

Preparations for Pesach

Places to check and clean from chometz:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> under furniture and beds (under the mattresses) <input type="checkbox"/> bookcase- (where children can reach and sefarim that may have been used with Chometz) <input type="checkbox"/> desks (drawers) <input type="checkbox"/> shelves <input type="checkbox"/> cabinets <input type="checkbox"/> closets <input type="checkbox"/> medicine chest <input type="checkbox"/> pockets of clothing (they can be checked when folding the laundry) <input type="checkbox"/> children's toy, bicycle basket <input type="checkbox"/> children's books <input type="checkbox"/> crib | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> baby carriage, stroller <input type="checkbox"/> high chair <input type="checkbox"/> play pen <input type="checkbox"/> shopping cart <input type="checkbox"/> lunch box/bag <input type="checkbox"/> pocketbook, briefcase, jewelry bag <input type="checkbox"/> picnic box <input type="checkbox"/> suitcases <input type="checkbox"/> garbage cans, and pails <input type="checkbox"/> vacuum bag <input type="checkbox"/> carpet sweeper <input type="checkbox"/> chairs in kitchen and living room <input type="checkbox"/> couch, recliner <input type="checkbox"/> car- trunk, glove compartment, under seats and mats <input type="checkbox"/> pet house etc., fish tank |
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Items that should be put away:

- cooking and baking utensils
- toaster, toaster oven
- food appliances that are not for Pesach use
- bleach
- recipe books, or other books that are in the kitchen and can not be cleaned properly
- children's toys and books that were not cleaned
- bentchters and zmiros* booklets
- toiletries that have Chashash Chometz, used toothbrushes

Kitchen cleaning:

- cleaning the cabinets and shelves- including handles and doors
- cleaning fridge/freezer- including the door handles and the rubber lining on the door
- putting away or locking up chometzdik itensils, appliances, and books
- kashering or covering the stove top and grates- cleaning or covering knobs
- cleaning or kashering the oven, microwave (or putting in insert)
- kashering or covering the sink (or putting in insert)
- kashering or covering the countertop
- covering the table tops- in kitchen and dining room
- cleaning the floor
- cleaning telephone and it's cord
- cleaning chairs, highchair, covering it's tray
- empty garbage pail, vacuum cleaner bag, clean carpet sweeper, and shake out broom

Selling the Chometz:

- deciding which closets, shelves or rooms will be rented with their chometz so that they will not require Bdikas Chometz
- places that were rented with their chometz should have some sign or covering to remember that they are not to be used on Pesach
- knowing which real chometz is being sold (if any) and specifying it in the contract
- not waiting for the last minute* to sell the Chometz

Preparations on Erev Pesach

Bedikas Chometz:

- come home on time to start the bedika immediately after nightfall (after maariv)
- prepare candle and flashlight
- there is a minhag to use a wooden spoon and feather (if you don't have one do the bedika without it)
- those who put out pieces of chometz- small pieces wrapped in foil or in a bag, someone should write down where they were put
- all those taking part in the bedika should be hear the brocho
- one should not talk about anything not relating to the bedika
- say Kol Chamira (bittul) for unknown Chometz after Bedika and put the chometz in a place that children etc. can not get to

Monday morning

Burning the Chometz

- last time for eating the Chometz- 9:55 AM
- time for burning chometz is 11:17 A.M.

Make sure your children sleep in the early afternoon

Preparations for the Seder

It is recommended to prepare everything before Yom Tov so the Seder will not be delayed by preparations that will be done at night.

- Prepare the charoses
- Prepare the salt water, cook potatoes (if you use them for Karpas).
- Check the romaine lettuce
- The marror can be ground before Yom Tov if you have an airtight container that will preserve its sharpness. Otherwise it may be ground on Yom Tov (with a small shinui- on the table or on a plate)
- Open bottles of wine and grape juice
- Make sure you have enough kiddush cups and Haggados
- Roast the Zroah and egg for the Kaarah
- Put together the Kaarah
- Find the Kittel
- Polish the silver if necessary
- Set up the table
- Put out the pillows that will be used for Hasevah
- Prepare sweets for the children.
- Check the Matzos (make sure you have three whole matzos.)