

Tips for Pesach

Please keep in mind that these are merely **recommendations**, not decrees. Scripture is the ultimate authority in these matters.

Terminology

Se'or - A leavening agent

Chametz - A leavened food item

Passover Cleaning List

***Se'or* - Leavening Agents**

- Yeast
- Baking Soda
- Baking Powder
- Some traditions consider legumes, rice & pasta (because they swell in water)

Common household items that *may be Chametz*

- Crackers & chips
- Seasoning mixes
- Pre-packaged foods (including vegetarian meat substitutes)
- Health food products (look for brewer's yeast or nutritional yeast)
- Alcoholic beverages (beer, wine) unless they say "Kosher for passover"
- Pet foods (and some cat litters)

Common Places to search for leaven

- In and under refrigerator, freezer, oven/stove
- In pantries and cabinets
- Toaster/Toaster oven
- Microwave
- Cabinets & drawers (check for spills)
- Garbage cans
- In and under couches & chairs
- Automobiles
- Carpet (anywhere in the house food may have been taken, including corners of rooms)

General Notes

When should we stop eating chametz prior to Pesach? "Two seasonal hours before midday." Currently (end of February), midday is considered 12:21pm for Mayflower, AR. A seasonal hour is 1/12 of the daylight hours. Seasonal hours will be longer in the summer and shorter in the winter. For precise times for your location, see the Chabad website¹.

Eating out without eating some chametz is nearly impossible. You must realize that those who prepare food in eating establishments are not concerned with keeping *chametz* or *se'or* away from your food. Accidents happen, and if you can avoid this, it would be one less thing with which to be concerned.

¹ http://www.chabad.org/calendar/zmanim_cdo/aid/143790/jewish/Halachic-Times.htm