

Note: Lactaid drops may contain Chometz. Therefore, they should be added to milk before Pesach to have the Chometz annulled in sixty times the amount of milk, applesauce etc.

CONSUMPTION OF CHOMETZ

Since the prohibition of eating Chometz on Pesach applies not only to Chometz itself, but to any derivatives of Chometz or to any product that may contain Chometz, one should make certain that all food products that are bought for Pesach should have a certification by a reliable Kashrus organization or Orthodox Rabbi.

HANA'AH (BENEFIT) FROM CHOMETZ

During Pesach, we may not derive any sort of benefit from Chometz. Therefore, Chometz may not be sold or used, even in business transactions or as pet food. Even some cosmetics must be Chometz-free. Generally, there is no problem with the following products if they are not organic in nature, and do not contain any grain by - products: Acne Aid, Mineral Oil, Baby Cream, Baby Oil, Eye Liner, Mascara, Rouge (Powder), Nail Polish, Talcum Powder, Stick Powder Deodorant, and Vaseline.

MECHIRAS (SELLING OF) CHOMETZ

"Mechiras Chometz" is the sale of Jewish-owned Chometz to a non-Jew before Pesach. One must sell Chometz which is in their regular home, vacation home, office etc. If one cannot sell their Chometz through their local Rabbi, numerous sites on-line will facilitate this transaction. This transfer of Chometz to a non-Jew is a legal and binding sale, complete with contract. This sale is transacted through a Rabbi, who acts as a legal agent to sell the Jew's Chometz to a non-Jew. The Rabbi enters into an agreement with the non-Jew for the sale of this Chometz. The Chometz that has been sold must be placed in an area which is completely sealed off, and must remain there throughout the holiday of Pesach. One must be careful to inform the Rabbi if they intend to be in a different time zone for Pesach. They do not want to have their Chometz bought back if it is still Pesach where they are (i.e. overseas, etc.) If one leaves home within 30 days of Pesach and will not return before Pesach, they should either check for Chometz the night before they leave or appoint someone to check for them on the regular night of B'dikah Chometz. If the checking is done before the b'dikah night one does not say a Bracha. A person can sell all the Chometz in their home before leaving and check only one room for Chometz. Regardless, a person needs to say the Bittul (annulment) of Chometz at its regular time of Erev Pesach.

The Following Are Considered Chometz Gamur: Beer, Bread, Cake & Cookies, Cereal with primary ingredient of wheat, oats or barley, Cream of Wheat,

Couscous, Farfel, Licorice (when wheat is in the ingredients), Oatmeal (Instant, Regular, Baby Cereal), Pasta, Pretzels, Rolled Oats, Wheat Gluten/Wheat Protein, Yeast (Brewer's).

CHOMETZ SHE'AVAR ALAV HAPESACH (BUYING CHOMETZ AFTER PESACH)

Due to the severity of the "Issur" (prohibition) of Chometz, Chazal reinforced the sale of Chometz with a fine. This fine was levied on any Jews who kept Chometz in their possession or ownership during Pesach. This is called "Chometz She'avar Alav HaPesach." Jewish law requires that if a Jew owns Chometz on Pesach, no Jew is allowed to eat that food, even after Pesach. Therefore, we are also prohibited from buying in stores which are Jewish owned, if they have not sold their Chometz. It is important to note that although we may not buy Chometz from such Jewish owned stores that did not sell their Chometz, we may purchase non-Chometz food products from these stores. Only Chometz Gamur has this restriction.

Some common products that one may assume are Chometz, but are actually not, and therefore may be purchased in a store that did not sell their Chometz are the following: baker's yeast, cosmetics, dry cake mixes, kitniyos, glue containing Chometz, ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard, pickles, medicine containing Chometz, maltodextrin, maltose, malt flavoring, food coloring, flour, extracts, raw pearled barley, vanilla and vitamins/medicine containing Chometz.

Rav Moshe Feinstein ZT"L, in his sefer "Igros Moshe", states that if a Jew sold his Chometz for Pesach, and then kept his store open during Pesach and continued to sell items of Chometz, one is nevertheless allowed to buy from that store after Pesach.

A JEW MAY BUY FROM THE FOLLOWING STORES IMMEDIATELY AFTER PESACH:

7-Eleven	K-Mart
99 Cent Store	Nuts & More
Albertsons,	Petco, Petsmart
Bev/Mo	Ralphs/Kroger
Big Lots	Rite Aid
Bristol Farms	Sadaf
Coffee Bean	Safeway
Costco	Sam's Club
CVS	Smart & Final, Smith's
Dollar Tree	Target (California)
Erewhon	Trader Joe's
Food4Less	Vons/Pavillions
Fresh & Easy	Walgreens
Gelson's	Walmart
Jetro/Restaurant Depot	Wine & Liquor Depot
Jon's	Whole Foods

and all reliably Kosher certified stores are fine to shop in for Chometz after Pesach.

Reliably certified Kosher stores all sell their Chometz before Pesach.

Note: Rabbi Elmaliach, the Rabbi in charge of Kashrus at Ben Gurion airport, reports that the stores at area D7 in the airport are clear of Chometz She'avar Olav Hapesach. There is a restaurant in the Ben Gurion airport called "Aroma Espresso Bar", under Chug Chosom Sofer Hashgacha and it is fine to eat there after Pesach. The other stores in other areas of the airport had their Chometz sold but were open on Pesach and continued to sell Chometz during Pesach. Some poskim allow purchases from such establishments after Pesach, while some do not.

(See AKO whiskey alert in the "alerts" section)

KASHERING

(MAKING UTENSILS KOSHER)

Utensils that are used during the year for Chometz may not be used to prepare food for Pesach unless they are properly Kasherred.

Cloth tablecloths (not plastic) and towels used year round should be washed thoroughly and may then be used for Pesach.

Surfaces upon which only cold Chometz has been placed during the year, such as refrigerators and pantry shelves, should be thoroughly washed and rinsed to prepare them for Pesach use. Surfaces which are used for hot Chometz during the year, in addition, whenever possible must be Kasherred by pouring hot water on them. Surfaces that cannot be Kasherred (such as formica and ceramic tiles etc.) should first be cleaned thoroughly and then covered with non absorbent material (i.e. contact paper, cardboard or multiple layers of aluminum foil).

THE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF KASHERING:

Libbun Gomur - torching or making the metal glow.

Libun Kal - heating the metal until it can burn paper on the other side.

Hagolo - dipping in boiling water.

Eruy Roschim - pouring boiling water. (Note: steamers usually do not work)

The general rule is that we undo as we did. If something uses straight dry heat (i.e. bbq) we need to torch it or use self clean in an oven which is the same. Soup pots are used with liquid so they are kasherred with liquid in boiling water etc.

TO KASHER:

Electric range, first scour it thoroughly. Then, turn

it on to the highest temperature setting for 15 minutes, or until it gets red hot.

Enamel glazed stove tops should be covered during Pesach.

Gas grates should be put in the oven for Kasherred or torched.

Glass-top stoves can be Kasherred in the area of the burners. They should be turned to high for 15 minutes. The areas in between cannot be Kasherred. Some find it practical to change the entire glass top for Pesach.

A **non self-cleaning oven** should be cleaned with a special solution, such as "Easy Off" and not used for 24 hours. After this time, it should be turned on to the maximum setting for one hour. This will Kasher the oven, but not the broiler.

The **broiler pan** cannot be Kasherred, therefore, it is usually not used for Pesach. If the broiler pan is replaced, the broiler can be Kasherred in a similar fashion as the oven. If one desires to Kasher it, "Libbun" (glowing hot) is required (i.e. by using a torch).

A **self cleaning oven** needs only to go through one self-clean cycle. It can be on the shortest cycle of your self-cleaning oven.

Many **microwave ovens** (those whose walls do not exceed 120 degrees during cooking) without browning elements or convection can be Kasherred by first cleaning them and not using them for 24 hours, and then putting a new glass tray, or cardboard on the bottom. Afterwards, a cup or bowl of water should be boiled inside.

A **barbecue** must be Kasherred with "Libun Gamur" which includes torching any surface that food comes in contact with, in addition to cleaning and burning out the rest of the barbecue. In addition, the coals or lava rock should be replaced. Often, it is more practical to purchase a new one for Pesach.

A **stainless steel sink** is Kasherred after it has first been cleaned, and then kept free from hot water usage for 24 hours. Then boiling water must be poured over its entire surface. Porcelain sinks, however, may not be Kasherred. They should be fully lined with a tin insert, contact paper, aluminum foil, or a Pesach basin insert.

Dishwashers may be Kasherred only if they have a stainless steel interior. All racks must be changed. After waiting 24 hours, run a complete cycle with soap. All rubber or plastic parts must be replaced as well.

Metal utensils that are used with liquid (soup pots, etc.) may be Kasherred by first cleaning them, not using them for 24 hours, and finally, completely immersing them in a Kasherred pot full of boiling