



Press Contact: Lauren Sklar
Phone: 646-336-3745; E-mail: lsklar@foodnetwork.com

WORST COOKS IN AMERICA

Episode Descriptions (2017)

Premiering Sunday, January 1st at 9pm (all times ET/PT) - SEASON PREMIERE

"A Decade of Dish-Asters"

The new recruits enter boot camp with dreams of becoming great chefs. However, their dreams soon become nightmares when they see incriminating photos from their culinary failures mounted on their stations. They must cook their signature dishes, so mentors Anne Burrell and Rachael Ray can assess their skills in the kitchen before diving head first into their main dish challenge: cooking shrimp and live lobster! The recruits with the least successful dishes on each team are sent home.

Premiering Sunday, January 8th at 9pm

"Frozen to Fabulous"

Anne and Rachael help the recruits break out of their shell, starting with the most important meal of the day: breakfast. The teams get cracking in a game that gets their hands messy and shows how much they know about different egg dishes. The mentors bring the day full circle in the main dish challenge by teaching the recruits how to ditch frozen microwave meals and create a home-cooked dinner that will have their friends and family coming back for more.

Premiering Sunday, January 15th at 9pm

"All Aboard!"

Anne and Rachael teach the recruits all about flavor, first with a skill drill that puts their tongues and taste buds to the test with the new game "Lick It to Win It." For the main dish challenge, the recruits put their newly-learned flavor combination skills to work for a culinary trip around the world where each recruit makes a different roulade inspired by a basket of ingredients that represent the cuisine of a foreign country.

Premiering Sunday, January 22nd at 9pm

"Something's Fishy"

Anne and Rachael are replaced with two surprise culinary giants who will mentor the recruits through today's skill drill, making unconventional pizzas, and they're not "kidding" around. For their main dish challenge, the recruits have to get their hands dirty and face their fishy fears by learning to filet and prepare a fish dinner. The two recruits with the worst dishes will have to abandon the boot camp ship, while the top two will be named catch of the day.

Premiering Sunday, January 29th at 9pm

"All Fun and Game Day"

Competition is in the air as the recruits enter boot camp and see it has been transformed into a game day arena. They must put their culinary knowledge to the test with everyone's favorite game, *Family Food*, and only one team can be named the winner. For the main dish challenge, the recruits have to cook for a crowd and impress their guests with the ultimate game day sandwich and appetizer meal. The bottom two are sent home.

Premiering Sunday, February 5th at 10pm *Special Time*

Anne and Rachael bring in a special guest mentor to teach the recruits how to make a decadent chocolate dessert that sets the mood for Valentine's Day. Their desserts are judged in a blind taste test and the winning recruit receives a special advantage for the main dish challenge, which is cooking a romantic meal to wow their loved ones. Whose heart will be broken and who will be lucky enough to be hit by Cupid's arrow?

Premiering Sunday, February 12th at 9pm

"Facing Your Fears"

For this week's skill drill, the recruits must face the foods they fear by creating a dish that utilizes their least favorite ingredient, as well as an obscure ingredient they don't use in everyday cooking. Anne and Rachael strive to expand their recruits' culinary horizons to help them in the main dish challenge where they have to spatchcock a Cornish game hen and put their own flavorful twist on a special side dish. Then two recruits let their fears get the best of them and the rest step one foot closer to the finale.

Premiering Sunday, February 19th at 9pm

“Mardis Gras Mad”

Boot camp has been transformed into one of America's greatest culinary cities, New Orleans, and the recruits learn how to tackle the cuisine's melting pot of flavors and techniques. For the skill drill, the recruits must work as a team to fill in the missing words on a recipe that they then have to execute. For the main dish challenge, the recruits have to individually replicate their mentor's New Orleans-inspired dishes. The top recruits will earn a spot in the semi-finals next week.

Premiering Sunday, February 26th at 9pm

“The Reason You're Here”

The final four recruits step into their mentor's shoes and direct Anne and Rachael to make a dish in “Remote Control Chef,” This is their chance to show how well they have learned the cooking skills and techniques throughout the past 9 weeks. For the Main Dish challenge, Anne and Rachael bring in VIP guests that hit very close to home and they will be the key to deciding who will move onto the finale in the chance of winning \$25,000 and who will leave boot camp for good.

Premiering Sunday, March 5th at 9pm ET/PT

“A Fine Finale”

The final two recruits face their final challenge: prepare a three-course, restaurant quality meal for a panel of culinary experts. Anne and Rachael help coach their recruits, but ultimately this is their final chance to show how much they have improved since week one. The culinary experts pick a winner based on a blind tasting and the winning recruit walks away with \$25,000.

#