The Royal G7 was introduced in the early 1970's as the first gas-fired production Rayburn. Designed for continuous burning on Town Gas (earlier models), Natural Gas and LPG (Propane), it was available in left hand and right hand oven versions, until about 1988, when R.H. ovens became standard.

It had a single gas control on the side of the appliance, which altered the gas flow rate to the burner, and hence the temperature in the oven and on the hotplate. It was intended as a continually burning appliance, in order to give a low level of heat to the room and enable a moderate/high cooking temperature to be reached in a reasonable time. No electrical supply is required.

Domestic hot water was provided by the cast iron boiler located at the rear of the combustion chamber. With a maximum output of 2.6 kW/hr (9000 BTU/Hr), it could be fitted to either a direct or indirect open vented system, with a storage cylinder of 135 litres (30 gallon) capacity. There was no independent control of the water temperature, the amount of hot water produced being dependent on the use of the cooking facility. A vitreous enamel, glass-lined boiler was available for soft water areas.

The boiler was not optional on this appliance. To avoid approvals infringement it could not be removed to enable the cooker to be used as a non boiler model.

The earlier version had a mercury vapour flame failure device, which was operated by a small horizontal permanent pilot flame, which also acted as an ignition source for the main 'L' shaped burner. Flame failure protection only acted on the main burner.
Later models (from serial no. R0007549 - circa 1991) have a thermo-electric flame failure valve, with the valve operator (red button) accessible inside the burner door. This also has a permanent pilot, which heats a thermocouple, thus providing an ignition source for the 'L' shaped burner. Flame failure protection is for both the main burner and pilot.

From about 1995 the Royal G7 was re-designated as the 209 G (natural gas) or 209L (LPG), subsequently becoming the 208G/L. It was then available in a wider choice of colours, with chrome lids and eventually acquiring the 'slam-catch' type doors. A Combustion Discharge Safety Device was added to attract the necessary CE approvals.

During 1999 the insulating lids were again restyled to incorporate 'piano' hinges, in line with other models.

Production of the 208G & L ceased in 2012