

SEDER CHECKLIST

atmosphere

GUESTS • Passover is the festival to reach out to anyone you know who needs a seder invitation. It is the holiday when hosts borrow folding chairs to squeeze as many people as possible around their tables.

MUSIC • cds or a spotify playlist will liven up your seder.

FLOWERS • Brighten your seder table with colorful spring flowers.

ritual items

FEATHER, WOODEN SPOON, BAG

Search for, collect, and clear out any chametz (leavening or grain that ferments) in the house. Look any place in the house where chametz is used. Use the feather to sweep all the crumbs into the spoon and deposit them in the paper bag. The next morning, make one final search and then burn or discard the contents.

PILLOWS • Put a pillow on each chair at the seder table to encourage everyone to comfortably recline during the seder.

HAGGADOT • Each guest will need a Passover Haggadah to guide them through the seder.

SEDER PLATE • Holds your ritual foods.

MATZAH • 3 ceremonial boards of matzah are placed in a special holder or on a plate for the seder, and the middle one is broken in half and used for the afikoman (the hidden matzah children search for at the end of the seder). Stack matzah for guests on pretty plates.

KIDDUSH CUPS & WINE GLASSES

Use 3 kiddush cups for the seder leader, for the cup of Elijah, and for the cup of Miriam, which honors Moses' sister Miriam, who played a vital role in the history of our people. Pour wine for your guests into regular wine glasses.

CANDLES • The blessing over the festival candles is recited as the seder begins. On the first night of Passover the Shehecheyanu is also recited.

AFIKOMAN HOLDER • Shop online or in Judaica stores for a bag especially designed to hold the afikoman. It can also be wrapped in a paper or cloth napkin.

PITCHER, 2-HANDLED CUP,

BOWL & TOWEL • These supplies are used for the ritual hand washing (and drying) during the seder.

AFIKOMEN PRIZES • For most kids, the seder's high point is searching for the afikoman. Why not hide more than one afikoman and award fun prizes to every child at your seder? The prizes can be Passover candy, crafts or small toys, like scented markers, Legos, sculpting clay, travel-sized games, or joke books.



A decorative orange line-art graphic of a stylized flower or leaf pattern, positioned at the top center of the page.

ritual food & drink

KOSHER FOR PASSOVER WINE & GRAPE JUICE • During the seder, we drink wine in a formalized ritual. It is considered a mitzvah to drink four cups of wine at the seder. Grape juice may be substituted for wine. The kosher-for-Passover wine selection today is a far cry from the sweet red wines that were once a mainstay of Passover. Wine is another appropriate item for guests to provide.

MATZAH • The Unleavened bread specially baked for Passover are widely available and are used at the seder and throughout the week of Passover.

KARPAS • The parsley, celery, or other greens used to represent spring is “dipped” into salt water to remember the Israelites’ tears. Some families follow the karpas ritual by serving a variety of vegetables and dips as a first course.

MAROR • aka Horseradish. This is the bitter herb eaten before the meal to remind us of the Israelites’ suffering as slaves. Use red or white horseradish for the meal, but raw horseradish root for the seder plate.

BONE OR BEET • A roasted shankbone (z’roa) is included on the seder plate to symbolize the festival offerings (chagigah) that were brought to the ancient Temple. This is a roasted bone used to symbolize the first-born lamb sacrificed as the Passover offering. Because many have not included lamb as a Passover dish since Talmudic times, many use chicken or beef bones. A beet may also be used as a substitute in a vegetarian seder.

CHAROSET • Ingredients: apples, nuts, raisins, cinnamon, and sweet red wine are ingredients you’ll need for a traditional charoset. Dried fruits are called for in many Sephardic charoset recipes, and in Israeli Charoset, Turkish Charoset, and Panamanian Jaroset.

EGGS • Many seder meals begin with hard-boiled eggs, and a roasted egg (beitzah) is included on the seder plate to symbolize the festival offerings (chagigah) that were brought to the ancient Temple. Eggs are also a sign of spring.

1 ORANGE • The whole orange on the seder plate symbolizes inclusivity

KOSHER SALT • This ingredient is used to make the salt water for dipping, symbolizing the tears of the Israelites.

A decorative orange line-art graphic of a stylized flower or leaf pattern, positioned at the bottom left of the page.

“Let all who are hungry come in and eat!”