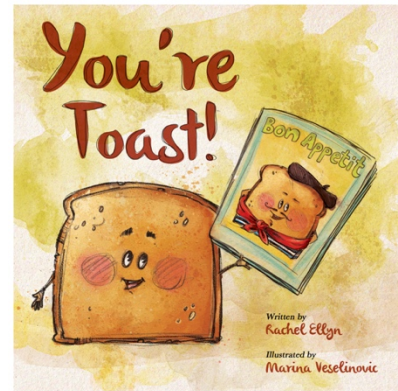


The History of Toast

I'll bet you have a toaster in your kitchen and you enjoy toast with maybe jam or peanut butter and jelly. But did you know the first toaster was invented in 1893 by Alan MacMasters in Scotland?



It only toasted one side of the bread, so you had to flip the hot bread with your fingers.

OUCH!

Oh, and it didn't have a timer, so you had to time your toast, or it would be scorched. **YUCK!**

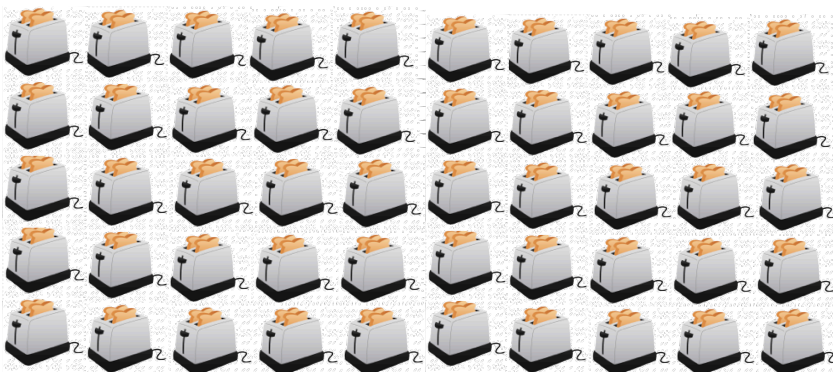
The practice of toasting bread started way, way, way back in time, whenever fire and bread first met. But, it became popular in the Roman Empire, and the word "toast" actually comes from the Latin word "tostum," which means "to burn or scorch." In the Roman Empire, bread was toasted by laying the slices on a stone in front of the fire.

Before the development of the electric toaster, hand-sliced bread was toasted on a long metal fork like we toast marshmallows or cook hotdogs on when we're camping. Then wire grates were designed, like in ones in your oven. These were placed over a fire or on a gas stove. In fact, advertisements for simple utensils for toasting bread over open flames appeared in early 19th century newspapers.

The modern electric timed pop-up toaster was invented by Charles Strite in 1919. Today, the toaster is considered the most common household appliance in the U.S. That's CRAZY, since the toaster has only been in existence in the U.S. for a little over 100 years.

FUN FACT:

In 1930 A toaster cost \$10.00 and a Ford Tudor automobile cost \$500.00



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