



News & Events

[Home](#)

Blog

[Archive 2017](#)

[Archive 2016](#)

[Archive 2014](#)

[Archive 2013](#)

[Archive 2012](#)

[Archive 2011](#)

[Archive 2010](#)

[Convention](#)

[Events](#)

[News](#)

[Press Releases and
Statements](#)

Kashrut Subcommittee Recommendations for Passover

Dear Friends:

Needless to say, this year's Passover will offer new and particular challenges associated with holiday. In this update, we will offer some guidance.

Though we are all experiencing the impact of COVID-19, differently and often at different times. Our yearly [Passover guide](#) expresses what we can strive to maintain. It will be helpful to give it a quick read.

What we are going to provide below are some suggestions for interpretation of Jewish Law, and the unprecedented time in which we live.

Seder:

This year most of us have been instructed (or mandated) to limit our seders to both the traditions of family and large seders, and communal seders (which certainly includes public health concerns instituted by government) to be maintained. We don't take this decision lightly, as we are doing so with family members and special friends and with as many people as possible. These private small immediate family & individual seders will be held this year, so please stay home.

We also recognize that emotional concerns play an active role in our lives (anxiety) allows for preparation of the Yom Kippur break-fast and individuals adapting to meet the emotional needs of Jewish people with, and provide reasonable options for—those unable to come to those who live far apart and, especially, for the elderly and infirm in our communities. Loving our fellow human beings, is utmost among our concerns. Many of us may expand our usual Yom Tov observances to include following medical instructions to limit sedarim to only those who reside in the same household.

As different practices emerge in different communities, let's continue to be reserving judgement for the One imbued with the amount of wisdom necessary to guide us.

A few tips to keep in mind when purchasing food for the Seder

Matzah - One is obligated to avoid hametz throughout Passover. One should have enough matzah to fulfill the rituals of the first/second night seder alone. The minimum is at least enough matzah for each person to fulfill the obligation. Basically, about one piece of matzah per person, per seder.

Karpas - Can be any vegetable. [In Israel, boiled potato is commonly used.]

Maror - If horseradish is not available, people are encouraged to use anything bitter. Tear to the eye if consumed raw: hot peppers, fresh ginger, etc. Horseradish is commonly used as maror.

Egg and Roasted Shankbone on Seder Plate -- A roasted shankbone and egg. (Pesachim 114b)

Kashering/Cleaning:

This may be one area in which not much has to change, for the CJLS Pesach Guide. Cleaning this year may actually be a bit more challenging than living differently than normal. But the general rule is, places are *hametz* only if it's a place for which and in which hametz is prohibited. The prohibition of owning & seeing hametz applies specifically to olive oil (*k'zayyit*). This is your yearly reminder that dirt is not kosher.

Destruction of Hametz/Bi'ur Hametz and Bittul Hametz:

It is a mitzvah to search for and destroy Hametz. If cleaning is not sufficient, it is well to remember that at the end of that process, "If cleaning is sufficient to protect against obvious contact, there is no need for bi'ur." (renunciation). [More information](#).

Sale of Hametz:

We have set-up an [online form](#) for those in North America to sell their hametz. Grocery store owners and other businesses that will sell hametz should email [Rabbi Schwartz](#) to arrange for the sale.

Cleaning/Kashering for elderly/infirmary:

In these households, if there is an already living-in-home care being carried out, to the extent possible, according to the guidelines. If an able-bodied caretaker is in place, the residents of the household should be able to clean the surface that will be used for the preparation or consumption of the seder. It should be wiped down with all-purpose cleaning materials. If possible, the oven will be used during Passover, the walls of the oven should be cleaned, the rack and the baking dish should be cleaned.

For homes in which vessels will not be able to be kashered in general concerns of danger with heating elements), we record for Passover cooking before and during the holiday, to clean overnight). So long as they don't have visible foodstuff cake This technique can also be used for cutlery and non-porous c

Purchasing of Food:

Hierarchy of purchasing: While the CJLS [formally permitt](#) 2015, due to the unprecedented disruptions in the food supply aside the Ashkenazic custom of eschewing legumes (beans a (2020).

Below are guidelines for following "best practice" under

Hierarchy of purchasing: It is important to note that many (like milk, yogurt, cottage cheese, and hard cheeses), frozen be purchased with a year-round hechsher before Passover as difficult circumstances, this is a normative, albeit general, he during Passover itself that many of these items need to carry years we give a stricter ruling for many of these products du each variation, this year, due to severe circumstances, we al: principle.

In general, we tend to be strict on our Passover lists due to t year we have simply relied on our current knowledge to less the normative constructs of Passover Kashrut.

This year, due to the limitations on product availability and ir stores, if you are unable to find an item below with a Kosher what you can do.

Food requiring no Kosher for Passover certification no

- Baking soda
- Pure bicarbonate of soda, without additives
- Eggs
- Fresh fruits and vegetables (including pre-washed bagged)
- Fresh or frozen kosher meat (other than chopped meat)
- Nestea (regular and decaffeinated)
- Pure black, green, or white tea leaves
- Unflavored tea bags
- Unflavored regular coffee

- unflavored regular coffee
- Olive oils (and other pure oils)
- Whole or gutted fresh kosher fish
- Whole or half pecans (not pieces)
- Whole (unground) spices and nuts
- OU/Star-K Raisins
- Kosher wine
- Plain butter, either salted or unsalted
- Plain seltzer water

The following list of basic foods is ideally for pre-Passover determined necessary based on food supply shortages began, to purchase on Hol-HaMoed as well.

- all pure fruit juices
- Filleted fish
- Frozen fruit (no additives)
- Plain cheeses (without added flavor morsels)
- Non-iodized salt
- Pure white sugar (no additives)
- Quinoa (with nothing mixed in)* GF ideal
- White milk
- Some products sold by Equal Exchange Fair Trade Chocolate
- Frozen Vegetables (needs to be checked for possible hametz be
- Chopped meat
- Plain, non-flavored almond milk, rice milk, soy milk, cashew milk.
- Non-flavored Cream Cheese with ingredients of milk and cream,
- Non-flavored Yogurt with milk and bacteria, only (which are Lact
- Canned Tuna with just tuna, water or oil, salt, and pyrophosphate
- 100% maple syrup
- 100% Agave
- Ground Salt and Peppers
- Plain (non-Flavored) Decaf Coffee
- Pure Honey
- Dried fruit, prunes only without potassium sorbate
- Canned vegetables/fruit with year-round kosher in w

Kitniyot:

Fresh kitniyot: Corn on the cob and fresh beans (like lima beans) are permitted during Passover, that is, treated like any other fresh vegetable.

Dried kitniyot (legumes, rice and corn) can be purchased before or during Passover. These should ideally not be purchased in bulk if they have previously been used for hameitz, and a few grains of rice or dried beans before Passover, one should remove pieces of hameitz discarding those, and the kitniyot themselves remain permissible.

Frozen raw kitniyot (corn, edamame [soy beans], etc.) can be purchased before or during (if necessary) Passover provided that the equipment was used or one is careful to inspect the contents for hameitz. Even if one did not inspect the vegetables before Passover, the package on Passover, the vegetables themselves are permissible.

Requires Kosher for Passover label at any time:

- All baked goods
- Farfel
- Matzah
- Any product containing matzah
- Matzah flour
- Matzah meal
- Pesah cakes
- All frozen processed foods
- Candy
- Chocolate milk
- Herbal tea
- Decaffeinated Tea
- Ice cream
- Liquor
- Soda
- Vinegar
- Margarine

Another way to potentially find acceptable foods without a special Passover shopping, when the situation demands, is to prefer

Lastly, many of us have already opened products in our homes for normal year-round cooking. If one is able to ascertain a kosher product, or at best a negligible amount, it is possible to use

(Updated 3/30/2020 at 1:43 PM ET)

[Contact Us](#)

[Affiliates](#)

[Donate](#)

[Legal Notices](#)