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 **Vitamix**
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Vitamix TNC – New Container!

The Vitamix TNC has a new container that is made of an all-new material developed recently by Eastman called Tritan™. Tritan is a copolyester, which is as strong and durable as polycarbonate, yet was formulated without BPA. The container also features improved sound damping during certain operations and improved chemical resistance with regards to cleaning compounds. There is also a new no-drip spout on the new container. Complementing the new container are functional upgrades and exciting designer touches. The new easy-to-remove lid with “flaps” makes for smoother operation and a new twist-off lid plug means that it’s easier—and safer—to add ingredients for recipes like chunky soups. What’s great is that the plug (also made of Tritan) is conveniently marked with measurements.

Q: Why did Vita-Mix decide to replace the polycarbonate container?

A: The Vitamix product development team has always kept up-to-date on alternative container materials and discovered that Eastman Chemical Company was developing a new material that happened to be BPA-free. Being aware of a growing controversy regarding the BPA in polycarbonate, Vitamix felt that the new Tritan™ was a wise choice for its toughness, increased sound damping and resistance to cracking in addition to the fact that it contained no BPA.

Q: Is there any real danger in using the Vitamix polycarbonate container?

A: There is not. Polycarbonate is 100% food safe and certified and tested by NSF and other agencies around the world. Polycarbonate is absolutely safe up to 212 degrees Fahrenheit and food prepared according to Vitamix instructions would never reach anywhere near that level of heat. Much of the “internet buzz” on BPA concerns heating food in polycarbonate container in a microwave or storing food in polycarbonate containers, which again, does not relate to Vita-Mix processing in any way. Vita-Mix does not recommend storing processed food in the container for any amount of time. The BPA controversy arose several years ago when two independent scientists microwaved baby formula in a polycarbonate baby bottle for 30 minutes on high. As you might imagine, the bottle actually melted and a small amount of BPA was found in the formula when tested. These extreme conditions are definitely not normal household conditions and this test was not authorized or recognized by the American Plastics Association.

Q: Why is it that glass was not chosen for the Vitamix container? Glass is BPA-free.

A: Due to the high speed of the blades and the powerful motor, glass is an unsafe option for the Vitamix TNC. If a spoon, or other utensil, were to be accidentally dropped in or left in the container during processing, the glass container could shatter or explode and cause serious injury.

Q: The new container is made of Eastman Tritan copolyester. What exactly is a copolyester?

A: There is a lot of chemistry involved in the explanation, but basically, here’s how it works: Polyesters are made by stringing together a chain of esters using multifunctional molecules (acids or esters). The polyester most people are familiar with is called PET, and some copolyesters are based on PET but tailored to yield a range of properties for specific applications. Eastman’s new Tritan™ copolyester is produced in a similar way, but it is not based on PET chemistry, but rather a new monomer that gives it higher heat resistance, excellent impact resistance and increased resistance to cleaning agents.