

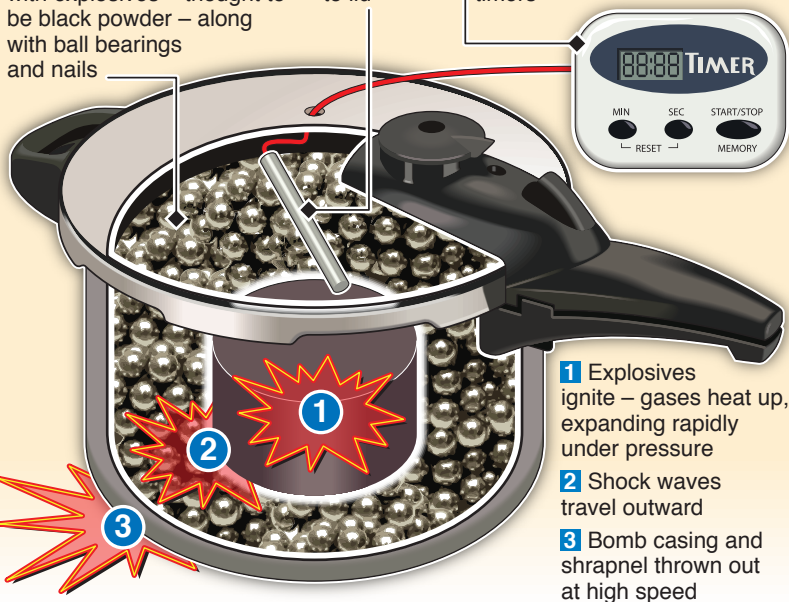
Pressure cooker bombs factbox

The use of a pressure cooker as an improvised explosive device (IED) has been touted by al-Qaeda for use by its operatives around the world. It helps increase pressure when using so-called “low explosives” like black gunpowder, rather than more powerful high explosives

Boston bombs built from 6-litre pressure cooker fitted with explosives – thought to be black powder – along with ball bearings and nails

Detonator attached to lid

Blasts believed to be triggered using “kitchen-type” egg timers



- 1** Explosives ignite – gases heat up, expanding rapidly under pressure
- 2** Shock waves travel outward
- 3** Bomb casing and shrapnel thrown out at high speed

PRESSURE COOKER BOMB ATTACKS

2006: Seven pressure-cooker bombs kill 209 people in multiple train attacks in Mumbai, India

Mar 2010: Militants attack Christian aid group in Pakistan with remotely detonated pressure cooker bomb. Six people killed

May: One of three devices used in failed Times Square bomb plot is pressure cooker IED

Dec: Pressure cooker bomb in Stockholm fails to detonate

Jul 2011: U.S. Army private arrested near Fort Hood, Texas. Pressure cooker and al-Qaeda manual – “Make a bomb in the kitchen of your Mom” – found in his hotel room

Oct 2012: French police find bomb-making materials for IED in underground car park near Paris

Feb 2013: Pressure cooker IED explodes in restaurant in northern Afghanistan, killing five people

Apr 15: Twin blasts at Boston Marathon believed to be pressure cooker IEDs