Lack of access to food cooking and storage facilities can push vulnerable households into food insecurity. The obligation to buy ready-to-eat foods, which are typically more expensive than ingredients, can strain some household budgets to the point that they cut down on the amount or quality of food that they eat. Lack of food storage, or insecure storage such as facilities shared with other households, often occur in temporary housing situations, such as bed-and-breakfast accommodation. We investigated the minimum food storage and equipment needed to produce healthy family meals. The equipment required depends on the precise cooking methods available. There are some items that are basic requirements and storage needs are common to all cooking types.

### 2. Derivation and uses

- **Derivation**
  - This standard was developed iteratively. MJB was staying in temporary University accommodation for a month and experienced first hand some of the challenges faced by inadequate cooking equipment and large distances to full-service supermarkets.
  - The list of equipment required was noted over a period of 2 weeks and storage for one person measured.
  - This initial list was trialled with a series of healthy recipes, both standard recipes and those intended for limited food budgets such as supplied by food banks and Jack Monroe.
  - The preparation needs under the different cooking modes was explored and the list was adjusted as required.
  - The list was circulated to nutritionists at the Department of Nutrition, Dietetics and Food, School of Clinical Sciences and their comments accommodated.
  - The list was then circulated within Warwickshire Food for Health Group and Feeding Coventry Sciences and their comments accommodated.

- **Uses**
  - This minimum equipment standard can be used to ensure that households are not driven into food insecurity by lack of equipment
  - This minimum equipment standard can be used for ensuring adequate emergency accommodation, University or other corporate guest accommodation and holiday lets.
  - This minimum equipment standard can be used to inform donations to charity or local authority.
  - This minimum equipment standard can be used by food banks to support those in crisis.

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