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# PESACH GUIDE 5781

RABBI ARI ZAHTZ

Including information on Chametz,  
Kashering, FAQs, and more!

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# A WORD FROM RABBI ARI ZAHTZ



## Dearest Friends,

As we approach Pesach I would like to share this guide with you to try and simplify the process of preparing for Pesach. Whether you are making Pesach for the first time (or second time after being hastily thrown into the task last year), or whether you are a seasoned professional, this short guide should address many of the common questions that arise. Additionally, I tried to delineate what needs to be done and perhaps even more importantly, what need not be done. Pesach preparation should not be mistaken for an opportunity for spring cleaning that unduly creates stress and is time consuming at a time when time is of the essence.

Additionally, this year, Erev Pesach falls on Shabbos and creates its own challenges. But, every challenge is an opportunity and perhaps, as my wife, Michal, has told me, having a Shabbos precede the Sedarim will hopefully offer the opportunity to approach the sedarim more rested than in a typical year. As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns via email ([rabbizahtz@bnaiyeshurun.org](mailto:rabbizahtz@bnaiyeshurun.org)), or via phone call or text (917-584-2823) or to Rabbi Weinberger via email ([rabiweinberger@bnaiyeshurun.org](mailto:rabiweinberger@bnaiyeshurun.org)) or via phone call or text (201-341-1040). We are happy to help in any way.

It has undoubtedly been a very difficult year. Our lives have been turned upside down in so

many ways. As we approach a second Pesach during this pandemic, we must energize ourselves and turn to Hashem in tefillah. Let's ask, beg, and implore him that just as he redeemed us from the hand of פרעה in מצרים and took us מאפילה לאור גדול, from darkness to a great light, he should redeem us from this terrible plague. We pray that He bring us from this dark period and usher in a period of great light and a return not just to normalcy, but to the ideal world in which His glory is revealed with the גאולה שלמה במהרה בימינו אמן.

With warmest wishes for a safe חג כשר ושמח,

*Rabbi  
Ari Zahtz*

# PESACH CLEANING MADE EASY

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**What must be cleaned and what should not be cleaned? The search for chametz is not spring cleaning and conflating the two can lead to unnecessary Pre Yom Tov stress.**

Aside from the prohibition against eating chametz and their mixtures on pesach there is a separate Torah prohibition of possessing chametz over Pesach. There is therefore an obligation to check for, remove, and destroy all chametz in one's home (car or office) before Pesach. There is no requirement for cleaning unless directly related to the removal of chametz.

The Torah prohibition of possessing chametz concerns only what is, minimally, the size of an olive (k'zayis). Chametz that is less than this size is of no Biblical concern (this should not be confused with the prohibition of eating chametz, which has no minimum shiur). However, some rule that one must still remove such small crumbs out of Rabbinical concern. More importantly, all opinions agree that small crumbs less than an olive-size that are also slightly inedible (because they have been sullied by being on the ground or sprayed with cleaner or the like) are of no concern at all.

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**1**

If during the year chametz is not brought into a place, that place does not have to be cleaned out or checked for chametz.

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**2**

Any article which is not used on Pesach does not need to be checked for chametz, provided it is put away properly and the chametz in it is sold.

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**3**

Large pieces of furniture do not need to be moved to get to chametz behind them.

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**4**

Old clothing and dust are NOT chametz!

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**5**

If the cabinet is not going to be used on Pesach, it should be locked or sealed in a manner that will remind you not to use it on Pesach and sell it with the chametz.

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**6**

The following items need not be washed for Pesach: Windows, walls, carpets, ceilings, doors, and doorknobs.

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**7**

There is no obligation to get rid of small chametz crumbs that no one would ever pick up to eat- it is considered garbage.

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**8**

When cleaning for Pesach the focus should be to remove small pieces of edible chametz and large pieces of inedible chametz.

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## MECHIRAS CHAMETZ

It is prohibited to possess chametz on Pesach and, from such chametz, one is not allowed to derive any benefit. Also, chametz which was in the possession of a Jew on Pesach may not be used even after Pesach. Therefore, any chametz which cannot be consumed or disposed of before Pesach, must be sold to a non-Jew. Some have the minhag not to sell pure chametz (chametz gamur), such as bread or cereal in which case it must be disposed of before Pesach. All other products and chametz utensils should be stored in a closet or other cabinet and locked or sealed off with tape.

## YOUR CHAMETZ ON PESACH

The Rabbi should be told the place where the chametz is closeted and the approximate value of the goods so that a valid sale to the non-Jew may take place. The legal act of designation of the Rabbi as agent for the sale of chametz, is best performed in a personal meeting, engaging in the act of kinyan suddar from the Rabbi to yourself, as a visible manifestation of contractual intent and in which the suddar serves as consideration for the contract. In addition to being available after minyanim, as Pesach draws closer, there will also be availability to schedule outdoor time slots for the sale of chametz. For those who are not able to avail themselves of either of those options please be in touch with me directly.



## WHEN EREV PESACH FALLS ON SHABBAT

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*Erev Pesach falls on Shabbat this year (we have not had this since 2008, although we will have it again soon in 2025) and presents us with some interesting challenges. Most critically, when and how do we destroy chametz and how do we eat our Shabbat meals if we can't eat matzah on Erev Pesach and can only eat chametz for the first few hours of the day. Below we'll outline many of the issues.*

### TAANIS BECHORIM

Taanis bechorim is moved up to Thursday, March 25th, and as is the case each year, one can absolve himself of the obligation to fast by participating in a siyum. More details of siyum times and virtual options for those who cannot attend in person will follow closer to Pesach.

### BEDIKAS CHAMETZ

As bedikas chametz cannot take place on the night of Erev Pesach (Friday night), bedikas chametz will be performed Thursday night, March 25th, **after 7:55pm** with a bracha and kol chamira recited.

### BIUR CHAMETZ

Although Friday is not really Erev Pesach, in certain respects we act as if it really is Erev Pesach. This is done in order to avoid confusion in subsequent years when Erev Pesach does not fall on Shabbat. Thus, any chametz which will not be consumed before Pesach is burned or sold no later than the time that would have been the deadline had this day truly been Erev Pesach, this year that is at **11:59am**. However, kol chamira is NOT recited on Friday morning as we will still possess chametz for Shabbat after that time.

### MISCELLANEOUS HALACHOS FOR FRIDAY EREV EREV PESACH

The paragraphs usually omitted from shacharis on Erev Pesach are recited on Friday.

The special Erev Pesach restrictions concerning taking a haircut and doing laundry after midday do not apply on Friday.



## EATING THE SHABBAT MEAL

We are challenged with the house and food being fully kosher for Pesach and yet needing to eat something other than matzah (which can not be consumed on Erev Pesach) for hamotzi in honor of our seudas Shabbat. Thus, the following is recommended.

**The Friday night and Shabbat morning meals** should include challah carefully stored in disposable containers away from all Pesach food. The challos should be entirely consumed; any crumbs remaining (especially Shabbat morning) should be completely disposed, if necessary, by flushing them down the toilet.

The entire Shabbat meal except for hamotzi should be eaten with Pesach utensils, or even simpler using disposable. Nothing that is kosher l'Pesach should be brought to the table until after the challah has been eaten and crumbs removed from the table. Practically, it is recommended to use small rolls over large challos and to eat the rolls carefully over tissues/napkins, so that any remaining crumbs can be wrapped in the tissues and flushed, or shaken out of the napkins and flushed.

There is another option available if one is very anxious about having any chametz in the home or if there is a fear of chametz spread by young children. Although ashkenazim do not eat egg matzah (matzah ashira) on Pesach (except for the elderly or infirm), it can be used as a substitute for challah in extenuating circumstances. Even egg matzah must be completed by the sof zman achilas chametz. Why is this not a violation of the minhag not to eat matzah on Erev Pesach? There is a dispute if that applies to egg matzah since it can't be used on the leil haseder. For that reason it should only be used if challah is not an option.

As chametz cannot be consumed after **10:56am** on Shabbat morning, and the Shabbat morning meal must include bread, all minyanim in shul will begin at 7:00am. Davening will thus conclude at an early enough hour to enable everyone to eat the morning meal with challah and dispose of all chametz before the deadline. On Shabbat morning, Kol Chamira is recited before **11:59am**, at the time beyond which chametz can no longer be in our possession. Of course, no burning takes place on Shabbat, but the text of bittul must be recited.

**Se'uda Shlishis**, the third meal of Shabbat: How can we solve that problem on this Shabbat afternoon, at which time we cannot consume either bread or matzah? For that matter we cannot even eat foods baked with matzah therefore we can't even make a mezonos.

One should eat "other foods" during the afternoon meal, such as fish, fruits or shehakol cakes (cakes that do not contain matzah meal or cake meal) after mincha gedola (1:33pm). However, if one eats these foods after the beginning of the tenth hour (4:08pm), one should be especially careful not to eat too much thereby diminishing his or her appetite for the Seder.

Boiled items containing matzah meal (e.g., kneidlach) may be eaten if they are consumed before 4:08pm. Baked matzah meal products, including cakes, may not be eaten anytime during the day.

For the more ambitious, the morning meal can be split into two. Recite hamotzi and eat the challah. Recite birchas hamazon and take a walk outside for about 15 minutes. Then, wash for seuda shlishis and recite hamotzi. Be careful to finish the bread and dispose of the crumbs by the times indicated above. Even if one splits the morning meal, one must still eat something in the afternoon as described above to fulfill the mitzvah of seuda shlishis in the normal prescribed time.

This is the practice in our home and certainly makes for an exciting Erev Pesach that the whole family will be sure to remember for years to come!



# ITEMS THAT DO NOT NEED A PESACH HECHSHER

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## **Aluminum Foil Products**

## **Baking Soda**

## **Charcoal Briquettes Unflavored**

## **Cocoa**

Any domestically produced 100% pure cocoa, with no additives, may be used. For example Hershey's Cocoa powder may be used without special Pesach certification (this does not include "special dark")

## **Coffee (Year Long Certification)**

Folgers- Regular & Decaf- Unflavored Instant  
Nescafe Tasters Choice- Regular Unflavored Instant including House Blend & French Roast.

## **Coffee Nespresso Capsules**

Do NOT require a special certification for Pesach. This product-line includes Nespresso Classic (NC) Range, Nespresso Professional (NP) Range and Nespresso Vertuo

## **Dishwashing Soap**

## **Eggs**

Should be purchased before Pesach. Since chicken feed may contain chametz, it is customary not to eat eggs that were laid on Pesach.

## **Floor Cleaner**

## **Frozen Fruit**

Unsweetened additive-free, without syrup, citric acid, ascorbic acid, Vitamin C.

## **Frozen Juices**

100% pure white grapefruit or orange frozen juices without sweeteners, additives, preservatives or enrichments (e.g. calcium) added

## **Ice**

All plain-water bagged ice may be used.

## **Lemon Juice**

(with year round certification)

ReaLemon Brand Lemon Juice and ReaLime Juice

## **Milk**

In areas where Kosher for Pesach milk is not available, milk should be purchased BEFORE Pesach.

## **Nuts**

Raw, whether they are slivered, whole or chopped nuts (e.g., almonds, pine nuts, walnuts, etc.) without preservatives or other additives, such as BHT or BHA in corn oil, are approved for Pesach. If label states that it is processed in a plant that processes kitniyos or chametz, then it requires a reliable KFP certification (peanuts are considered to be kitniyos). Whole and half pecans are the same as above, but not pieces.

## **Olive oil**

All extra virgin olive oil is Kosher for Pesach even if it only bears a year round certification.

## **Oven Cleaner**

## **Paper Napkins**

## **Plastic Bags**

## **Crockpot Liners**

## **Plastic Plates**

## **Plastic Wrap**



## ITEMS THAT DO NOT NEED A PESACH HECHSHER

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### **Raisins**

OU- and Star-K-certified raisins are kosher year round, including on Pesach, without special certification as long as they do not contain oil in their ingredients.

### **Salt**

Non-iodized salt does not require special Pesach certification, nor does sea salt. Regular, iodized table salt does require KLP certification.

### **Seltzer**

Any unflavored seltzer that does not list any citrates as an ingredient may be used.

### **Silver Polish**

### **Sponges**

### **Sugar**

All white, granulated sugar is acceptable for Pesach without special certification. Powdered sugar and brown sugar, on the other hand, do require a Pesach hechsher. (During the rest of the year, brown sugar and powdered sugar – like white sugar – can be purchased without a hechsher.)

### **Tea Bags**

All unflavored, regular and green teas are acceptable for Pesach without special supervision.

### **Water**

All water is acceptable for Pesach if free of carbonation, flavors, vitamins, or other sensitive ingredients (like caffeine and calcium citrate). However, the following ingredients are not an issue for Pesach: calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, magnesium oxide, magnesium sulfate, potassium bicarbonate, potassium chloride, and sodium chloride. Please note that coconut water does need a special Pesach certification.

## TAKING MEDICATIONS ON PESACH

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### PILL MEDICATIONS

ALL pill medication (with or without chametz) that one swallows is permitted without special hashgacha. Vitamins and food supplements do not necessarily fall into this category and should only be used if chametz free unless they are medically necessary.

### VITAMINS AND SUPPLEMENTS

Many vitamin and food supplement products are devoid of actual chametz due to gluten allergen concerns. Therefore, one should carefully check product ingredients, and vitamin/supplements that do not contain chametz, or only contain kitniyos, may be consumed if they are taken for a specific health need and/or nutritional deficiency.

### LIQUID AND CHEWABLES THAT CONTAIN CHAMETZ

Liquid and chewable medications that may contain chametz should only be used in the case of illness and after the possibility of substituting a swallowable pill has been exhausted. However, do not discontinue use of liquid, chewable or any other medicine without consulting with your doctor and rabbi.

### LIQUID AND CHEWABLES THAT CONTAIN KITNIYOS

Liquid and chewable medications that contain kitniyos may be consumed by someone who is ill. An otherwise healthy person, who would like to consume a liquid or chewable medicine to relieve a minor discomfort, should only do so if the product is known to be free of kitniyos.

## POPULAR CHAMETZ-FREE MEDICATIONS

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Brief List of Several Popular Chametz Free (may contain kitniyos) Medications:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ✓ <b>Aleve- Caplets</b>                                    | ✓ <b>Motrin - Children's Suspension (All flavors)</b>    |
| ✓ <b>Alka Seltzer- Original Tablets</b>                    | ✓ <b>Motrin- Infant Drops (All flavors)</b>              |
| ✓ <b>Benadryl Children's Allergy- Liquid (All flavors)</b> | ✓ <b>Pepto Bismol- Original Liquid</b>                   |
| ✓ <b>Benadryl Children's Chewables</b>                     | ✓ <b>Tylenol- Infant's Oral Suspension (All Flavors)</b> |
| ✓ <b>Miralax Powder</b>                                    | ✓ <b>Tylenol- Children's Suspension (All Flavors)</b>    |

## COSMETICS & TOILETRIES

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1

All varieties of body soap, cosmetics (including lipstick), shampoo and stick deodorants (and other similar inedible products) are permitted for use on Pesach regardless of its ingredients (no lists are necessary).

2

Some varieties of colognes, perfumes, hairspray and shaving lotions contain denatured alcohol and therefore should not be used if they contain a chametz alcohol such as ethyl alcohol. If manufactured in the United States it is permitted even if it contains denatured alcohol.

3

Toothpastes and mouthwash should only be used if known to be chametz free. For example, all Colgate toothpastes and Scope mouthwashes are acceptable.



## DOG FOOD

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### **Alpo Chop House (canned)**

Filet Mignon and Bacon Flavors cooked in Savory Juices, Prime Rib Flavor cooked in Savory Juices, Roasted Chicken and Top Sirloin Flavors cooked in Savory Juices, T-Bone and Ribeye Steak Flavors cooked in Savory Juices

### **Blue Freedom Grain Free (canned)**

Chicken Recipe (Small Breed, Puppies), Grillers (Hearty Lamb, Hearty Chicken, Hearty Turkey)

### **Blue Wilderness Grain Free (canned)**

Duck & Chicken Grill, Salmon & Chicken Grill, Beef & Chicken Grill, Chicken & Trout Grill

### **Evangers**

When bearing cRc Pesach approval

### **Kirkland (Costco) Natures' Domain (dry)**

Salmon Meal and Sweet Potato, Turkey Meal and Sweet Potato, Organic Chicken & Pea

### **Prescription Diet**

a/d, d/d, h/d, s/d, u/d, r/d

### **Wellness Core Grain Free (dry)**

Ocean, Original, Reduced Fat, Small Breed Original, Senior

### **Wellness Core Grain Free (canned)**

Beef & Venison & Lamb, Puppy, Turkey & Chicken Liver & Turkey Liver, Whitefish & Salmon & Herring

### **Wellness Core Grain Free Ninety Five Percent (canned)**

Beef with Carrots, Chicken with Broccoli, Turkey with Spinach

## FISH FOOD

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### **Fish food and vacation blocks often contain chametz.**

The following are acceptable: Zoo Med Laboratories Giant Plankton Banquet Block Feeder and Tetra Tropical Slow Release Feeders (Tetra Weekend 5 days, and Tetra Vacation 14 days). Goldfish and tropical fish can be given the following items, provided they do not contain fillers: tubular worms, frozen brine shrimp, and freeze dried worms.



## KASHERING TERMS

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### **LIBUN GAMUR** BURNING

Utensils used directly in the fire, must be kashered by placing them into fire. This process has the effect of burning away any absorbed taste. To qualify as a complete libun, metal must be heated until it glows. A self-clean cycle of an oven (approx. 850° F) also qualifies as libun. This kashering may be done even if it was not left idle for 24 hours.

### **LIBUN KAL** LIGHT BURNING

In certain cases, libun kal is sufficient. This can be accomplished by heating in an oven at 550° F for one hour. This method of kashering can be used in place of hagalah. It is also used when the need for libun is only an added stringency.

### **HAGALAH** BOILING

Utensils that were used to cook liquid can be kashered with hagalah (boiling in water). To prepare the utensil for hagalah, the utensil must be thoroughly cleaned. Only utensils that can be scrubbed clean should be kashered. Items that have narrow cracks, crevices, deep scratches or other areas that cannot be cleaned, cannot be kashered for Pesach. After cleaning, the utensils should then be left idle for 24 hours. To kasher, every part of the utensil must make contact with boiling water. This process can be done in parts. When the utensil is removed from the boiling water, it should be rinsed off in cold water. These utensils should be kashered in a Kosher for Pesach pot. If one isn't available, it may be kashered in a clean non-Pesach pot that was not used for 24 hours.

### **IRUY KLI RISHON** POUR BOILING WATER

If the utensil only came in contact with hot liquid being poured on it (iruy), it can be kashered in the same manner. Here too, the utensil must be cleaned first and sit idle for 24 hours.

## SILVERWARE, POTS & OTHER SMALL ITEMS

### Hagalah (Boiling in Water)

Utensils should be immersed one at a time into a pot of boiling water that is on the fire. Water should be allowed to return to a boil before the next item is placed in the pot. If a Pesach pot isn't available, the pot can be non-Pesach, provided it is clean and has not been used for 24 hours. Larger items can be submerged in the water one part at a time. Utensils should then be rinsed in cold water.

## KEURIG COFFEE MAKER

**Should not be kashered for Pesach.**

## HOT WATER URN, WATER COOLER

### Iruy (pouring boiling water)

Electric hot water urns used only for hot water during the year, and not used with or washed with chametz (including cleaned with a vinegar solution) may be used on Pesach without special cleaning.

Water Cooler: Pour boiling water over tap, and replace water bottle.

## GAS OR ELECTRIC STOVETOP

### Libun (burning) & Cover

The stovetop surface and grates should be cleaned well and not used for 24 hours. Put a clean blech, a tea kettle or pot (at least partially filled with some liquid) on top of the burners, and turn the fire on high. This will spread the intense heat directly over the area that needs to be kashered. On gas stoves, leave the fire on for 15 minutes. The area between the burners should be covered with aluminum foil.

## GLASS STOVETOP

May be kashered by cleaning it, not using it for 24 hours, and then leaving all four burners on the highest setting for half an hour. The area between the burners should be covered with foil (after kashering) and do not put pots or food directly onto that part of the glass.

\*The entire glasstop surface should not be covered as this might cause it to overheat and crack.



## SELF CLEAN OVENS

### Libun (burning)

Remove any visible food. Complete self-cleaning cycle with racks in place. This kashering may be done even if it was not left idle for 24 hours.

## NON-SELF-CLEANING OVENS

### Libun Kal (burning)

Clean all surfaces (walls, floor, doors and racks) thoroughly with a caustic cleanser (e.g. Easy Off). Black discoloration that is flush with the metal need not be removed. Oven should not be used for 24 hours. Place racks in the oven and turn the oven to broil for 60 minutes. A broiler pan that comes in direct contact with food should not be used.

## WARMING DRAWERS

The simplest way to heat the warming drawer to the required temperature is to light one can of the type of canned fuel used to heat chafing dishes (e.g. Sterno cans) in the warming drawer. Make sure to leave the door of the warming drawer slightly ajar, so that there will be enough air to allow for combustion. One standard (2-3 hour) ethanol or methanol cans should be adequate to heat an average sized warming drawer to libun kal temperatures for about 2 hours.

## CERAMIC SINKS

Cannot be kashered and must be covered. The sink should be covered with layers of contact paper or foil; it is best to purchase a sink insert.

## STAINLESS STEEL SINK

### Irui (pouring boiling water)

Remove drain. [It is recommended that the drain be replaced.].

The sink should not be used with hot water for 24 hours. The sink should be completely clean and dry.

## THE SINK FAUCET (INCLUDING INSTANT HOT)

### Irui (pouring boiling water)



## MICROWAVES

### Hagalah (Boiling in Water)

The microwave must be cleaned well and not used for 24 hours. Glass turntable should be removed and replaced with new kosher for Pesach surface. A glass cup should be filled with water and boiled in the microwave for 10 minutes. The cup should be refilled and moved to another spot and the process repeated for 10 more minutes. The food should be covered when using the microwave on Pesach.

## STAINLESS STEEL, GRANITE, COMPOSITE STONE COUNTERTOP

### Iruy (pouring boiling water) or Covering

These counters can be kashered after sitting idle for 24 hours via the pouring of boiling water. A professional grade steamer may be used for this purpose if it will create hot condensation on the surface. Alternatively, they may be covered. Formica is better to cover than to kasher.

## CERAMIC TILE COUNTERTOPS

**Cannot be kashered & must be covered**

## DISHWASHERS

Those with an enamel or porcelain interior surface may not be kashered for Pesach. Those with a stainless steel interior may be kashered after 24 hours of non-use by running the dishwasher through one wash cycle. The racks must be special for Pesach.

## REFRIGERATORS

Remove each shelf and bin, and clean thoroughly. Only places where hot chametz is placed or could have spilled need be covered, and, even then, make sure the covering is perforated to allow for the circulation of cold air in the refrigerator. If hot chametz is never placed there, no cover is necessary.

## FREEZERS

As nothing hot is normally placed here, simply clean thoroughly. No covering is necessary.



## PANTRY SHELVES

Generally no hot chametz is placed here, so these areas must be cleaned well but need not be covered. All chametz should be removed. However, because it is often very difficult to clean the area well (e.g., flour spilled there during the year), many have the minhag to cover the shelves.

## GRILL

### Libun Gamur/Libun Kal

The grates of a barbeque grill must be kashered with libun gamur, and the simplest way to do this by sandwiching the grill between layers of charcoal. Place a layer of charcoal on a cement surface, put the grate on top of the charcoal, and cover the gate with another layer of charcoal. Light all of the charcoal and allow it to burn for an hour. This will kasher the grates. Alternatively, you can purchase separate grates for Pesach. The rest of the grill can be kashered with libun kal, which can be accomplished relatively easily, as follows: If the grill comes with a cover, light the grill with coals or gas, close the cover, and allow it to burn on its highest setting (or filled with a considerable amount of coal) for an hour. As with all items being kashered, it is crucial that the grill be cleaned thoroughly of all food residue, which is often a particular difficulty in a barbeque grill.

## BABY HIGH CHAIR

### Covered

The tray should be covered with contact paper. The seat, legs and bars should be wiped down with a soapy rag.

## TABLECLOTHS, KITCHEN GLOVES, APRONS & OTHER FABRIC ITEMS

### Wash

Fabric items can be kashered by washing them with detergent in a washing machine set on "hot." Items should be checked to make sure no pieces of food remain attached.

## KITCHEN ITEMS THAT CANNOT BE KASHERED FOR PESACH:

✘ Bread Machine

✘ Crockpot

✘ China

✘ Corningware

✘ George Foreman Grill

✘ Glass

✘ Instant Pots / Air Fryers

✘ Knives with plastic handles

✘ Mixers

✘ Pasta Makers

✘ Plastic Utensils

✘ Pyrex

✘ Sandwich Makers

✘ Stoneware

✘ Synthetic Rubber

✘ Teflon

✘ Toaster/Toaster Ovens

✘ Waffle Irons

1

**Does water need to be KFP?**

All water is Kosher for Pesach as long as it is not flavored and does not contain added vitamins.

2

**If food is labeled gluten free does that mean I can eat it on Pesach?**

NO! It is possible that gluten free oats can become chametz or that the vessels used to process the gluten free products were used for chametz and still qualify as gluten free according to the FDA.

3

**Does olive oil need to be KFP?**

Extra virgin olive oil does not need additional certification for Pesach.

4

**What about coconut oil?**

According to the OU, all virgin coconut oils bearing a regular OU are acceptable on Pesach. Similarly virgin avocado oil is acceptable when bearing the regular OU symbol.

5

**Can I kasher my BBQ?**

Not easily. See instructions inside the booklet.

6

**Can Quinoa be used on Pesach?**

According to most poskim and kashrus agencies quinoa is not considered kitniyos and may be used even by ashkenazim on Pesach. Because at times it can be grown or processed together with chametz grains, it needs special certification for Pesach.

7

**Can I serve kitniyos to my pet?**

Yes. The minhag ashkenaz pertaining to kitniyos only pertains to eating it, not owning it or benefitting from it



8

**Is my medicine kosher for pesach?**

Any unflavored pill medication that is swallowed can be taken on Pesach. Even if the medication needs to be chewed it is allowed.

9

**Do raw nuts need to be KFP?**

Raw nuts, whether they are slivered, whole or chopped nuts (e.g., almonds, pine nuts, walnuts, etc.) without preservatives or other additives, such as BHT or BHA, are acceptable without special Pesach certification. Whole and half pecans also do not require a special Pesach certification.

10

**Can Tums be used on Pesach?**

Tums contain kitniyos and may possibly have chametz components in their flavorings. As such, it should only be used by someone who is ill and has no other substitute.

11

**Do toothpaste and mouthwash need to be KFP?**

Since they are used orally they should be chametz free. All Aim and Colgate toothpastes can be used on Pesach. All Colgate and Scope mouthwash may be used and Listerine Cool Mint Antiseptic, Total Care Zero, Ultra Clean Antiseptic and Zero Alcohol are acceptable.

12

**Can I use a steamer or an iron to kasher my countertops?**

As a general rule one cannot kasher with steam. Accordingly, a steamer can only be used for kashering if two conditions are met – firstly, the steam must condense to the point that the whole area being kashered is covered with water, and secondly, that water must be at approximately the boiling point (212°F). Many steamers do not meet these criteria and therefore cannot be used for kashering (the Wagner spraytech 915e would qualify as a steamer that can be used). Similarly, the only way to kasher with an iron would be to put hot water onto the counter and then the iron could be used to bring that water to a boil. This is not an easy process and one must be careful not to burn or crack the stone of the countertop.

13

**I am lactose intolerant. What are my options for Pesach?**

Lactaid non-chewable pills are acceptable for Pesach (chewable should not be used). Lactaid milk is also acceptable but must be purchased before Pesach begins.

14

**Can a metal electric hotplate be kashered?**

Yes, one can kasher a hotplate. To kasher, clean the hot plate and do not use for 24 hours. Then, leave it on the highest setting for half an hour. It then must be covered with foil before use. Glass and ceramic hotplates cannot be kashered.



# Wishing you a חג כשר ושמח

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