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Grill Friends Expands Silicone Brush Line with First-Ever Silicone BBQ Mop and Everyday Basting Brush

Elizabeth Karmel is excited to introduce her expanded family of basting brushes. The Grill Friends™ Super Silicone Angled BBQ Basting Brush is joined by the first-ever, Grill Friends™ Super Silicone Angled BBQ Mop and the Grill Friends™ Everyday Basting Brush.

“The success of the award-winning Super Silicone Angled BBQ Basting Brush Grill Friends™ created an opportunity to expand my line of indoor and outdoor basting brushes. When *Good Housekeeping* magazine choose the BBQ brush as the “ultimate turkey baster” I knew that the time was right to introduce two more silicone brushes for indoor and outdoor cooking jobs,” says Elizabeth Karmel, author of *Taming the Flame: Secrets to Hot and Quick Grilling and Low and Slow BBQ* and the designer behind the Grill Friends line of outdoor living products.

The combination of the angled handles and the silicone bristles means the brushes are comfortable to use and you won't singe or ruin the bristles if you accidentally brush the hot cooking grates. “The red and black brushes not only look good at the grill or the stove, but they are the hardest working brushes on the market,” says Karmel.

The angled handle keeps your hands away from the heat, eliminates those wrist contortions that give your hand a cramp and allows you reach all those little crevices, especially chicken and ribs that are being barbecued in a rack.

The new **BBQ Mop** sports 167 black silicone bristles on a fire-red angled handle. This mop is the first innovation in mops since BBQers have been using mops! Karmel has been working on this mop design for years, and when she mentioned it to BBQ Buddy, restaurateur and Three-Time Memphis-in-May Grand Champion, Mike Mills, he couldn't wait to try it. And the reasons are simple: “Mops are typically made out of cotton string and are impossible to clean after the first use. Cotton mops also absorb so

-more-

Page 2/Silicone BBQ Mop and Everyday Basting Brush

much sauce and you end up *feeding* the mop before you can sauce your meat,” explains Karmel. This mop will be great for backyard cooks, championship BBQers and BBQ restaurants predicts Mills. Suggested retail for the Grill Friends Super Silicone BBQ Basting Mop is \$11.99.

For small jobs, Karmel designed the *Everyday Basting Brush*, a miniature version of the original Super Silicone Angled BBQ Basting Brush. The genesis of the Everyday Brush came from customers. So many people asked for a scaled-down version of the original brush for kitchen prep jobs that Elizabeth designed a smaller angled silicone brush. The brush is designed to replace standard pastry brushes and since it is heat-resistant and dishwasher safe and won't melt or shed bristles. It is a brush you can count on for years of use. The Everyday Brush also has a hook that fits most jars or bowls and doubles as a counter rest to minimize messy kitchen counters. Suggested retail for the Grill Friends Super Silicone Everyday Basting Brush \$8.99.

The handles of both brushes are made from heat-resistant virgin nylon and have a cushy silicone insert in the handle that fits like a glove. But the benefits don't stop there. The silicone- bristle brush top is heat-proof up to 500°F of indirect heat, dishwasher-safe and the best of all, the heavy-duty bristles won't burn or “shed” in the food as it is being sauced. The brush heads coordinate with the handles to make a very slick “brotherhood” of brushes. The original BBQ Basting Brush was purchased for its design excellence (both for its appearance and its functionality) by the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. The brush heads come off for easy cleaning which prevents a build-up of sticky sauces around the base of the brush, so it comes-out “like new” every time. Another plus is that the silicone bristles don't stain and won't retain strong food odors like traditional basting brushes.

The brushes are available nationally at kitchen, gourmet and housewares stores and online at www.BBQPROSHOP.com and www.laprimashops.com.

The Grill Friends™ Super Silicone Angled BBQ Mop and the Grill Friends™



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Page 2/Silicone BBQ Mop and Everyday Basting Brush

Everyday Basting Brush are distributed by Harold Import Co. along with the rest of the Grill Friends line of ceramic serving pieces and outdoor cooking tools including the award-winning Super Silicone Angled BBQ Brush, Turkey Brining Bag™ with Complete *How-To* Guide, the GrillMat™; the Grill Friends™ Turkey Sitter and Grill Friends™ Chicken Sitter, black porcelain vertical roasters for making “Beer-Can” Style turkey and chicken without the can, and the SuperGrater™. Harold Import Co. also distributes Karmel’s cookbook, *Taming the Flame: Secrets for Hot-and-Quick Grilling and Low-and-Slow BBQ*, published by John Wiley & Sons in May 2005.

Look for three additional Grill Friends products this Spring; the Steakhouse Hamburger Press, the Super Silicone Blending Fork and the new line of Perfect-Fit Aprons. All the new products were introduced at the January Atlanta Gift Show and the Winter Fancy Food Show for the spring grilling season. For more information, contact Elizabeth Karmel at 312-951-8394 or e-mail her at cckarmel@msn.com.

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Note from Elizabeth: *To me Grilling is about Fun and Function. My line of Grill Friends™ outdoor cooking tools, aprons and ceramic serving pieces combine fun, contemporary colors and features with functional designs. After 15 years of grilling for a living, I’ve learned a thing or two about what does and doesn’t work. When I designed these pieces, I made sure that each item in my line would work as well around the grill for the first-time griller as it does for me. The ceramics were all designed to help you entertain with ease. Each piece is both Functional and Fun, because when it doesn’t function; you don’t have fun!*