Home > Saladmaster Customer Testimonial: Erma Lee's Story

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From Erma Lee M., Saladmaster owner of 52 years

When I purchased my pans, I was just out of school and teaching 1st grade. The salesman told me to purchase something that would last - and he was right. I put a down-payment on the starter set and bought stemware as well. This turned out to be insurance against never having to buy pots and pans ever again - it was an investment. And it was a way to establish credit.

My Saladmaster pans had a great guarantee and it's nice to know there is a company standing behind it. My mother had the Saladmaster Machine and did lot of entertaining. As a preacher's wife, it was so great to take to the church. That fact gave me more comfort in knowing the name of the company, so I was more comfortable making the investment. My daughter now has a few pieces as well.

I love that my pans still look pretty; they are so beautiful that I want to display them, so I have them hanging on a pan rack. I also really like the clicker on the lid and, for an older person, that's a great reminder. And the lid fits into the pan for storage, which I really like too.

I think the one thing I like the best is the way they clean up - in essence they are non-stick because I never have trouble with getting anything off. And these pots and pans go through the dishwasher great.

These pans have always held up. I have so rarely cooked in anything else [other than Saladmaster] so I took my pots and pans for granted. But for a time I was using my daughter-in-law's pans and I didn't like them; they just didn't cook well. In my Saladmaster pans, food heats faster and with less heat than her flimsy ones; they just didn't feel sturdy. When you're cooking for your family, you are reminded three times a day that mom or grandma love you. I have been very happy with my cookware. The only thing over all these years that has had to be replaced was a handle.

What I can say is that [when it's time to go] other than my wedding rings, my Saladmaster pans are the only thing I know my children will fight over. And my daughter has already claimed the china I purchased from Saladmaster.

And because my cookware lasts forever, I'm saving a landfill from being filled up with pots and pans - that also makes it my token to 'green.'

Thank you, Erma Lee, for your kind Saladmaster review. We are glad your Saladmaster cookware has served you well all of these years!

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