

Cafe Gourmet

Philips | Model No. HD 5560
Portugal, 1988

This trailblazing machine had its own optimized method of making coffee. It's simple: it heated the water to 93° Celsius (199° Fahrenheit), which was accepted as the ideal temperature to make the perfect brew. The tall design is atypical for the category—home coffee makers normally stand on kitchen counters below cabinets.

The Cafe Gourmet circumvented this issue through some clever marketing: the machine was portable, and even if users unplugged it and moved it to the living room, the coffee would stay warm. By breaking these rules, it afforded its designer Lou Beeren greater freedom and resulted in an iF Design Award in 1991, among others.

