



Pop, Pop, Poof!

There's nothin' like the smell of freshly popped popcorn. Mmmm. On the other hand, There's nothing worse than the nasal-passage-clearing smell of burned microwave popcorn.

Here's what the "popper" had to say when he sent the pictures:

"The label on the bag says to never pop unattended but I always figured that was lawyer-speak since I've never heard of a problem, and besides, I have a routine. I put the bag in, press the 2 minute button and go to the shower after my lunch hour workout. When I emerged from the locker room, the burnt-popcorn smell was pervasive. The room was filled with smoke to the extent that I was surprised that the fire alarm had not gone off. According to two of the top 10 FAQs on popcorn maker's website, this outcome is predicable and results from a hole in the bag, the bag being placed upside down or a problem in the folds of the bag sticking. Any of the three conditions result in the bag not expanding properly, which leaves all the microwave energy to concentrate in a small area of grease and popcorn. They call this scorching, most others would call it fire. Sure, there was little chance of burning the building down but there was a real chance of inconveniencing 220 people by sending them out into the frigid air while the fire alarm was reset."

Well put. Folks, learn from this and never leave anything unattended while you're cooking ... whether it's a microwave or a conventional oven.