

KITZUR HALACHOS

VACATION HOTELS/HOMES ON PESACH

R' TZVI YAAKOV STEIN

BEDIKAS CHAMETZ WHEN LEAVING HOME BEFORE PESACH

WHEN LEAVING FOR THE ENTIRE PESACH BEFORE THE NIGHT OF BEDIKAS CHAMETZ (FOURTEENTH NIGHT OF NISSAN): Three options:

1. Sell the entire house/apartment to the goy except for one room, and do bedikas chametz in that room the night before leaving without a brachah.
2. Sell the entire house/apartment to the goy. Rent the room where you are going to be staying on the night of bedikas chametz from the owner. This requires you to check the room that night with a brachah.
3. Do both of the above.

WHEN LEAVING FOR THE ENTIRE PESACH AFTER THE NIGHT OF BEDIKAS CHAMETZ (FOURTEENTH NIGHT OF NISSAN):

- The entire house/apartment should be sold to the goy except for one room, and bedikas chametz should be done in that room on the night of the fourteenth with a brachah.

LEAVING FOR THE ENTIRE PESACH BUT LENDING OUT THE HOUSE/APARTMENT:

1) All closets, dressers, cabinets, etc., can be sold to the goy. 2) They must be clearly marked with tape, etc., that they are sold. 3) Floors, countertops, etc., should be cleaned. 4) Bedikas chametz should be done the night before leaving the house/apartment, as above. Alternatively, the guest can do bedikas chametz.

- Bedikas chametz should be done in the hotel room on the night of the fourteenth¹. If one brought chametz into the room before evening, then a brachah is recited on the bedikah².

- If one arrives on Erev Pesach, he should inquire if bedikas chametz was done in the rooms. If it wasn't, then a bedikah should be done without a brachah³.
- If there's food for sale in the room, the hotel should be asked to remove it, or they should be told that you take absolutely no responsibility for the food.

BEDIKAS CHAMETZ DURING PESACH

- One is not allowed to live on Pesach in a place where bedikas chametz was not done⁴.
- This is because we may forget that it's Pesach and we may come to eat the chametz that may be found there⁵.
- Therefore, when moving into a hotel/rental-home during Pesach, bedikas chametz must be done immediately (even during the day)⁶ without a brachah.
- If chametz is found, it must be disposed of immediately. Either by fire or by disposing of it in the bathroom⁷.
- If there's food for sale in the room, the hotel should be asked to remove it, or they should be told that you take absolutely no responsibility for the food.
- Spices, etc., that are in the house may not be used.

KASHERING DURING PESACH

- According to Ashkenazim, kashering with boiling water is not permitted on Pesach⁸. Sephardim may kasher with boiling water⁹.
- Therefore, for Ashkenazim, the countertops and sinks cannot be kashered and must be covered¹⁰.
- Tables should be covered with something thick. If there's nothing thick available, then at least two coverings should be put on the table.

- ✦ Water from the kitchen sinks shouldn't be used for cooking. Bottled water, or water from the bathroom sink, should be used.
- ✦ Microwaves should not be kashered. If necessary, ask a shailah.
- ✦ Kashering with libun gamur is permitted on Pesach¹¹. This is by heating metal up until it gets white hot.
- ✦ Therefore, kashering a self-clean oven is permitted on Pesach¹².
- ✦ One does not have to wait 24 hours before kashering with libun gamur¹³.
- ✦ If there's no self-clean option, ask a shailah.
- ✦ The stovetop can be kashered with fire in the standard way (below).
- ✦ Kashering a Stovetop: 1) place a large pot or heavy-duty aluminum foil on each burner individually, preferably covering the entire burner (so the fire spreads as far as possible). 2) Turn each burner on high for 20 minutes (don't turn on all the burners at the same time)¹⁴. 3) Cover the drip pan (the area in between the burners) with heavy-duty aluminum foil for the duration of Pesach. You don't have to wait 24 hours before kashering.
- ✦ Glass Stovetops: The actual burner area is kashered after turning it on high for fifteen minutes. The areas in between the burners cannot be kashered. Covering those areas may break the glass, so the best thing is to get metal trivets and put them around each burner so that the pot rests on them and not on the glass.
- ✦ Barbeque Grill. From the Star-K website: The grates of a barbecue grill must be kashered with

libun gamur, which is not recommended for the average consumer. If a person purchases 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 for an hour. If the grill does not have a cover, follow the same procedure, but make sure that all surfaces of the grill are covered with coals. 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. In fact, if the grill has too many holes, cracks, and crevices where food may get trapped, one should refrain from kashering the grill at all.

- ✦ A can opener should not be used.
- ✦ A corkscrew can be used if it is extremely clean.

TEVILAS KEILIM

- ✦ Disposable utensils (tin pans, disposable grills, etc.,) do not need tevilah, even if they will be used multiple times¹⁵
- ✦ Non-disposable utensils need tevilah even if they will only be used once¹⁶.
- ✦ When buying utensils that require tevilah and there isn't any mikvah around, have in mind not to halachically acquire the utensils. They will then still belong to goy and won't require tevilah¹⁷. This is only a short-term solution. Long-term¹⁸ they will need tevilah.
- ✦ Toiveiling utensils in a lake may be problematic because it's kashrus as a mikvah depends on the water source¹⁹.

- .11 רמ"א (סימן תנב סעיף א)
- .12 קובץ הלכות (פרק יא סעיף כג)
- .13 דרכי משה (יורה דעה סימן קכא סעיף קטן טו)
- .14 אגרות משה (יורה דעה חלק א סימן נט)
- .15 שו"ת אגרות משה (יורה דעה חלק ג סימן כג)
- .16 טור (יורה דעה סוף סימן קכ)
- .17 שולחן ערוך (יורה דעה סימן קכ סעיף טז)
- .18 ט"ז (יורה דעה סימן קכ סעיף קטן יח)
- .19 שולחן ערוך (יורה דעה סעיף ב)

- .1 שולחן ערוך (סימן תלז סעיף א)
- .2 קובץ הלכות (פרק ז סעיף ו)
- .3 שולחן ערוך (סימן תלז סעיף ב)
- .4 מקור חיים (סימן תלז סעיף קטן ז)
- .5 מקור חיים (סימן תלז סעיף קטן ז)
- .6 שולחן ערוך (סימן תלה סעיף א)
- .7 שולחן ערוך (סימן תמו סעיף א)
- .8 רמ"א (סימן תנב סעיף א)
- .9 שולחן ערוך (סימן תנב סעיף א)
- .10 מהרי"ל (הלכות הגעלה סימן יב)