

Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT Rice Cooker Review

The Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT Micom 3-Cup Rice Cooker and Warmer is a great product for those who like perfectly cooked rice. While the name might be a mouthful to say, it's nothing compared to the mouthful of rice you'll be enjoying once you start using this appliance.

There are many wonderful features this neat little appliance offers and in this review, I'll go over several of the best things about it. I'll also talk about some additional pointers you should take note of before purchasing.

MICOM Technology and How Does It Work

The microchip in this rice cooker automatically calculates and adjusts cooking times and temperatures for different types of rice: everything from the pre-soaking of grains to the steaming of rice is taken care of for you.

The thermal sensor at the bottom of the inner pan is activated according to the cooking option you select, and its "fuzzy logic" sensors ensure that rice will cook perfectly each time. Due to the rice cooker's heating system which provides even heating, rice at the bottom of the pan will not burn because everything cooks at the same pace. (The black and thick inner cooking pan regulates this heat, and it's easily removed for washing.)

The product is also cETLus listed, which means it complies with safety standards in both the USA and Canada.

Types of Rice That Can Be Cooked

The types of rice that this appliance can cook include *white rice, brown rice, sweet rice, mixed rice, sushi, and porridge*. With just a press of a button, you'll get to cook a wide variety of rice. For those days when you barely have enough time to cook, there's a "Quick Cooking" option to help you out.

How to Use This Rice Cooker

Using this appliance really takes the guesswork out of cooking rice. The measuring lines on the inner pan provide precise indications on how much rice to pour in and how much water to use. If you've been cooking rice for some time, you'll know that different types of rice require different amounts of water to cook. The Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT rice cooker will help you produce soft and fragrant rice on a consistent basis.

To make your cooking life easier, the rice cooker has an easy-to-read LCD control panel, an automatic keep warm function, and an extended keep warm and reheating cycle. There's also a delay timer (with two settings) that cooks your rice when you're not around to press the "Start" button. This is perfect for people who need to head out of the house in the morning (i.e. to go to work), but still want to come home in the evening to rice that's warm and not burned.

Sleek Design and Music to the Ears

The Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT rice cooker comes programmed with interchangeable melodies and beep signals to indicate when the cooking cycle has ended.

Cooking Capacity and Storage

The 3-cup capacity is ideal for singles, couples, and small families. According to the manufacturer, the Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT rice cooker's maximum capacity is three 6-ounce cups of raw, short-grain white rice. This means that 18oz of raw, short-grain white rice (when cooked) will yield between 36oz and 54oz of cooked rice.

The appliance comes with a built-in retractable power cord so there's no mess when you're done cooking and want to store the appliance away.

Accessories

The rice cooker comes with a measuring cup, nonstick rice spatula, spatula holder, a spherical inner cooking pan which provides even heating, and a detachable inner lid for easy cleaning.

Dimensions

This 120 volts/450-watt rice cooker measures 11.8 x 9.1 x 7.5 inches and weighs 7 pounds.

Pros

- MICOM technology and fuzzy logic – cooking time and temperatures adjusted automatically
- Cooks a wide variety of rice – sushi, porridge, mixed rice, brown rice, etc.
- cETLus listed – complies with safety standards in both USA and Canada
- Regulated inner heating system ensures rice doesn't burn

Cons

Do take note that the measuring cup that comes with all Zojirushi rice cookers are slightly smaller than normal rice cups found in the USA. The measuring cup that comes with this rice cooker follows Japanese standards – but no worries as precise measuring lines are already provided in the inner pan.

Word on the Street

With more than seven hundred reviews on Amazon at the time of this writing and an average star rating of 4.7 out of 5, you'll have to admit that this rice cooker is indeed a popular appliance. At last count, there were over 600 five-star reviews for the Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT rice cooker, and I think it has stood the test of time with a lot of happy buyers.

Price

There are two different colors available for this model and they come with different prices. While the black Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT looks really sleek, you'll be able to save some money if you choose to purchase the stainless steel color instead. I'd have to say that the stainless steel one doesn't look as pretty as the black one, but all-in-all, it still

offers the exact same functions. It's your call on whether you want to shell out a few extra dollars for a different color.

There is also a special bundle available on Amazon that includes the Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT rice cooker and warmer, a cookbook with 250 rice recipes, silk-wrapped chopsticks, two oil and vinegar bottles, and a bamboo spatula spoon.

Closing Thoughts

The Zojirushi NS-LAC05XT Micom 3-Cup Rice Cooker and Warmer is a smart little rice cooker that will allow you to produce perfect rice each time you use it with minimal fuss. I think for the price you're paying, you're really getting your money's worth because this is a product that's built-to-last and makes cooking rice extremely easy.