

# Day by Day

ה'תשע"ה  
5775

סדר של פסח

**SEDER** companion

Compiled by

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## ערב פסח on Seder preparations

### זרוע

We use a **chicken neck**.

**Reason:** It has no resemblance to any part of a lamb, and avoids the impression that we are bringing a קרבן פסח.

**Minhag:** Most of the meat on the bone is removed.

**Reason:** To further reduce any resemblance to the roasted פסח. One may remove it even on שבת (it is not בורר).

But a **small amount of meat** must remain on the bone, so that is it still classed as a "dish", to commemorate the **special dish** of פסח קרבן פסח.

It must be roasted **before** Yom Tov, even if it's not שבת, unless one intends to eat it the following day before שקיעה, and roast another bone just before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Seder.

**Reason:** On Yom Tov one is permitted to perform a מלאכה only for the sake of eating, but one may not eat the roasted neck, to avoid the impression that we are eating the actual פסח קרבן פסח.

We do not eat roasted meat or poultry, during both Seder nights. This includes roasting in a pot, if it simmers in its own juice. But if you add water or wine, etc. it is allowed. One may eat roast fish, eggs, etc.

### ביצה

We use a **hard-boiled** egg, with the **shell on**.

### חזרת and מרור

The best choice is **Romaine lettuce** (strictly called חזרת).

**Reason:** Although it has a sweet taste, when the stalks harden it becomes very bitter. This resembles the Egyptians. They started with soft words, offering payment for work, but in the end, they embittered our lives, with harsh labour, that was forced upon us, and without pay. However, we do add to it some horseradish (strictly called מרור).

**Both of them** are placed in the two centre spots of the קערה. For **Kabbalistic** reasons, the top one is **called** מרור, and the bottom one is **called** חזרת.

Wash and clean the lettuce, well in advance to give plenty of time for them to dry, as they will come into direct contact with the Matzah as part of the כורך sandwich.

Don't soak the lettuce in water for 24 hours.

The מרור must be grated before Yom Tov.

### חרוסת

**Step One:** Make a **thick** paste of ground **apples, pears and walnuts only**.

**Reason:** To remember the **thick** mortar that we were forced to produce in Mitzrayim. But the actual fruit, represent various good qualities that we retained in Mitzrayim.

Step **one** - **cannot** be done on שבת.

**Step Two:** Later on, before dipping the מרור, a small amount of **red wine** is added.

**Reason:** To remember the first מכה of **blood**.

### כרפס

The preferred choice is a **raw onion**.

**Cooked potato** was introduced as an alternative, only because of the weak natured, who found the raw onion too sharp.

### Salt Water

If it is שבת, like this year, it must be prepared ערב פסח.

If one forgot, it should be made on שבת just before the meal, but the exact amount one needs, which is very little, and the ratio of the salt should be less than 2/3.

### A 'broken plate'

If you don't have a broken plate for the spilling of the wine for the מכות, then chip a plastic bowl before Yom Tov.

### לעילוי נשמת

ר' שמואל ב"ר יצחק ע"ה  
נפטר כ"ח מר-חשוון ה'תשס"ו

By the

**Greenberg & Nussbaum**

Families שיחיו

## Final preparations before Yom-Tov

Prepare the Seder table ערב יום טוב, so that you come home from Shul to a set table, ready to begin the Seder.

**Reason:** Any delay may result in the children falling asleep and not being able to participate properly in the full Seder.

**Exception:** The only thing we leave for after returning from Shul is the arrangement of the **קערה**, the placing of the 3 Matzos and the 6 items, as this **is part** of the actual Seder.

**Caution:** For 2<sup>nd</sup> Seder, this is far less achievable as no preparations are allowed until **nightfall**. If it is מוצאי שבת you first have to say: "ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לקודש".

On **שבת**: **שלום עליכם** & **אשת חיל** are said in an undertone.

## Setting up the קערה

### Why do we have a Seder plate?

The Hagadah must be said when the Matzah, Maror, Charoses, Zeraa and egg are **on the table in front of you**.

Reason for **Matzah**: It is called "לחם עוני". "Bread which **one says many words** over it". "**Many words**" refers to the Hagadah.

**For this reason**, before עבדים היינו, a box/bag of Matzos, with **broken** pieces (as explained in יחץ) of **28.8 g** each, one piece per member, should be placed **on the table, partially uncovered**. If it's brought earlier, it must be removed, before משה נשתנה, and then returned.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> reason for **Matzah**, and reason for **Maror**: The פסוק states: "בעבור זה". זה means **this**. One must be able to point to the Matzah and Maror, when saying the Hagadah.

Reason for **Charoses**: When telling the story of our **slavery** we should see the charoses which contains a double commemoration: 1. The **clay** that was used. 2. The **apple** trees (a primary ingredient in this paste) under which they gave birth without pain, away from the watchful eyes of the Egyptians.

Reason for **Z'roa** and **egg**: Like the roast lamb of the קרבן פסח that was placed on the table.

## Three Matzos:

We make a point of selecting Matzos with a concave shape, similar to a bowl. They must obviously be whole.  
**Reason:** To catch and absorb the powerful revelations and messages that we will be experiencing during the Seder

### Start from the bottom, and work your way up:

First insert the bottom Matzah - "Yisroel", then the middle - "Levi", and then the top - "Kohen".

Select a **large** Matzah for the **middle**, as you will need to eat more than twice the amount from this one.

### Six Simanim:

Placed **directly** on the Matzah cover. Not in individual bowls.

## קדש

Kiddush must begin after nightfall.

Women could listen to the Kiddush recited by the one leading the Seder. However, many women prefer to recite Kiddush themselves. Either way is acceptable, but they must not say שהחיינו, as they have already said it on when lighting the Yom Tov candles.

Men/boys recline when drinking each of the four cups.

## ורחץ

ברכה, and **no talking** before eating כרפס.

If you said the ברכה by mistake?

You must follow a **new order**: 1. יחץ 2. מוציא מצה 3. כרפס (without a ברכה) 4. מגיד 5. מרור 6. כורך ...

## כרפס

1. **Cut** a piece of raw onion (or cooked potato).
2. **Dip** it in salt water three times.
3. **Say** the ברכה - בורא פרי האדמה - ברכה .
4. **Have in mind** that the ברכה should cover the Morror.  
**Reason:** To satisfy the opinion that Morror is not covered by המוציא, as it is not a regular dish served during a meal.
5. Eat **less** than 17 g.  
**Reason:** To avoid the need to say בורא נפשות, once you have eaten a כזית, and it will disconnect the האדמה from the Morror that you have just included.

## יחץ

**Break** the middle Matzah (inside the cloth).

**Reason:** The Hagadah is to be said over "poor man's bread", and a poor man's bread is not a whole loaf.

Try your best, that the **smaller** piece should not be **too small** and retain a כזית - 19.3 g.

Break the larger half into 5 smaller pieces, wrap it up, and place between **two cushions** of your seat.

**Reason:** In memory of the Matzah which was wrapped in their clothing when leaving Mitzrayim.

## לעילוי נשמת

ר' יעקב ב"ר אברהם ע"ה  
נפטר ו' מנחם-אב ה'תשס"ט

By his dear family  
שיחיו

## מגיד

Before לחמא הא all three Matzos are partially uncovered.

The Matzos remain uncovered throughout Maggid.  
**Reason:** The Hagadah must be recited **over** the Matzah.

However, when the cup of wine is raised (והיא שעמדה & ברכת אשר גאלנו) the Matzos are covered.

After לחמא הא move the קערה a little to the side, while the Matzos **remain uncovered**, and fill כוס שני

If there is no child who is able to ask the questions, one adult asks another adult (eg. wife to husband).  
If the son is too young to understand an answer, even if he memorized מה נשתנה, the father does not fulfill his obligation in his explanation to him, and an older daughter must ask.

All adults jointly repeat מה נשתנה, before starting עבדים היינו.

Return the קערה to its rightful position and start עבדים היינו.

**For the מכות:** Spill wine, with the cup itself, and not with ones finger, into a broken vessel, such as a chipped plate or bowl. Have in mind that only the **spilled** wine represents Hashem's anger directed to the forces of evil, symbolized by the broken dish, as they are irreparably cursed. The **remaining** wine brings שמחה and ברכה, and only needs to be topped up.

When saying the words: hold מצה זו שאנו אוכלים על שום מה the middle and lower matzos, through the cloth.

When saying the words: rest מרור זה שאנו אוכלים על שום מה your hands on both sets of חזרת & מרור of the קערה.

## רחצה

Before washing hands, **read** (and make sure you understand) the Hagadah's instructions for the **next three steps**, as there is **no talking** till after כורך.

## מוציא מצה

1. Hold all three Matzos while saying המוציא מצה.
2. Release the bottom Matzah, while holding top two, saying: על אכילת מצה.
3. Have in mind for the ברכה to include the Matzah of כורך & אפיקומן.
4. Break off 19.3 g from the **top** Matzah, and from the **middle** Matzah. Place one on top of the other, so that they enter your mouth at the same time. Recline. See back page for time limit.

## מרור

Now is the correct time to add the final ingredient of חרוסת - the **red wine**.

Recommended method, and a **MUST** on **שבת**:

- A. Take a **small** amount of חרוסת and dip it into the wine that spilled on the plate under the Kiddush cup.
- B. Ensure there is enough wine in the plate to turn the thick חרוסת into a **loose batter** (like ketchup or applesauce).
- C. Then mix with your **finger**, or in a criss-cross fashion, or by shaking the dish.

Leave **some** חרוסת for כורך, **wine-free**, as it may touch the Matzah, which is **gebrokts**.

1. Dip the מרור **partially** into the חרוסת **three** times.
2. Shake off the excess חרוסת.
3. Say על אכילת מרור.
4. Have in mind for the ברכה to include the מרור in כורך.

## כורך

1. Break off 19.3 g from the **bottom** Matzah.
2. Place a small amount of dry, wine-free חרוסת on the חזרת, and then shake it off.
3. Eat them together, while reclining.

## שלחן עורך

**First Course:** Add some salt to the salt water, take the egg from the קערה, peel it, dip the egg three times, and eat it.  
**Reason:** In memory of the destruction of the בית המקדש when we had the פסח קרבן.

Make sure to eat and drink enough, as eating or drinking, is not permitted, after the אפיקומן, even a cup of water. But don't overeat, since the אפיקומן must be eaten with an appetite.

## צפון

Eat while reclining.

**First** night: Eat the אפיקומן before חצות.  
**Second** night: You have till the **morning**.

## כורך

1. Fill up כוס של אליהו.
2. Fill up כוס שלישי.
3. Everyone holds the כוס till after ברכת ירושלים.

## הלל נרצה

Soon after drinking כוס שלישי, refill כוס רביעי for כוס.

**שפוך חמתך** "Pour out your anger".

All doors leading to the outside are opened, to remind us that this night is a ליל שמורים, when we are not scared of anything. In the merit of this אמונה, משיח will come, when ה' will pour out his wrath onto the Goyim.

This is an auspicious time to ask ה' for רוחניות, not גשמיות.

**קריאת שמע שעל המטה** on the **first** night: You say only the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph of שמע and המפיל.

May we soon celebrate the  
**גאולה האמיתית והשלימה**  
together with **משיח צדקנו**

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	Amount		Timing
	Ideally	Minimum	
<b>Four Cups of Wine</b>	115 - 128 ml	86.4 ml	<b>Ideally:</b> In one shot. <b>Valid:</b> In several sips. <b>Invalid:</b> If it took longer than <b>6 or 7 minutes.</b>
<b>Motzie Matzah</b>	19.3 g from <b>top</b> Matzah and 19.3 g from <b>middle</b> Matzah <b>Total: 38.6 g</b>	If you don't have your own קערה <b>28.8 g</b>	The entire required amount should be eaten within <b>6 or 7 minutes.</b>  Some Poskim hold that one should try eating it within <b>4 (or even 3) minutes.</b>
<b>Morror</b>	If you are eating <b>just ...</b> <b>Leaves: 19.2 g    Stalks: 21.2 g</b> <b>Horseradish: 19.3 g</b>  When <b>mixing</b> (as usual): Adjust the proportions.		
<b>Korech</b>	<b>Matzah: 19.3 g</b>		
	<b>Morror: as in Morror</b>		
<b>Afikoman</b>	36.6 g	19.3 g	

**Question:** How much **Romaine lettuce** is enough for Morror?

**Answer:** Just **one** leaf of the first few outer leaves of Romaine lettuce (23 cm long).

**Suggestion:** Obtain a **small (non-digital) scale** to ensure you eat the correct amount. This kind of weighing is allowed on Yom-Tov and Shabbos, since it is for a Mitzvah.

How much of the wine, must one actually **drink**?

For the **first three cups**:

- 1. Ideally:** Finish the entire *becher*, regardless of its size.  
Even if the Becher is greater than the biggest Shiur.

**Advice:** When difficult, choose the smallest valid *becher* (86.4 ml), in order to drink the full cup.

- 2. Second best:** Drink just **over half** of the wine.

- 3. Minimum: 44 ml.**  
This is the volume to fill one cheek-full of the average person.  
For a larger mouth, the amount drunk increases accordingly.

**Fourth cup:** One must drink **86.4 ml** (in order to recite על הגפן ועל פרי הגפן).

In honour of

**יום הבהיר  
י"א ניסן**

A special time to strengthen  
our **התקשרות**  
to the **Rebbe**

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