

My Very Own PESACH Guide

Textbook & Workbook

Laws, Customs, and All ABOUT PESACH From Nasion Through Infidel Haemem

New Features!
PESACH THE HISTORY TO FREEDOM
From Slavery Through A Joyous Matzah
Takes to Pesach Home, School, Classroom and more!

A PART OF
TOOLKIT FOR TORAH
By Rabbi Chaim A. Shkedi
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3 כסדר

PESACH פסח

THE MONTH OF NISBAN - חודש ניסן

חודש ניסן הוא ראשון החודשים
This month shall be the
HEAD OF THE MONTHS for you
15 shall be the first month of the year for you
...Seven days you shall eat Matzah
...as commanded to you
...at the appointed time in the month of Aviv
(Opening of grain / Spring)...

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PESACH פסח

תחילת חג הפסח (היום הראשון)

(These 2 pages will be explained in detail, in the next few pages)
What is the meaning of the words?

- 1 Not to eat yeast on all seven days of Pesach
- 2 Not to eat chametz in our possession all seven days of Pesach
- 3 Not to eat chametz in our possession all seven days of Pesach
- 4 To tell the story of our redemption

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PESACH פסח

We celebrate and experience the Pesach the first two days - which are the 15th and 16th of Nisan. The next 4 days are the workday of the Pesach, on which we may do most kinds of work. The last 2 days are the 21st and 22nd of Nisan, which are also part of the Pesach. We call the last 2 days of Pesach "Chol Hamoed".

This is the Pesach calendar:

Date	Day	We...
15 Nisan	1	1 st day of Pesach - Celebrate 1 st day
16 Nisan	2	2 nd day of Pesach - Celebrate 2 nd day
17 Nisan	3	1 st day of Chol Hamoed - Family time
18 Nisan	4	2 nd day of Chol Hamoed - Family time
19 Nisan	5	3 rd day of Chol Hamoed - Family time
20 Nisan	6	4 th day of Chol Hamoed - Family time
21 Nisan	7	1 st day of Erev Pesach
22 Nisan	8	2 nd day of Erev Pesach

All this occurs in Israel (outside of Israel, it is a little different).
In Israel, however, the schedule is a little different.
In Israel, they celebrate only one day in the beginning, instead of two days. They have only 7 days.
In Israel, they celebrate 8 days of Chol Hamoed, and celebrate with Pesach on the 21st and 22nd of Nisan, which are also part of the Pesach.
The 8th day is not an Erev Pesach.

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PESACH פסח

חמץ - Chametz

For seven days you should eat Matzah
On the first day you should remove Chametz from your homes
During these seven days Chametz may not be found in your homes
For whomever all each Chametz, that soul will be cut off from (the community of) Israel
You shall not eat any Chametz...
No Chametz may be seen in your possession...
And no Chametz may be seen in all your territories (boundaries)

חמץ הוא כל מה שנוצר ממים וקמח. החמץ הוא המזון שהיה אצל בני ישראל בליל הפסח, והוא נאסר לאכלו בליל הפסח. החמץ הוא המזון שהיה אצל בני ישראל בליל הפסח, והוא נאסר לאכלו בליל הפסח.

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PESACH פסח

THE SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ - בדיקת חמץ

There is no specific time for the search for chametz. We eliminate (get rid of) the chametz. We eliminate it by burning it; this is called "burning". Now, in order to burn it - we must first find it! Therefore, the "baking" of the chametz is the "baking" of the search for chametz.

On the night of the 14th of Nisan, we check and search our homes and property for chametz. We were until after the stars come out, because at this time, most people are anywhere in their homes.

Before the בדיקה, our house is already cleaned and prepared for Pesach. We check all our books that may have been used during the year for crumbs that might have fallen in between the pages. We must also check all our pockets for any leftover crumbs or candy that may be pesach.

Before the בדיקה, we prepare:

- Ten pieces of chametz
- A beeswax candle
- A feather
- A wooden spoon
- A paper bag

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PESACH פסח

WATCHES/GUARDED MATZAH - משקל חמץ

For seven days, you shall eat Matzah
And you shall guard (be careful about) the Matzah

משקל חמץ הוא משקל שמירה. המשקל הוא המשקל שמירה. המשקל הוא המשקל שמירה. המשקל הוא המשקל שמירה.

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PESACH פסח

THE TYPING PLATE

For the Pesach, we prepare 6 items, one on top of the next. Here are a few reasons:

WHAT

1. The main reason is because we need two things for the usual matzah (double loaf) that we have every night and day. The third thing is the bread for the seder night.
2. The three things symbolize the three categories of Israel:
 - ישראל
 - עובדי ה'
 - עובדי האלילים
3. The three things symbolize the three types of people:
 - עובדי ה'
 - עובדי האלילים
 - עובדי האלילים

The typing plate itself is called the "plate". It has six things on it, and is set up in the following way. Like the typewriter:

הפסח הוא חג שמירה. הפסח הוא חג שמירה. הפסח הוא חג שמירה. הפסח הוא חג שמירה.

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PESACH פסח

THE FOUR CUPS - ארבע כוסות

During the Pesach we drink four cups of wine. Why four? Each of the "Four Cups" of wine have their own purpose:

Cup # 1 - is for kiddush, which we make every night and day.
Cup # 2 - is for the first cup, which we drink after we read the Haggadah.
Cup # 3 - is for the second cup, which we drink after we read the Haggadah.
Cup # 4 - is connected to the third - the praise we say to "H", while we ask Him for redemption.

A few other reasons:

- According to the Maharal, just as the 3 cups represent the 3 parts of the four cups represent the four mitzvot.
- According to the Abarbanel, there are four "redemptions" (redemptions). They are:
 1. H chose us, beginning with אברהם, until He took us to Egypt.
 2. The redemption from Egypt.
 3. The fact that the Jewish People still exist is a miracle.
 4. The future Redemption, with Moshiach.

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PESACH פסח

WE WASH OUR HANDS IN PREPARATION FOR... - שטיפת ידיים

How we take a small piece of a vegetable, usually a potato or onion, (smaller than a finger) - we dip it into salt-water. We make the salt-water by dipping it into salt-water, and we do not wash it with water.

Why this custom? On the seven days and seven today, banquets begin with "appetizers" or "Entrees" - a vegetable with a dip. The custom was kept as a sign of our freedom, and mainly, to arouse children's curiosity, that they should ask "Why are you dipping it?"

The dipping into salt-water to remember our slavery.

If we reverse the same thing, we dip it into water, which refers to the 600,000 Jews in Egypt, and 777 means "back breaking labor".

When we make the kiddush for the vegetable, we have in mind that this kiddush should apply for the kiddush which we will be eating soon. (If one forgets to keep this in mind, he still does not make a kiddush for the "kiddush".)

We don't make a kiddush for the dipping itself, because a kiddush is only said when we do a mitzvah, and this is a custom (not a mitzvah).

KARFA: Remembering the bitterness
Sometimes we need to taste the back-breaking, soul-crushing labor of Egypt to free ourselves from it once again. Our parents in slavery prepared us for freedom by making us humble and able to accept Hashem's will. Being humble means realizing that "I am not the most important thing in this world, and I don't need to get my way all the time." It means recognizing that "I was created by Hashem for His own sake - and all other creatures and insects, plants and minerals. Hashem put me here in this world for a reason. And I'd better get on with it..."

How can we become humble today without slavery and suffering?
Look up at the stars above. Gaze at the marvelous world around you. When we realize how small we are relative to this great world Hashem created, and the creation of this world is such an insignificant, tiny part of what Hashem can do, we can become humble.

We are on Step #5 of our Personal Spiritual Journey to Freedom! Keep on track!

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PESACH פסח

WHAT IS THIS? - מה זה זה?

The simple son asks a simple question.
The wise son asks a simple question.
The simple son asks a simple question.
The wise son asks a simple question.

מה זה זה? מה זה זה? מה זה זה? מה זה זה?

מה זה זה? מה זה זה? מה זה זה? מה זה זה?

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PESACH פסח

THE PUNISHMENTS - העונשים

Here the Haggadah mentions the punishments that were inflicted on the Egyptians.
We name the punishments and the mitzvot. Then we say the abbreviation words of the mitzvot.
For each word we say, we pour some wine out of our cup, into a bowl. There are different customs about how this wine is poured.
Some dip their little finger into the bowl that has a crack or "blemish".
The different customs about how the wine should be removed from the cup, can be connected to the different explanations of why we are saying these words.
Some explain that the reason we pour the wine is because of the punishment that was inflicted on the Egyptians. We mention the punishments that were inflicted on the Egyptians, and we still show our anticipation that something "good" would be brought, by spilling out something precious to us (diamonds).
Others explain that the reason we pour the wine is, because of the mitzvot that we say: "I do not rejoice when your enemy falls". Therefore, while we mention the punishments that were inflicted on the Egyptians, we still show our anticipation that something "good" would be brought, by spilling out something precious to us (diamonds).
The simple reason for this was to make it easier to remember all the mitzvot in their correct order. (Remembering three words is easier than ten!)
Some say that these letters were engraved on the 12 tribes' staff.

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PESACH פסח

THE THIRD CUP - הכוס השלישית

We drink the third cup
We pour the third cup for "participation" in our redemption.
We walk to the outside door with candles, open it and say: "H", to show that we do not fear anyone. In this mitzvah, "H" should bring us and give us the enemies of the Jewish People.

הכוס השלישית היא הכוס של השתתפות. הכוס השלישית היא הכוס של השתתפות. הכוס השלישית היא הכוס של השתתפות. הכוס השלישית היא הכוס של השתתפות.

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PESACH פסח

THE FOUR CUPS - ארבע כוסות

על את חמץ נאכלו
הכוסות הארבע
הכוסות הארבע
הכוסות הארבע

על את חמץ נאכלו
הכוסות הארבע
הכוסות הארבע
הכוסות הארבע

על את חמץ נאכלו
הכוסות הארבע
הכוסות הארבע
הכוסות הארבע

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Pesach Questions

17. On Pesach we say part of the _____
WHEN WHAT WHY (2)

תחילת חג הפסח - Pesach
18. Translate the following (Pesach):
19. Fill in the blanks:
On Pesach we celebrate that "H" took us out of _____ in the year _____ The Jewish people were writing as the _____ and "H" heard their cries, and _____ and punished them for their cruelty to _____
20. Fill in the blanks:
We are instructed to celebrate Pesach every year at this time, by eating _____ not eating _____ and by telling the story of _____

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Pesach Questions

THE TYPING PLATE

123. We prepare _____ (number) of items for the Pesach.
124. Why that amount? (3 reasons) a. _____ b. _____ c. _____

125. The typing plate itself, called the _____ has six things on it.
126. Draw the six items, and write their names, in the space below.