

Pesach Preparations In The Home for 5784 / 2024

Foods During Pesach

1. FORBIDDEN FOR USE

The following foods are forbidden during Pesach: leavened bread, cakes, biscuits and crackers, cereal, pasta, wheat, barley, oat, rye, spelt, rice and all liquids which contain ingredients or flavors made from grain alcohol. Many other items fall under the category of forbidden foods on Pesach. If you are unsure, then it is always better to ask the rabbi.

2. PERMITTED FOODS

A. FOODS THAT MAY NEED A "KOSHER L'PESACH" LABEL

The following foods may be purchased *before the 13th of Nisan (before Sunday, April 21, 2024) without a Kosher L'Pesach label, but require one if purchased during Pesach*: salt (non-iodized) and milk.

B. REQUIRING CERTIFICATION FOR PESACH USE BY RABBINICAL AUTHORITY

All other food items, such as matzot, matzah flour, Pesach noodles, candies, baked products, canned or bottled fruit juices, beverages, dairy products, jams, cheese, jellies, relishes, dried fruits, salad oils, shortenings, vinegar, canned and processed foods, tuna fish, wines and liquors, are permitted if they are certified by a competent rabbinical authority as fit for Pesach use whether bought *before or during Pesach*. In other words, all processed foods require rabbinical supervision.

Labels and tags marked "Kosher L'Pesach" are of no value unless they bear a rabbinical signature.

3. DISHES AND UTENSILS

Only dishes and utensils especially reserved for Pesach should be used with the following exceptions:

A. The silverware, knives, forks and spoons made wholly of metal, if used during the year, may be used on Pesach under the following conditions. The silverware must first be cleaned, a waiting period of 24 hours must take place and then the items are immersed completely in a pot of boiling water. After immersion, the items should be rinsed in cold water.

B. Metal pots and pans made wholly of metal, though used during the year, may be used on Pesach if the

steps outlined in A above are followed or they may be filled with water brought to a rolling boil and then a heated stone is dropped into the pot such that the boiling water overflows to cover the sides of the pot. A safer alternative might be to let the water boil over the sides of the pot.

C. Glassware may be kashered by soaking it in warm water for 72 hours, changing the water every 24 hours.

D. Kashering of utensils should be completed before the 13th of Nisan (before Sunday, April 21, 2024).

E. Utensils for baking used during the year **cannot be used** during Pesach.

F. Earthenware, enamelware, porcelain, stoneware and ceramic utensils used during the year **cannot be used** for Pesach.

4. OVEN, MICROWAVE, STOVE, DISHWASHER, REFRIGERATOR, CABINETS, SINKS AND COUNTERS

A. The easiest way to clean an oven is to use "Easy Off," or some other oven cleaner. The sides of the oven, racks and broiling pans should be carefully cleaned. Afterward, the oven can be kashered by turning it on to the highest temperature for an hour. Self-cleaning ovens can be kashered by running the self-cleaning cycle. The racks and broiler pans should be kashered by placing them in the oven during the heating process. Microwave ovens should be thoroughly cleaned and an 8-ounce cup of water should be heated in it until at least 6 of the 8 ounces of the water is gone, which should take about 10 minutes on high power.

B. The grates of the stove should be cleaned thoroughly and then replaced on the burner which should then be turned on to full heat until the elements turn red and glow. The outside of the oven (door, sides) and the hood need only be cleaned thoroughly. In a self-cleaning oven, the self-cleaning also kashers the top of the stove.

C. A "stainless steel" dishwasher needs to be cleaned as thoroughly as possible including the inside area around the drainage and filters. A full cycle with detergent (with racks in) should be run while the dishwasher is empty. A hot brick or rock must be placed in the dishwasher to boost the temperature to

boiling. After 24 hours of not being used the dishwasher is again run empty with detergent (with metal racks in) and set on the highest heat for the purpose of *kashering*. If the sides of the dishwasher are made of enamel or porcelain, the dishwasher cannot be *kashered* for Pesach. Plastic lined dishwashers and racks CANNOT be *koshered*.

D. The refrigerator needs only be thoroughly cleaned with warm water and detergent. The racks do not need to be covered.

E. Cabinets which will be used during Pesach should be wiped down with a damp cloth. Chametz which is to be sold should be placed in a cabinet that is labeled and taped shut.

F. The metal sinks should be well-cleaned. Let 24 hours pass during which only cold water is used. The sinks are then kashered by pouring boiling water down the sides and in the sink. Remember to carefully clean the drain. If you have a porcelain sink, clean it and use a new sink basin.

G. The counters should be cleaned and then covered with either foil or contact paper.

Bedikat Chametz

On Sunday, April 21, 2024, immediately after nightfall, we begin the search for Chametz. Our aim is to insure that even after the house has been cleaned, no leaven is left behind. The procedure is as follows: A candle is lit, the blessing ". . . *al bi-ur chametz*" is recited (the blessing is found at the beginning of most Haggadot), and the house is searched by the light of the candle. Since by this time, the house is normally so clean that the chances of finding any leaven are minimal, it has been customary to place a number of pieces of bread in places throughout the house where they can easily be found. The pieces are gathered -- traditionally they are swept with a feather and a spoon into a bag.

After the search for leaven, one recites a special formula for nullifying any Chametz inadvertently forgotten. This formula can be found at the beginning of most Haggadot.

Siyyum Bechorim ***Monday, April 22, 7:15 AM***

Jewish tradition mandates that the first-born son must fast on the day before Pesach in gratitude for having been spared from the tenth plague in which the first-born males of Egypt were killed. In order to release himself from the obligation to fast, the firstborn (the *bechor*) may participate in a *Siyyum* (the completion of a Talmudic tractate) that morning.

By joining us for this *Siyyum*, all firstborn children will be free to eat.

Bi-ur Chametz

The leaven found during the search for Chametz is destroyed by burning. If for some reason, one cannot burn his/her Chametz, one should flush it down the toilet. After disposing of the Chametz, one recites a second nullification formula which can be found in most Haggadot.

Chametz will be burned at the Freehold Jewish Center on Monday, April 22, 2024 between 8 a.m. & 9 a.m. Stop by to drop off your Chametz and say hello before the holiday.

If you have any questions, please contact Rabbi Langer directly at mitzvah18@comcast.net.