

Hilchos Yom Tov

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Cleaning help

- They can do work in the house on Shabbos/Yom tov but they can only do melacha that makes their job easier for herself.
- For example: she can wash dishes with hot water because it saves her time over using cold water and also no one notices that melacha is being done.
- She can't mop the floor, vacuum or do laundry etc.
- Mopping would be allowed if the floors are really dirty
- She can't be told where the money that she's being paid is. Either tell her where it will be before Shabbos/Yom tov or pay her afterwards
- A goy can be hinted to turn off the flame
- If one absolutely has no existing flame to cook with and there's no other way to warm up the food, a goy can be asked to turn on the flame or crockpot etc.

Fires/flames on Yom Tov

- Fire is allowed to be lit on Yom Tov for a Yom Tov need, if it comes from an existing flame
- Electric ignition stoves can't be turned on because they create a spark
- This is why many leave a 24/48 hour candle lit the entire Yom Tov
- Fire is allowed to be lit in order to be able to see
- Fire is not allowed to be extinguished on Yom tov

- Fire is not allowed to be extinguished even if you need it to be dark in the room
- A gas fed fire (most of our fires) is considered like any other fire and also can't be extinguished on Yom tov (some say that Rav Moshe Feinstein Z"l allowed turning off gas fires)
- According to Sfardim, a fire can never be lowered even if the fire will burn the food. The only option is to light a new flame that's lower than the existing flame
- According to Ashkenazim, if there's no other way for the food to stay hot/warm without burning then the flame can be lowered
- Nowadays, flames on stovetops first go to high and then have to be lowered. Therefore there's no point in lighting a new flame and the existing flame can be lowered
- Lowering a flame to save gas or because it's too hot is not allowed
- If it's really hot etc. boil up water that will be necessary for Yom Tov and fill it up to the top so that it will bubble over and it will put out the flame. Then the gas can be turned off with a shinui
- The temperature on electric appliances can never be raised or lowered
- Most poskim do not allow "Sabbath mode" ovens to be adjusted
- Gas ovens with knobs can be adjusted higher, with a shinui, when the flame is on and can be lowered or turned off when the flame is off (all gas ovens cycle on and off)
- The same halachos apply to a bbq grill
- A yahrtzeit candle should preferably be lit before Yom Tov. If not, it can be lit in

a dark room so that it will provide light (in can be moved later)

- On Yom Tov, crockpots, hot plates, coffee makers, etc. can be put on Shabbos clocks to go on and off
- Once the above are turned on, the pins can be removed with a shinui in order for them to remain on or off

Showering on Yom Tov

- A full hot or even warm shower is אסור even with water that was heated up before Yom tov
- The minhag has always been NOT to take, even, a cold bath on shabbos and yom tov
- One who's in pain because of not showering or one who's sick can wash the entire body with hot water but ONLY if it was heated up before Yom tov.
- Washing the body limb by limb is fine but ONLY with water that was heated up before Yom tov
- The hands, feet and face can be washed EVEN with hot water that was heated up on Yom tov (some say that any part of the body can be washed this way, up to half the body)
- A child who's bathed EVERY day can be bathed with hot water that was heated up on Yom tov but NOT if it was heated up specifically for bathing (it has to be leftover from cooking) (the bath can be turned on in order to wash a dish and then left on to fill the bath)
- If it's a hot day then one can take a cold shower. Some say that a little hot can be turned on in order to take away the sting from the cold water.
- In all cases: 1- one has to be very careful not to squeeze out water from hair 2- only liquid soaps can be used and it can't be lathered into hair

Preparation from first day Yom Tov to Second day Yom Tov

- Preparation from first day Yom Tov to second day Yom Tov or from Yom Tov to Shabbos or from Shabbos to Yom Tov is not allowed
- This applies even if there's no melacha being done (like washing dishes, settings tables etc)
- This applies even for mitzvos
- If frozen food is needed for the second night Yom tov etc. there are two options: 1) if you don't defrost the food during the day you wont be able to have the food that night then it's allowed to be defrosted early enough in the day that it could theoretically be eaten during the day 2) put the frozen food for the night into a bag together with something that you'll need during the day and then it can be taken out during the day
- Seforim and Taleisem etc. can be carried home from Shul if you're afraid that it's going to get lost
- There's no issur to prepare before making kiddush/havdala but the words ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לקודש should preferably be said before doing the work