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*High-res images, show footage, and interviews available upon request.

WORST COOKS IN AMERICA

Season Three – Contestant Overview

Red Team (Chef Anne Burrell)

Richard Chen (New York): For Richard, knowing how to cook is not an option it's a necessity - his girlfriend of six years stubbornly refuses to marry him unless he learns how to cook. In order to finally get a ring on his girlfriend's finger and start a family, Richard has to ditch cooking from a can and explore tasty, healthy foods.

Robert Tamke (Massapequa Park, N.Y.): Robert, a professional deejay and devoted dad of three, believes that food is purely fuel to keep the body going - for him, taste is an afterthought. Robert fears giving his family food poisoning, so he routinely serves them flavorless overcooked meals. His kids are grossed out by his cooking habits and he needs some serious help.

Sean Bennett (New York): For Sean, the kitchen is a mystery. A New Yorker who orders take-out seven days a week, the only time he enters the kitchen is to find a menu. He loves to throw dinner parties, but has made friends sick with his food. He is usually forced to pick up appetizers at the grocery and pass them off as his own. If Sean ever wants to be taken seriously as "the host with the most," he needs to put his money where his mouth is and really start cooking.

Dorothy Strouhal (Cove, Texas): Dorothy is a make-up artist who is proud of her pink hair, blunt attitude and creative energy, but one thing she can't boast about is her cooking. Her vanilla chicken even put her husband in the hospital with food poisoning. But what really drives her in this competition is her youngest daughter, who has a passion for cooking. Dorothy is looking for the tools to create some mother-daughter bonding time.

Anthony Schiano (Massapequa, N.Y.): Anthony, a mechanical engineer, is constantly frustrated by the creative aspects of cooking. He is embarrassed that he can't host dinners for his Italian family, plus his lack of kitchen skills are creating tension in his marriage. He's hopeful that improving his cooking abilities will create more romance between him and his wife.

Kelli Powers (Valley Village, Calif.): Cooking runs deep in Kelli's family, but unfortunately it stops with her. Kelli's Nana (grandmother) saw great cooking potential in her as a child, but Kelli was more interested in hitting the books than the pots and pans. Now a mother herself, with Nana no longer around to teach her how to serve up love on a plate, Kelli wants to keep her family's cooking traditions alive. She is also determined to stop being the mom whose plate sits untouched at school potlucks.

Melissa Rhodes (Naples, Fla.): Melissa struggled with anorexia for six years and is constantly battling her fear of food and the image reflected in the mirror. Boot camp is the last stop on her road to recovery, and she hopes it will give her the confidence to cook healthy food and put the joy back into eating.

Rachel Margolin (New York): A self-described hipster, Rachel is outgoing and fashionable - but she is *not* a cook. Rachel recently lost a lot of weight, and now must learn to cook healthy dishes in order to maintain her svelte new figure. Rachel believes if she simmers chicken in an expensive bottle of wine, her food will taste good - but that's just not cutting it for her boyfriend or his mother, who both love to cook. Rachel wants to improve her kitchen skills so she can thank all the people who have cooked for her and to redeem her reputation in the eyes of her boyfriend's mother.

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Blue Team (Chef Bobby Flay)

David Shelton (Pittsburg, Texas): This meat and potatoes eatin' Texas boy needs some variety in his diet. His wife has become a vegan to avoid David's cooking and his use of meat tenderizer on everything. They buy separate groceries, cooks separate meals, and never share a meal together. To save his marriage and his own diet, he needs to learn how to cook.

Benjamin Dennis (Frisco, Texas): Benjamin is a stay-at-home dad who needs all the help he can get to feed his family. While his wife works 10-hour days as a nurse, Benjamin is responsible for getting healthy meals on the table for their family. Not only does this "Mr. Mom" have to prepare meals, but recently their son who has autistic tendencies has been prescribed a gluten-free diet. Benjamin needs to ditch his obsession with spicy foods and take-out and learn how to cook for his family's health.

Vinnie Caligiuri (Jenkintown, Pa.): This Philly guy is outgoing and fun-loving, but can't make a Philly steak to save his life. With his three sons growing up and moving out, Vinnie wants to spearhead a tradition of Sunday night dinners - however, when they hear dad is in kitchen the guys run for the hills. Even the dogs won't eat Vinnie's food. His wife has overcome breast cancer, which has really emphasized the importance of family time. Vinnie hopes by learning to cook he'll be able to create the family quality time he is looking for.

Erica Weidner (Long Beach, N.Y.): Erica is the definition of a mess when it comes to the kitchen. She likes to use unusual kitchen tools, such as razor blades and pliers, to help cook her family meals. Expiration dates are seen as suggestions, and as long as it's in her kitchen she has no reservations in using the item. Erica needs major help in order to keep herself safe in the kitchen and her family safe from the final product.

Libby Floyd (Minneapolis): Libby is a southern belle who sells kitchen tools and appliances on live television, but she doesn't actually know how to use the products she sells. Her husband, who has sworn to never eat her food again, finds it ironic that she sells kitchen products for a living but doesn't know how to use any of them. Hopefully, boot camp will teach Libby about the products she is selling to the American public.

Sarina Weeraprajuk (West Covina, Calif.): Wedding photographer Sarina may be cute-as-a-button and have the voice of a five-year-old, but her cooking is far from cute. Sarina's mother and grandmother have been taking care of her for her entire life and that includes cooking all her meals. She also believes her lack of cooking knowledge is keeping her boyfriend of five years from popping the question. Hopefully boot camp will help Sarina become a real adult and get the marriage proposal from her boyfriend that she is hoping for.

Sherrill Moss-Solomon (New York): Sherrill's perception of her cooking skills is a bit skewed – she was actually shocked to hear her husband nominated her for *Worst Cooks in America*. In her eyes, she deserves her own cooking show to teach others. She likes to be creative with her recipes, but the outcome is never good. Her husband says he often feels like the guinea pig for her new creations and has started to avoid coming home for dinner. This delusional diva needs some professional training to get in check.

Tiffany Michelle (Los Angeles): Tiffany is tired of being the outcast in her family of exceptional cooks. Her mother is an acclaimed chef and while her siblings all learned to cook from her, youngest child Tiffany was usually kicked out of the kitchen and left to set the table. Tiffany is a professional poker player and thrives in the face competition. She's won over \$1 million in her career so far and hopes to have just as much success in the kitchen.

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