

# Recommended Passover Product list for Sephardic Communities by the JSOR

**Dear Community Member,**

The Jersey Shore Orthodox Rabbinate takes pride in once again presenting to our Sephardic Community a comprehensive guide to Passover products. In order to supply the community with our up to date information, this and all of our bulletins are available on the website: [www.JSOR.org](http://www.JSOR.org).

This list is compiled after extensive research and correspondence with food industry experts and experts in the field of Kashrut. Since Sephardic Jews have different customs and traditional foods than our Ashkenaz brothers, this list is designed to serve those whose custom includes the consumption of **Kitniyot**, or legumes on the holiday. Since the majority of Jews in America are of Ashkenaz descent, the major Kashrut organizations only certify those items that are permissible for them. We have included those items, and as well have listed those foods that are permissible without special Kosher for Passover (KFP) symbols.

Three prohibitions exist: Consumption, Ownership, and Benefit.

## **The Ten Commandments for the Sephardic Passover Consumer**

**I. Thou shalt know what is Hames-** Any foods or food products, which contain ingredients, derived from one of the following fermented cereal grains: wheat, barley, oats, spelt or rye are forbidden on Passover. Even foods that contain minute amounts of Hames, or foods which are processed on utensils which are used for other hames-containing foods, are not permissible for Passover use. Many Sepharadim have the custom of eating different legumes or kitniyot and foods that are derived from them. Even in the Syrian community, there are differences in customs as to which legumes are used.

**II. Thou shalt read Product labels Carefully** – Make sure a reliable Kosher for Passover certification appears on the package. Take this guide with you to the store! Remember that ‘reading the labels’ is impossible on Pesach, too many chemicals may have hames ingredients. Alcohol, Ascorbic Acid, citric acid, Dextrose, Glucose, Malt dextrin, PolySorbates, Sodium Citrate, Sodium, Erythrobate, Xantham Gum & Sorbitol (outside U.S.) are among the list of common ingredients that can be derived from both grain and legume sources.

**III. Thou shalt beware of Look Alikes** – Often Kosher for Passover and non-Kosher for Passover products have identical packaging.

**IV. Thou shalt not buy any product simply since it is in the “Passover Aisle”!** Some stores do not remove the hames matzot and other “year round kosher” foods from the shelf before restocking for the holiday. (Like marshmallows!)

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**V. Thou shalt know thine personal Kashrut level-** not all Kashrut certifications are created equal. Check with the people who will partake of your meals and see what they prefer- ask your family custom pertaining to corn, rice, beans. Even within the community there are different family customs to take into account. This advance planning will save heartache and promote shalom.

**VI. Thou shalt look before you cook!** – even with the best intentions a non-Kosher for Passover item could be purchased inadvertently.

**VII. Thou shalt not assume – Ask!** If you have a doubt about a product being Kosher for Passover, clarify the question with your Rabbi or the JSOR hotline at 732-531-4872. Please be considerate with the times that you call! If you have a question and we are not available, or if the line is busy, we respectfully request that you leave a detailed message, with a phone number on that number. Calls will be returned, G-d willing, daily. If you do not get a call back, please call us back the following day, it has happened that the message or the phone number was unclear, and we couldn't call back. Please note that the last phone calls we will answer will be on Tuesday April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Questions may also be emailed to [sfarhi@thejnet.com](mailto:sfarhi@thejnet.com)

We have made an addition to our yearly guide, a list of commonly used medications and toiletries that are considered hames-free! We hope that this new addition will be helpful.

**VIII. Thou shalt not purchase a product just because it was good last year.** – Discard old lists they will confuse you, some things change.

**IX Thou shalt sell your Hames** – avoid problems of Hames that was in your possession on the holiday by making sure that it is sold to your Rabbi before Tuesday evening, April 11<sup>th</sup>. (The Rabbis sell all the hames to a gentile the next morning).

This is true even if you get rid of all “real” hames!

**X. Thou shalt enjoy the spirit of the Holiday!**

May the merit of our care in observing the commandments of the holiday bring us all closer to *Avinu She' be Shamayim*, our Loving Father in Heaven that we may merit His redemption!

Amen.

## The Passover Food Guide

Whenever possible, buy those products that bear a reliable Passover label to be assured that the product has been prepared for the holiday.

**All products whether or not they need special supervision should only be used if the package is new and unopened.**

**Aluminum Foil Products:** All types are acceptable.

**Baby Cereal:** Due to information from the Rabbi at the O.U. in charge of Pesach production, Beech Nut Pure rice cereal should **not** be used. Alternatively, may we suggest one of the following:

- 1) Cook rice thoroughly and then puree in the blender with formula.
- 2) Preparing the cereal from ground checked rice.
- 3) Soak Passover breakfast cereal or crumbled lady fingers in milk or formula and then mash or blend.
- 4) Try a variety of baby\hot cereals that are made from finely ground matza meal or potato starch. (see cereals)

**Baby Formula:** Materna (Badatz), Similac-regular, w\iron and lactose free; Isomil; Pedialyte; Prosobee; Alsoy, & Enfamil (reg., w\iron, Lipil, AR) are all acceptable.

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**Baby Foods:** Must have Kosher for Passover supervision. Beech Nut, Gefen and Healthy Times will have many varieties of fruits and vegetables with Passover certification.

**Baking Powder:** Supervision required. Gefen, Mishpacha and V.I.P. Masters are OU-P; Haddar -KFP

**Baking Soda:** (Bicarbonate of Soda) No Passover Supervision necessary. (New box)

**Candy and Chocolates:** Passover Supervision is necessary for all chocolate candies; likewise hard sucking candies need supervision because they are often coated with flour. Acceptably supervised are Alprose, Barton's, Bloomy's, Elite (with OU-P only), Haddington Farms, Haddar, Krum's, Le Chocolate, Liebers, Manhattan, Manischewitz, Paskesz, Rokeach, Savion and Shufra.

*All must bear special supervision for Pesach.*

**Beware! Some candies coming out of Israel may contain 'gelatine', which may be derived from animal sources! Do not use any candy, even from Israel, without verifying the supervision.**

**Cereals and Breakfast Foods:** All cereals made from the five grains are of course, *hames*. In addition, many cold cereals such as corn flakes and rice krispies are *hames* since malt is added to them. We strongly suggest that even those cereals in which the listed ingredients are 100% kosher for Passover, should not be used as they are in constant contact with grains that are real *hames*.

Kojel, Manischewitz, VIP Masters and T. Abraham's produce a variety of hot and cold cereals with a reliable certification OU-P.

Waffles: Frankel's OUP; Pancake mix: Manischewitz, Rokeach, Savion, and VIP Master OUP

Granola Mix by Savion, Dayenu and T. Abraham -OUP.

**Cider Vinegar:** Requires supervision, the nutrient may be *Hames*.

**Cocoa:** Any pure.

**Coffee: Instant- In former years, most instant coffees were acceptable if they were unflavored, this is no longer the case.** As a flavor enhancer, malto dextrin, which may be derived from barley is added. This year, only the Folgers and Tasters Choice brands of regular, unflavored instant coffee can be used without special Passover marking.

**Ground, Regular unflavored only, No chicory or Decaf:** The following brands may be used for Pesach (new jar) even without special supervision: Bokar, Chase & Sanborn, Chock Full O'Nuts, Eight o'clock (not store ground), Folgers, Hills Bros., Kirkland, Martinson, Medaglia D'Oro, Melitta, and Pathmark.

Maxwell House (with OKP only)

Elite Turkish Coffee (O.U.-P.)

Decaffeinated: **All Decaffeinated coffee must be marked for Passover.** Sanka (with OK-P), Maxwell House Decaf varieties (with OK-P)

Flavored coffees are not acceptable for Passover use.

Postum contains grain and may not be used for Pesach. Any leftovers of this brand must be sold with the *Hames*.

**Cooking Spray:** Needs supervision. Mothers, Manischewitz (OU-P)

### **Dairy Products:**

Milk: It is preferable to purchase kosher milk with Passover supervision for Pesach, but one may buy regular milk for the holiday, if purchased before Pesach. In addition to the Chalav Yisrael brands, Tuscan and many supermarket brands will have marked, Kosher for Passover milk available throughout the holiday. Only marked milk should be purchased during the holiday, since the dairy adds vitamins to the milk and also may process chocolate milk that contains malt (*hames*) on the same equipment.

Please note! OU-P designation does not mean that the product is Chalav Yisrael.

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**Lactaid drops and caplets are not kosher for Pesach. Lactaid milk may be used only when purchased before the Holiday. Ask your Rabbi for additional information.**

Chocolate Milk: Requires Passover supervision as the flavoring may contain Hames.

Powdered Milk: Must be supervised for Passover: Ko-Sure Star-K-P; Dairymen OU-P, Parmalat KOF-K

Butter/Cheeses/Creams/Yogurts: All require special Passover supervision as the cultures, flavorings and coloring may contain Hames.

Butter: with the Kosher for Passover mark are Breakstone's, J&J, Mehadrin, Morning Select, Pathmark, Penn Maid and Shoprite.

Cream Cheese must be marked KFP. J&J, Temptee, Foodtown, Pathmark, Shoprite, just to name a few.

Yogurt must have supervision. Many varieties are readily available.

Soy milk and Rice dream are not recommended for Passover use, as they have questionable ingredients. (See exception-under Soy foods). Included at the end of this bulletin is a recipe for home made rice milk and almond milk.

Non Dairy Creamers: OU-P Kineret, Mishpacha;

Star –K P=Unger's & Eden.

**Detergents and Cleansers**: All varieties of detergents both liquid and powdered do not require Kosher for Passover certification.

According to the OU directory, the following dish detergents may be used without the OU-P: Ajax, Dawn, Ivory, Joy, Octogon and Palmolive.

Dishwasher Detergent: Palmolive, Sunlight Powder.

With an OU-P: Cascade

**Eggs**: It is customary to purchase before the holiday.

Egg substitute: Kinnert OUP.

**Fruits**: All fresh fruits are acceptable. \*NEW\* precut fruits: Delmonte, Star KP: Cantaloupe, Fruit Bowl, Fruit Party Tray, Fruit Snack Tray, Honeydew, and Melon Medley.

Canned fruits: may use a hames enzyme to clarify the juice that is used to pack the fruit, therefore use only with Kosher for Passover marking.

Unsweetened frozen fruits: are acceptable with no additives or grape juice.

Dried Fruits: Must be marked Kosher for Pesach. Readily available are: Mariani, Manischewitz, Pathmark, Yum Tee OU-P, Homa, Nature's Original Star KP and Setton Farms & Earthly Delights OK-P.

Dates: Nature's Original: Star- KP; Setton Farms: OK-P

Whole Medjul Dates are acceptable.

Dried, rolled dates present a special problem for Passover since they are rolled in oats!

Note: all dates must be split open and checked for insects, which can be quite common.

A date paste is being imported from Israel that is reliably certified by the Chug Chatam Sofer –B'nei Brak.

Raisins: Dole and Delmonte brands are acceptable with just a plain OU.

May we remind you, banana chips require kosher supervision for year round use as they are sometimes fried in the same oil as unkosher cheese. They are not recommended for Passover use.

**Fish: Canned Tuna and Salmon**: The hydrolyzed protein in tuna may contain Hames. Kosher for Passover tuna is readily available. Dagim, Tuna Delight and King of the Sea.

With the OU-P: Bumble Bee, Dagim, Gefen, Pathmark, Rokeach, and Season & Shoprite

Frozen Fish: Fillets - Dagim, Kinnert, Schindler

Breaded: Dr. Praegers OUP Breaded Fish sticks

**Grape Leaves**: This year again, the Orlando product was manufactured under the supervision of the Heart K – Rabbi Teichman. Use only jars marked for Passover. Other brands of grape leaves are preserved in brine, which may contain

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hames vinegar or may have citric acid from a hames origin. Please note! It is very important that all grape leaves be washed carefully. Inspect each leaf on both sides.

**Juices:** All juices need special Passover certification as the enzymes and clarifying agents may be hames. Available with certification are: Ceres, Eden, Gefen, Hadar, Kedem, Morning Select, Mrs. Adlers, Nature's Own, Pathmark, Rashi, Rokeach, Shoprite & Suncup. (Suncup, which is widely available in hospitals, is acceptable without a "P" in Orange and Grapefruit varieties.)

Lemon juice: Realemon liquid lemon juice and lime juice are acceptable without a special marking.

Orange and grapefruit: any brand frozen unsweetened, grade A concentrate is acceptable.

All refrigerated containers must have Passover supervision. Some pure juices may be actual Hames, as bran may be used to filter the juice. Tropicana Orange juice with OKP only.

Prune Juice: Gefen, Manischewitz, and Sunsweet KFP

**Lipstick:** All unflavored which do not contain wheat or oat flour may be used on Pesach. No organic lipsticks.

**Liquors:** In the last few years they have presented a new problem- Alcohol derived from wine is being used in production of liquors and cordials. This is completely separate from the issue of whether the liquors contain non-kosher wine. There are several varieties available for Pesach.

Carmel and Ashkelon Arak are both Kosher for Pesach.

OUP: Kedem brand vermouth, Vodka and Cordials.

**Margarine:** Many margarines use starch in their flavoring making Passover supervision necessary. Mother's (OU-P)

**Marshmallows:** The Pesach market is inundated with marshmallows that are labeled "Kosher for Passover". Many of these contain gelatin which is made from non-Kosher animal sources. It is vital that all labels are read before purchasing any products containing marshmallow. The OU, Kof K, Star K, and OK do not permit the use of gelatin from non kosher sources. Elyon brand has made a special Passover production. Liebers is certified Kosher for Passover by Rabbi Weismandel.

**Massa (Matza):** One must be alert that the matza for year round use is hames, and it is marked "not for Passover use".

**Caution:** many places may return items from previous years to the shelf, it is imperative to check all matza products, cake mixes and spices for freshness. Old products have been found to contain insects and larvae!! Check carefully for a product code stating year of production. Lacking that information, the products must be inspected thoroughly!

Acceptable for Passover are: Chicago Shmura, Haddar (Star-K), Glick's (Khal Adath Yeshurun); Aviv, Gefen, Geula (KAJ), Goodman, Horowitz-Margareten, Manischewitz, Osem, Rishon, Rokeach, Savion, Streits, Yehuda & Yonovsky-OU-P

It is recommended to use Matza Shemura for the Seder.

### **Mayonnaise, Ketchup, and Mustard:**

According to knowledgeable people in the Kashrut world, one should avoid the use of any product containing vinegar even if the company assures that the vinegar used is not of grain origin. We therefore recommend that all mayonnaise, ketchup and mustard, etc., should have proper Passover supervision.

Ketchup: OU-P: Gefen, Manischewitz, Mishpacha Rokeach, Savion; Glick's (KAJ-P); Ungers Star K- P

Mayonnaise: OU-P: Gefen, Manischewitz, Mother's, Rokeach; Glick's (KAJ-P); Unger's Star K-P

Mustard: Rokeach OU-P, Savion OU-P

**Milk:** See Dairy

**Noodles:** Savion, Gefen, Flaum Appetizing OU-P

**Nutritional Supplement:** Ensure- Without Fiber only.

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**Meats and Poultry:** All brands of raw poultry are kosher for Passover year round. After your butcher "koshers" for Pesach, all raw varieties of meat, cut chicken and veal are acceptable. This year several companies have expanded greatly the selection of deli and prepared products for the holiday.

Empire raw turkey burgers are acceptable only with the OU-P.

**Nuts:** Raw nuts, without additives are all acceptable for Passover. However, one must refrain from any roasted nuts unless it is KFP certified.

Note: Midget Pecans and pecan pieces (even raw) require a reliable KF-P supervision. Due to insect infestation they are washed in grain alcohol.

**Oils:** Oils do need supervision for use during the entire year. Deodorizers are pumped at high temperatures into the oils and they may be unkosher.

With supervision (non-legume based oils):

OU-P: Gefen, Manischewitz, Nutola, Pathmark, Rokeach, and Mishpacha,

Grapeseed Oil: Della Rosa OUP

Kof-KP: Hain Oils

Sephardim whose custom it is to use soybeans and corn may also use the kosher for year round use brands such as: Mazola, Wesson, and any Extra Virgin Olive Oil. New container only.

**Pasta & Pizza!:** Special Kosher for Passover made either from Matza meal or Potato starch: Frankels, Flaum, Manischewitz, and Savion. Pizza is made by Schick's Bakery and Dayenu Foods.

**Pet Foods:** Fish food often contains meat and milk ingredients and is forbidden for use the entire year. Most pet foods contain Hames. Since we are forbidden to derive any benefit from Hames, we may not feed any pets those varieties that contain hames ingredients. Krill fish food is permitted. Split corn or millet is recommended for feeding birds. There are brands of cat and dog food that are available that do not have hames or the prohibited mixture of meat and milk. A detailed list can be found at [www.star-k.org](http://www.star-k.org). Or at [www.crc.org](http://www.crc.org).

**Pickles:** Need Passover supervision. Batampte, Bloomy's, Flaum, Gefen, Gilboa – Beit Hashita, Kvuzat Yavne, Manischewitz and Osem are all OU-P. Haddar and Liebers are also available Kosher for Pesach. Unger's Star K-P

**Potato Chips:** Passover certification necessary, with the OU-P: Bloom's, Cape Cod, Herr's, Pathmark and Utz Potato chips. Also KFP: Liebers, Ruffles.

**Rice:** White Rice: Any unenriched or organic rice is acceptable. Lundenberg, Rice Select and Puran Brand Jasmine Rice (From B.J.'s –very easy to check) or Elephant brand from Costco, along with 2 brands from Israel Sugat and Orzil. Most supermarket rices are enriched. The enrichment is diluted with starch in order to distribute it evenly on the rice. This can be a corn or a wheat starch base. Care must be taken to buy only rice that has enrichment that is not mixed with hames.

The following brands are acceptable: Carolina, Carolina Gold (parboiled), Goya and Uncle Ben's.

Brown rice: Any brand without additives.

Basmati: Deer Brand or any unenriched.

Pure wild Rice: is acceptable without a marking: it is from the grass family, not a legume at all.

It has been our custom throughout the generations to check all rice three times before Pesach. While in Arkansas, I was informed that the crops are rotated yearly, and that it is very common to find grain in rice fields. Although there is equipment to remove this, it is not 100 %. Please be advised that every year barley and wheat grains are found in the rice, check carefully.

**Salt:** Regular (Pure) and Coarse salt are permitted for Passover use without special supervision.

Check that dextrose and Polysorbates are not in the ingredients.

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Salt substitute: Carmel Brand no salt Spritz OUP, Freeda Free Salt: Spice of Life.

**Sodas:** Sodas must have Kosher for Passover certification due to possible Hames in the flavoring base. Many varieties are readily available. 2 liter and cans

Coke, Diet and Caffeine free Coke, Sprite: must have the OU-P on the cap (yellow).

Pathmark and Shoprite: Orange, Cola & Ginger Ale: OUP

Seagram's Ginger Ale OUP

Pepsi products must bear a KP on the cap; they are under the supervision of Rabbi Charlop.

**Soup Mixes: Beware containers bearing a "P" are often identical to the year-round variety!**

**Soy Foods:** while soybeans are permissible for most Sephardim, products made of soy, such as soy sauce, TVP, tofu and soy milk are forbidden. These products are made through extraction methods that use grain alcohol in the processing of the soybeans.

However, Vitasoy Brand: Sansui Original Natural Soymilk is hames free. - This brand and only this variety. All others may actually contain hames!

**Seltzers:** Any unflavored seltzer with KP certification is acceptable.

Flavored Seltzers certified OU-P: Acme, America's Choice, Pathmark and Shoprite brands.

**Spices: Important change! Due to recent changes in the spice industry, even pure spices require reliable kosher for Passover certification.**

**Sugar:** Any pure white granulated cane sugar may be purchased for Passover as long as dextrose or glucose are not listed in the ingredients. These may be derived from barley or wheat! Domino brand -OKP

Confectioner's Sugar does contain 3% corn starch but according to some Sephardic customs, may be permissible for Pesach. There are several varieties of Confectioners sugar without corn starch: OUP: Gefen, Mishpacha and KAJ-P Hadar brand.

Canadian Confectioner Sugar is not permissible as it contains wheat starch instead of corn starch.

Vanilla Sugar: may contain grain alcohol and therefore, Passover supervision is required.

Brown sugar: Domino and Brownulated are OK-P.

**Sweeteners:** OU-P: Gefen, Ko Gel, and VIP Masters. Sweetie (Badatz) and Liebers (KFP)

Equal & Splenda: are not recommended for Sephardim this year by the OU.

**Teas:** Any unflavored, non-herbal regular tea bags are acceptable without special KFP:

Due to a hames ingredient used in the decaf process, decaf varieties should be used only with supervision: (Salada Caffeine free is Hames)

Exception: Lipton Decaf may be used without an OU-P

Instant Tea: Nestea Instant unflavored only. Regular & Decaf.

Herbal Teas: OU-P: Manischewitz, Sweet-Touch-Nee: Herbal Seren-I-T and Wissotzky- many varieties. Melaluca may be used without a Passover marking.

G'Day: Star-K P

**Tomato Paste and Sauce:** Passover supervision required.

Due to flavored varieties of paste and sauce now being produced, the OK laboratories inform us that tomato products must have proper Pesach supervision. Mishpacha,

Gefen, Glick's and Unger's - all with KFP certification.

*Note: Throughout the year, Tomato products should only be used with a known reliable supervision, it has been discovered that certain packers of tomato products were producing tomato with (non-kosher) romano cheese sauce and then producing the crushed tomatoes, with no cleaning in between! Understandably this is not acceptable.*

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**Vegetables, Frozen:** Several years ago, a new lighter cuisine heralded the introduction of frozen pasta and vegetable mixtures. Vegetable companies blanch veggies and pasta blends together, and then use the same equipment for plain vegetables. Further inquiries into the field have further led us to seriously question the use of frozen vegetables on Pesach. In addition, companies may purchase processed vegetables from another source and put their own label on the package. Codes provided by the company proved inaccurate, and the information was misleading. We highly recommend the use of fresh vegetables, despite the convenience of the frozen.

The most important of all, peas and beans will again be available for the Sephardic Community.

Information regarding the questionable sources of "private label" vegetables for Pesach has led us to again produce JSOR certified legumes at the Seabrook Brothers Plant. The peas, peas & carrots, beans, okra, baby lima beans and black eyed peas will be available in one pound packages in the kosher stores for the Holiday with our label.

Several companies made other frozen vegetables, including spinach, which are properly checked for insects and for Pesach. Imported from Israel, artichoke bottoms and Bamia (Okra) are reliably supervised by Rabbi Machpud or Badatz-Beit Yosef.

*Within the Sephardic Community, there are varied customs as to the use of dried beans, chick peas techina and corn. Consult your Rabbi for further information. If you are certain that it is your custom, these should be checked to insure that no grains are mixed in.*

Dried Eggplant: These are imported from Turkey, where they are collected from different villages. The importer informed us that the local women scoop them out, hang them to dry, and then tie them in string. In the event that there is a rush to get them dried out, flour is put inside to draw out the moisture! Understandably, we can not recommend these for Passover. Japanese eggplant are a fine alternative, they are very long and slender, and can be easily cut in half and scooped out.

Pre-washed salad: Some brands use citric acid in the rinse water to balance the ph (to prevent wilting), and are not recommended.

Aleh Katif from Israel provides insect free lettuce and herbs, rinse before using.

Bodek, Dole and Fresh Express must be used with Passover certification.

All Romaine should be rinsed, *even if it is marked*. Small flies are attracted to lettuce, even if it is grown hydroponically. (The ones from Israel state clearly that the produce does not need inspection, but it must be rinsed.)

If anyone is still using the unsupervised lettuce, please contact your Rabbi for direction how to properly check for insects.

Canned Vegetables: Need supervision. California Delight, Unger's: Star K-P. Gefen, Laish, Manischewitz, Mishpacha, Pathmark, Rokeach, Season, Shoprite..OUP

**Whipped Topping:** Kinnert, Mishpacha & Rich's OU-P.

**Whiskeys and Beers** and many liqueurs are Hames and may not be consumed on Passover. They must be sold to a non-Jew through the Rabbi before Pesach.

**Wine:** Please note some varieties of Manischewitz wine are not kosher for Passover. Check all wines- be certain that all are certified Kosher for Passover.

Two other issues with wine are:

Non Mevushal Wines

Although preferable to use for the four cups, care must be taken that opened bottles are not touched by non-Jews. In a place that this is difficult, it may be preferable to use *Yayin Mevushal*, literally cooked wine. Consult your Rabbi.

Fruit Wines

Wine varieties that are made from other fruits, such as peaches, may have a question if the Beracha is *Hagefen*, making them unacceptable for the Seder. Usually, the proper blessing will be stated on the back of the bottle.

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*Have a Joyous and Kosher Pesach Holiday!*

Rabbi Isaac Farhi  
Kashrut Coordinator



## Getting ready for Pesach

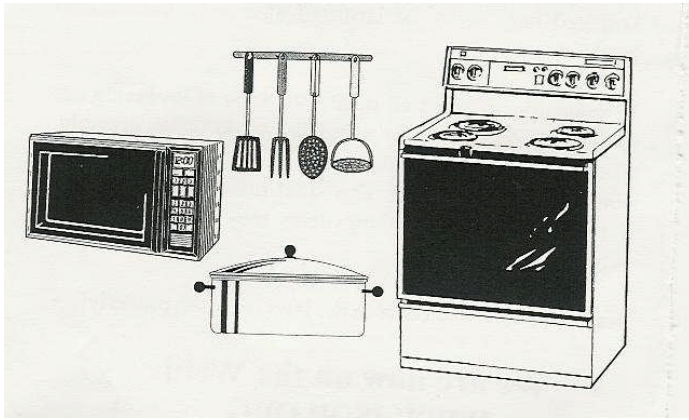
A brief guide for the preparation of the kitchen for Pesach, based on excerpts from *Gateway to Halacha* by Rabbi Eliezer Toledano and Rabbi Shmuel Choueka. Please consult your rabbi for further guidance and instruction.

Just as it is forbidden to eat hames on Pesach, it is forbidden to cook with utensils which have been used for cooking hames, since the cooking process transfers the hames status to the utensils. Of course, the simplest thing to do is to have a set of *Pesach* utensils which were never used with hames. However, where this is not possible, certain types of utensils may be rendered usable for *Pesach* within the following guidelines.

### Koshering the kitchen

**Ovens** should be cleaned thoroughly so that no tangible hames remains on its floors, walls or the oven door. Preferably wait 24 hours and set the oven for its highest temperature and burn for one hour. If you have self clean, run full cycle.

**Stove top** – clean very well, giving special attention to burner wells and edges. Wait 24 hours without using prior to koshering. Burners, grates and the area between may be koshered in two ways. #1 by *hagalah*, pour boiling water over them: or #2 by means of *Libun*, whereby the stove top area are covered by a *blech* (metal covering) or a sheet of heavy aluminum foil (covering the entire area) and then the burners are turned on for 15 minutes. The second method may discolor the stove top, or break it if it is glass.



**Microwave** – clean thoroughly, and then place a vessel of water in the oven. The microwave is operated until the oven is filled with steam.

**Sink**- thoroughly clean especially around the drain and faucet. Do not use for hot hames for 24 hours. Boil water on the stove and pour over all the parts of the sink. Some recommend using a rack.

**Counters and table tops**- clean thoroughly, taking extra care in cracks and crevices. These areas may then be koshered by *Hagalah*, pouring boiling water over all areas of the counter top or table. Or alternatively, they may simply be covered.

**Dishwasher**- clean away any tangible hames and run through one cycle empty. Some recommend replacing the racks for *Pesach*.

**High chairs** should be cleaned very carefully and then either covered or pour boiling water to kosher

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**Coffee makers and urns** should be koshered by filling with water and turning on so that the water boils over. (Care should be taken to clean well the exterior before hand.)

**Mixers, food processors and kitchen aids** which were used to mix dough, should be cleaned well and put away with the rest of the hames utensils.

**Refrigerators** should be cleaned thoroughly, taking extra care to remove crumbs in the cracks and crevices.

## Types of Utensils

1. **Earthenware utensils** which were used with hames at high temperatures cannot be koshered at all. These include **porcelain, enamel, stoneware, corning ware and china**. These should all be washed from any visible hames and should be put into a sealed closet until after *Pesah*.

2. **Glass** utensils need only be washed both inside and outside, and then they may be used for *Pesah*.

3. Utensils made of **wood, stone, metal, natural rubber or plastic**, which are used in or with water may be made usable for *Pesah* by *hagalah* (immersion in boiling water) in a manner described below. Metal utensils which were used directly on the fire, without water in them, require *Libun* (koshering by fire) as will be described later, to render them usable on *Pesah*.

**All utensils must be cleaned thoroughly as koshering removes the taste of hames, not pieces of food. Items that are cracked, rusted or difficult to clean should be put away for the holiday. Handles should be removed and extra care should be taken to scrub the edges where food may accumulate.**

## Koshering Utensils

Utensils are koshered in the manner in which they are used. Thus, the same level of heat must then be used to accomplish the koshering. There are 4 levels:

1. **Al Ha'aish or libun**-Direct flame or heat. For utensils that come in direct contact with hames over an open flame. Utensils are either put in the self-clean cycle of the oven or are 'torched' by a blowtorch (not for everyone to attempt).

2. **Kli Rishon- Hagalah** -A pot of hot liquids on the fire- Primary vessel: For pots used for cooking hames with water. After proper cleaning (see above) + 24 hours waiting, utensils may be immersed in a large, clean pot which was not used for 24 hours that water has been brought to a full, rolling boil. Either completely cover the utensil for several seconds, or if not possible, do it in stages, so that the entire utensil passes through the boiling water. Rinse with cold water. When multiple utensils are to be koshered, allow the water to return to full bubbling boil between items.

If the pot will not fit inside another pot, the pot itself should be filled to the top and allowed to boil. Meanwhile heat a stone or large piece of metal until it is red hot. Using a tong, pliers or other tool, place the heated item in

the boiling pot, causing the water to overflow, thus koshering the rim. Empty and rinse with cold water.

3. **Iyru Kli Rishon**- A flow of hot liquids from the primary vessel. Utensils which have boiling hot liquid poured into them may be koshered by a flow of boiling water. (i.e. serving trays that the food is poured into them)

4. **Kli Sheni**- a vessel containing hot liquids poured from a primary vessel. Spoons and forks which are used in a secondary vessel, such as for serving may be koshered this way.

Note: a utensil which requires a lower level of heat to be koshered may surely be koshered at a more intense heat level.

In summary, we must all review the laws of koshering our kitchens in order to make sure that we do things properly. The best thing is to attend a class given by your Rabbi to obtain a full explanation. This short review is by no means a full detailed guide. Many items may not be included. When in doubt, ask.

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May we all merit to observe the laws of Pesach properly!

**Buying Hames after Pesach** - we are prohibited from buying from a store that is owned (even partially) by a Jew that did not sell his Hames before the holiday. The following list of supermarkets and establishments that either properly sold their Hames or are owned by non Jews and that will be acceptable for purchase of hames after the holiday:

<u>All JSOR establishments</u>	Pathmark
Adler's Pharmacy	RiteAid
BJ's	Shoprite (WLB & Neptune)
Court Liquors	Steven's Drugs
Costco	Target
CVS	Train Station – Mordy Newman
Deal Food	Walmart
Dean's	Wegmans
Foodtown (all local)	
K-Mart	Aldi's
Nature's Corner (Little Silver)	

NOTE: non hames items may be purchased anywhere.  
Additional locations may be acceptable, consult your Rabbi.

## JSOR Guide to Common Medications and Toiletries

Each person should ask his or her Rabbi for guidance in which products should or should not be utilized on Passover. No one, especially those who suffer from diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease or any chronic condition should refrain from taking needed medicine.

Medications can contain hames either in the starch as binders or in the pill coating. Hames can also be found in the flavoring and in the alcohol of liquid/syrup/chewable forms. There are Halachic considerations regarding the type of medicine and the health status of the person needing the medication that may impact which medicines are permitted. Liquid and chewable medications are more problematic and should be taken according to the list. Often there are good substitutes. The Passover Guide to Medicines by Rabbi G. Bess lists medications that have been checked for hames. Please consult the guide or call your Rabbi to verify.

Consult your doctor and Rabbi before discontinuing any medication.

We are including a selection of the most commonly used OTC medications, ones that come up yearly. These are acceptable for anyone who feels the need to take something. This is not a complete list. All meds listed are checked into, some may contain kitniyot. Try to find what you need here, if you need other medications, consult your Rabbi.

Please note: medications listed are for specific brand names and types (i.e. tablets, syrup, or caplets). Do not substitute generic or similar types as they may not have been checked out. (i.e. Aspirin is not Aspirin)

### Allergy, Cold and Pain Relief:

**Afrin** (nasal spray);

**Allegra** (tablets);

**Bayer Aspirin** (adult and children's);

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**Claritin-** Syrup & Tablets; **Clarinex** tablets only; **Drixoral** all;  
**Motrin** tablets, caplets, Children's Cold Oral Suspension Dye Free, Children's Cold Oral Suspension, Children's & Jr. Strength Chewable Tablets;  
**Nasonex** Nasal Spray,  
**Tom's** Bronchial Syrup,  
**Tylenol** reg., extra strength-tablets, caplets, Allergy Complete, Adult Liquid Pain Reliever, Children's Suspension Strawberry, Children's Tablets & Liquid, Children's Cold & Cough Chewables and Suspension, Children's Plus Cold & Cough Suspension, Children's Cold Chew Tabs, Infant concentrated Drops, Junior

Strawberry soft chews, Max Strength Flu Nighttime Liquid, Meltaways Children's, and JR;

**Vick's Dayquil, Nyquil,**

**Sinex,** Vapor Inhaler, Vaposteam.

**Antacids:** **Bromo Selzer; Di-Gel** tablets; **Mylanta** (all); **Pepcid** Chewable, **Peptic Relief** chew tablets, Liquid;

**Pepto-Bismol** (all forms) **Zantac** Granules, Tablets, Syrup.

**Other digestion related medications:**

**Imodium** (Chewable, Tablets and Liquid);

**Colace:** liquid, syrup and capsules; **Fleet laxatives; Metamucil** (powder only – wafers are hames!) **Milk of Magnesia;**

**Senokot & Senokot Xtra** – tablets only (Syrup & granules contain hames!)

**Vitamins are normally not considered pill medication, but rather a food supplement. As such, most Rabbanim feel that vitamins should have Hashgacha for Passover. Many Rabbis hold that pre- natal vitamins that are taken as directed by a doctor, should be used without hesitation. Any other cases when your doctor prescribes a specific vitamin that must be taken on Passover should be taken only after consulting your doctor and your Rabbi.**

The following do not contain hames: **NataChew; Viactiv** Multi Vitamin & soft Calcium Chews; **Vi-Daylin; Pedialite**

#### **Oral Health Products:**

**Mouth wash:** **Cepacol; Fluorecare** Dual Rinse; **Peridex; Scope; Tom's of Maine**

**Toothpaste:** **Aim** Baking Soda, Cavity, Tatar control; **Arm& Hammer Dental Care; Close Up Gel; Colgate** (all)-kosher; **Fluorecare** foam; **Gillette Oral-B** Ages & Stages, **Homeodent** Anise & Lemon; **Mentadent Advanced; Pearl Drops Prevident, 5000 plus, Brush-on Gel, Mint; Tom's of Maine** (all) kosher; **Ultrabrite; Viadent** with Fluoride.

**Crest** – not all are kosher for Passover. The following varieties are acceptable: Extra Whitening Clean Mint, Gum Care Theramint Gel, IntelliClean, Whitening, Multicare Whitening, Night Effects, Plus Scope Liquid Gel, Whitening Expressions Liquid Gel, and Whitestrips.

**Dental floss:** All are acceptable.

**Chap Stick:** No supervision necessary. Unflavored only, new tube.

**Cosmetics:** regarding any cosmetics, hair spray, soaps, shampoos, deodorant, powders (medicated, perfumed, baby, face, foot, etc...), the opinion of the Rabbis that permits these items even without special Passover supervision, may be followed.

## **Recipes**

*The following recipes are helpful to those who have family members that are allergic to dairy. Over the years we have shared these recipes with the many Jews across the country that have turned to the JSOR as the Orthodox Sephardic Rabbis that have reliable Kosher for Passover information about kitniyot for their allergic children.*

### ***Home made Rice Milk***

This may be made from any of the following:

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Prechecked Brown rice (best nutritionally) *or*  
Prechecked White rice  
Prechecked and ground rice

Bring one part rice to boil in 6 parts water.  
Watch carefully. This mixture foams up and can overflow quickly.  
Reduce to a simmer, stirring from the bottom so that the rice does not stick or scorch.  
Continue on a low flame until rice is cooked and mixture is reduced to desired thickness.

At this point the mixture can be either strained (saving the rice to be pureed for baby cereal). The rice can also be blended in. This is best accomplished by using a stick blender directly in the pot. The mixture can also be transferred into a blender to achieve a smooth product.

Add kosher for Passover vanilla sugar to taste.

This can be made and kept in the refrigerator for 2-3 days. Dilute if necessary.



*Notes\Questions*

### ***Home made Almond Milk***

This may be made from any raw almonds. The easiest almonds to use are peeled almonds, slivered or cut work best. (Ground almonds can also work, but are harder to strain afterwards)

If you have a blender or food processor, coarsely chop the almonds.

Put 4 cups water for every cup of almonds in a large pot.

Bring to a boil over a low flame. Simmer until water is cloudy-opaque. Strain using a fine mesh strainer or through several layers of cheesecloth.

Add kosher for Passover vanilla sugar to taste.

May be stored covered in the refrigerator for several days.

***This Pesach Bulletin***

**Was Dedicated  
In Loving Memory  
Of**

**Erwin M. Gemal A”H**

**יצחק בן רחל ז”ל**

**By  
His Lovely Wife**

**Fortune  
&  
Their Children, Grand Children  
&  
Great Grand Children**