective there.

Yes, Bushrod's satire was a little heavy-handed. But he obviously hit a nerve. Might be something to try to discuss calmly.




RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Mizzou_KX \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:14

Personally I thought the OP was hilarious. Had I written it, I might have taken a somewhat softer path but all in all I thought it was a funny read. Sure, some took offense, but I'm not so sure it was really intended to be offensive.

I once got ripped on another forum, can't remember which, when someone discovered we had 4 1/2 bathrooms for only 3 people. I was accused of environmental endangerment and several other terms which I now forget.

But the person who ripped me knew nothing about the layout of our home, why we had that many baths blah, blah, blah. And really I didn't give a big gray rat's patoot what he thought. Just as I don't care what other appliances another may select. I don't judge anyone on their appliances. I do judge them on how well they cook when they invite me for dinner. :-)

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [dchristiansen \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:14

terriks makes my point a lot more clearly and concisely. Spewey, let me clarify - folks can come here and share excitement all day. I'm all for that. But, when, in the course of bragging (or being enthusiastic), folks put down what others have, or when someone says, "I'm shopping for a new oven and choosing between X and Y", I don't think anyone benefits when a poster chimes in with "What for? Those ovens stink. Why don't you get a _____?" (fill in high-end name of your choice. That's what I think the OP found objectionable. At the very least, it's not helpful or constructive advice, unless, at the same time you can say, "get a _____ (fill in high end name) because it does all that and more for the same price." Now that's constructive advice.

At the end of the day, that's what I think folks are seeking here - constructive advice. Yes, the board serves as a support group and a sounding board and a place to vent, but at its heart, it's a place to find constructive advice.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [Nebz \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:17

I think the original post would have been much funnier if it had talked about the Excalibur 1301 model instead of the 1400. I mean, everyone on this forum knows that the higher BTUs came in with the 1301 and it was the 1400 that ushered in the age of the refractive stainless steel. Come on.

 **Nicely Said**


- Posted by: [dchristiansen \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:18

Well put, Mizzou. Except now I can't invite you over for dinner.

 **After-Burners**


- Posted by: [Mizzou_KX \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:22

But dc - you do have the Gold plated Vik, with the platinum rope moulding and Pratt & Whitney FA-22 Raptor after-burner overdrive burners don't you?. I would guess you could whip up a 7 course dinner for me in about 5 minutes.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**


- Posted by: [spanky67](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:33

Remember folks, arguing on the internet is like winning a race in the special olympics...

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**


- Posted by: [teeboxer](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:38

Spanky, Are you saying we are all challenged? ROFL :o)

 **It gets quiet**

- Posted by: [Mizzou_KX](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:45

I'd rather argue on the internet than with my wife. At least when I log off the internet it gets quiet.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [proudmamato4](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:48

Gosh, I'm getting mid-range appliances and while I do wish I had the financial resources to not worry about what things cost, and while I would have loved to get a Wolf cooktop, I didn't find any offense in either of Bushrod's posts. I thought he was hilarious in the first, and exhibited a lot of deepness and intelligence in the 2nd. He's the kind of person I seek out as a friend, for their witty and often biting commentary. It's what makes the world go round, IMHO. I'm also surprised that there is so much argument and differing of opinion between many of the same people who's opinions and thoughts I have respected since being on this forum. It's amazing how different we all are, and I think we should all relish the differences that make up this intelligent and educational (and yes, often funny) forum.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [gweeta](#) ([My Page](#)) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 14:48

Spanky: LOL!

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [spanky67 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 15:07

Teeboxer, you say potatoes I say...never mind:<)

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [sccc \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 15:16

Now, if I was talking to my friends and going on and on about my "high end" appliances that I am very excited about and excited about learning about them, I might think that as "bragging", but, here on the Appliance Forum where that is where you are SUPPOSE to talk about Appliances, I don't consider that bragging at all.

I have never read one thread where I thought someone was actually "bragging" about their appliances.

Maybe it's because I'm not envious, but I've never thought that here-or I missed that one post!

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [spewey \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 15:24

sccc,

Link below is the thread with the bragging.


Here is a link that might be useful: [Bragging about an appliance](#)

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [sccc \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 16:07


Okay, I still don't get it. Read thru two times, where is the bragging?

Of course, I'm not too educated on coffee presses, grinders, etc. so a lot of it seemed foreign to me. Were you being sarcastic? If so, I apologize.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**


- Posted by: [corgilvr \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 16:15

Me thinks you are all protesting too much to the OP. You struck his/her nerve and vv. Live and let live, enjoy and celebrate differences. How else could anyone feel superior?

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [MickeyJ2 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 16:30

How IS "arguing on the internet like winning a race in Special Olympics"?? My daughter participates in Special Olympics...I don't get the humor.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [spewey \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 16:39

Of course, I'm not too educated on coffee presses, grinders, etc. so a lot of it seemed foreign to me. Were you being sarcastic? If so, I apologize.

Sarcasm? In this thread? LOL.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [chiefneil \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 16:39

I think bragging about a \$15 coffee maker can be excused, heh heh.

My introduction to the "high end" was when I got the list of appliances my builder includes as "standard". I'd never heard of any of the brands before - how funny is that? I'm such a plebe. If bushrod was minimalist by choice, I guess I was minimalist by ignorance. Now I suppose I'm a snob; I must be moving up in the world, LOL.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [hailefynn \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 16:41

I thought Bushrod's post was funny---like Jeff Foxworthy.

When I first found these forums I had never heard of some of these brands (except in Consumers Report)but I enjoyed reading about them--learning what else was available. I have never thought anyone was bragging. I liked reading about their "stuff". Kinda like reading a book of far away places that I would never visit but interesting to know they are there. Since I came here after my kitchen stuff was ordered but not installed I was able to make a couple of changes that I would not have known about otherwise and the cost was the same.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Mizzou_KX \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 17:02

This one soon is coming to an end. It made for some interesting reading and I think a post like this is good from time to time to remind us that there are a lot of different opinions on this forum.

I've seen several threads like this, some of which got MUCH more heated, but in the end I think everyone remained friends and still respected each other. Hope that's the case today too. At least no one leaves with a bloodied lip, broken arm, or permanent scar across the cheek. Happy weekend to all.



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)

- Posted by: [Talley_Sue_NYC \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 17:46

Mizzou, lean a little closer to the screen--I'll give you a permanent scar across the cheek!

kidding!!!!


Now i gotta go check out the bragging thread



RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)


- Posted by: [terriks \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 17:47

I don't actually see anything wrong in bragging a bit. The problem that some people have had is being told that their choices are bad and implying that they are somehow idiots for not wanting brand X over brand Y. Especially when they can't afford brand X. Not everyone is appliance obsessed and some people just come here looking for a good buy in a rather pedestrian appliance.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [corgilvr \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 17:49

The special ed comment is one viewpoint and should not be seen as representative of the views of this forum.


 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [davevt \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 17:55

Hey, it's an appliance forum, a place to find out about things you might buy, or how to deal with things that aren't working so well, not a Talmud study group. It's supposed to be for eccentric folks who care about a burner's btu's. "Low end" is just jargon for inexpensive. Doesn't have to be a judgement of the person who buys it.


If somebody's lame enough to brag about an appliance because it's expensive, or go into a swoon about their microwave, laugh about it.

I found some good advice here when building a kitchen recently, and if someone posts a question related to something I use, I offer an opinion to help them out. Who cares if it's an expensive appliance.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [gweeta \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 18:06

No offense Mickey, but I don't think there was any harm in Spanky's post. Even so, if my "LOL" offended you, I apologize.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [MickeyJ2 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 18:44

Apology accepted, gweeta. I'm sure Spanky thought that was a funny comparison. This was not the first time I read a similar comment (NOT on this forum) but it was the first time I reacted. It's just too close to home for me to get any humor from it.

TG this thread is almost over!


 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [Dimwit \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 19:48

Just one more thing:

Some of those "high end" appliances are very expensive. Oh really? Yep. :) Which naturally means that they're are not widely bought. I would dare say that for some of those more rarified brands GardenWeb and the appliance forum may be the ONLY place that they're talked about and might even be the highest percentage of owners in N.A.

The people raving about their Lacanches e.g. could be the only group that exists. Bravo! Continue and let others bask in your joy. You made a rare find and it's a pleasure to share.

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [bob411 \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 19:51

spanky67 you just won the tool of the year award.

Bob

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [teeboxer \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 19:52

Mickey, Ditto on the apology if you were offended at my reply to spanky. Certainly in no way meant any harm. I'm sure you are very proud of your daughter, as you should be. Good luck.

Is this over yet?

 **RE: Just Stirring the Pot (Not the One on the Range)**

- Posted by: [spewey \(My Page\)](#) on Fri, Jan 7, 05 at 20:09

This insulting thread is officially dead.



Post a Follow-Up

Please Note: This thread has reached the upper limit for the number follow-ups allowed (100). If you would like to continue this discussion, please begin a new thread using the form on the main forum page.

[Return to the Appliances Forum](#)