

1 Test with an oven thermometer

Place a standalone oven thermometer on the centre rack. Set oven to 350 F, wait 20 minutes, then read the thermometer. A difference of more than 25 F means your oven needs attention.

2 Check the door gasket first

Run your hand around the door edge while the oven is hot. Feel heat escaping? The rubber gasket is failing. A replacement gasket costs \$20-\$60 and is a 15-minute DIY job.

3 Try the built-in calibration menu

Most modern ovens let you offset the setpoint by +/- 35 F. Check your owner's manual under 'oven calibration' or press and hold the Bake button for 5 seconds to enter adjustment mode.

4 Inspect the heating elements

For electric ovens: look for visible blistering, cracks, or burn spots on the bake element (bottom) or broil element (top). A damaged element needs replacement before the oven is safe to use.

5 Watch for error codes

A flashing F or E code on the display points to a sensor probe or control board fault. Note the exact code and call a technician - diagnosis takes 15-30 minutes.

6 Call a certified technician

If the above steps don't resolve the issue, or if your oven uses gas, do not attempt further repairs yourself. Max Appliance Repair serves Barrie and Simcoe County with same-day appointments available.