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HILCHOS MEZUMAN

RABBI DOVID HEBER KASHRUS ADMINISTRATOR

The scene is ever so common in Jewish homes. A delicious meal is served and followed by mayim achronim. Then one of the participants of the mezuman proclaims, "Rabosai mir vellin bentchen" (Gentlemen, let us recite Birchas Hamazon), and everyone present responds.2

The basic halachos are well known. If three men who have reached the age of Bar Mitzvah³ eat bread⁴ together, they form a "mezuman." One of them, known as the "mezamein," is the leader.6 If there are ten men, "Elokeinu" is added⁷ by the mezamein between the words "Nevoraych" and "She'ochalnu", and by the rest of the group (followed by the Mezamein) between "Baruch" and "She'achalnu".

The Mishna at the beginning of the seventh perek of Brochos8 tells us Rule #1 about a mezuman. The food must be kosher. The Mishna lists examples of questionable and prohibited food and explains that a mezuman is not formed, and a brocha is not even recited, on such food. The Gemara9 explains that the reason is derived from Tehillim,10 where Dovid Hamelech says, "Ubotzei'a Boreich Ni'eitz Hashem." This passage teaches us that if a thief recites a brocha

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MEAT, PAREVE AND DAIRY IN KOSHER RESTAURANTS

RABBITZVI ROSEN EDITOR, KASHRUS KURRENTS

TYPICAL RESTAURANT SCENE #1

"Ma,I'm going to grab something to eat before supper." "Fine, but don't make yourself fleishig. We're having milchigs tonight." "No problem. I'll just get an order of fries from Kosher Burger!"

Was that a fatal supper flaw or not? Possibly, but it is not uncommon for a *fleishig* restaurant to cook their french fries or onion rings in the same fryer that is used for chicken. If that is the case, the fries are 100% fleishig and the little boy is cooked! One would have to wait the required amount of time before eating a dairy meal.¹

This is not the only pareve pitfall for an unassuming kosher consumer. There are many other factors to be aware of when dining at a fleishig restaurant. Just as a fryer can be used for both meat and pareve products, so can the knives that are used to cut salad vegetables. Also, frying pans used between cutlets and vegetables, or ovens that cook any number of meat and pareve food items interchangeably, would cause the items served to be considered fleishig.2

Halacha does make certain allowances for pareve dishes prepared in meat or dairy utensils. Those items would be considered in modern *kashrus* terms ME or DE; that is, a *pareve* item cooked using clean Meat Equipment or Dairy Equipment. The status of these items is halachically different than a strictly pareve item cooking in a pareve vessel, or a pareve item cooked in a vessel containing meat or milk. True, you wouldn't have to wait six hours for french fries from a clean fleishig fryer free of any fleishig residue, but you would not be able to eat those fries with dairy items, such as pizza.3 Similarly, it is not permitted to eat french fries from a dairy fryer with a meat hamburger or hot dog.4

- ours, three hours or one hour depending upon one's minhag.
- 2. Y.D. (Yoreh Deah) 89:3 Rema
- 3. Y.D. 89:3 Rema. See mechaber ibid.
- 4. ibid. Note: There has been much practical discussion with *HaRav* Moshe Heinemann, *shlit"a*, as to whether previously used fryers can be adequately cleaned with degreasers and boil outs. This article is written with the assumption that the fryer can be cleaned.

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^{1.} Or "Rabbosai Nevoraych"
2. The ancient custom was that the mezamein was motzi all those present by reciting the entire Birchas Hamazon out loud. Today, the custom is that each person "answers" the mezamein at the beginning and then recites Birchas Hamazon by himself

custom of Sfardim regarding boys under Bar Mitzvah is addressed in

Section IV.

4. The same applies to any hamotzi item (e.g., matzah) upon which Birchas Hamazon is

^{5.} The full text of the *mezuman* is found in any *siddur* or "*bentcher*"

^{5.} The full text of the mezuman is found in any stadur or "pentcher".

6. It is proper for the one who leads the mezuman to also recite the entire first brocha (through Hazan es hakol) out loud, while everyone else recites it quietly with him, see Shulchan Aruch Orach Chaim (hereafter abbreviated S.A.) 1837. [See Sefer Zimun K'hilchasa pg. 13, which discusses the basis of those who do not recite the first brocha out loud.] Furthermore, after the participants complete each brocha, the mezamein says the loud.] Furthermore, after the participants complete each brocha, the mezamein says the end of the brocha out loud for everyone to hear and answer "Amen". Note that sections of Yaaleh v'yavo recited out loud in shul should not be recited out loud during Birchas Hamazon, as the participants cannot answer "Amen" in the middle of Birchas Hamazon (whereas in shul, they are allowed to answer "Amen" during chazaras hashatz).
7. There is an inyan to briefly rise when saying "Elokeinu" (Eishel Avraham-Buchech 192:1), as long as it can be done without spilling the wine.
8. This perek, which begins on Daf 45a, is dedicated primarily to the halachos of Birchas Hamazon and mezuman.

Hamazon and mezuman. 9. Also found in Bava Kamma 94a. 10. Tehillim 10:3



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(on the food he has stolen), the act blasphemes Hashem. If one knowingly eats something non-kosher, even if the food is only rabbinically prohibited, there is no *mezuman* and a *brocha* is not recited before or after consumption. Blessings are recited only over kosher food.12

WHAT MUST BE CONSUMED?

All three men who are present are not required to eat bread; only two thirds (i.e., known as a "rubah deminkra", a noticeable majority) is necessary. This means at least two men must eat a kezayis of bread,13 an amount that obligates them in *Birchas Hamazon*.¹⁴ The third participant only has to eat a *kezay*is of any food.¹⁵ Any type of food, including cake, fruit, vegetables or even candy will suffice provided that one eats enough to require a brocha acharona. Alternatively, the third person can drink a revi'is16 of any beverage (other than water or seltzer).¹⁷

To form a minyan for a mezuman (and say "Elokeinu"), at least seven¹⁸ men must eat a *kezayis* of bread. The other three men can eat or drink as noted above. The same applies to Sheva Brochos. 19

EATING TOGETHER

Once three people eat together, they may not "break up" and recite Birchas Hamazon without a mezuman. Similarly, if ten men eat together, they may not break up into smaller groups that cannot say "Elokeinu". If necessary, six people who ate together are allowed to split into two groups. The same applies to 7-9 people; 20 or more people can also break up, if necessary. A group of 10-19 people may not split.

In general, once one eats with others he has an obligation to join the mezuman and cannot recite Birchas Hamazon without a mezuman. However, when necessary, if before sitting down to eat a person has in mind not to formally

join the group at the table (e.g., at a wedding),20 he can recite Birchas Hamazon without a mezuman before the rest of the group recites Birchas Hamazon with a mezuman.21

Better yet, under the following conditions he can lead the mezuman before others are ready to recite Birchas Hamazon. If three men eat a meal and one of them is ready to recite Birchas Hamazon before the others finish their meal, the other two men may stop and respond to him.²² To do so, they should not talk or continue eating until he finishes the first brocha (Hazan Es HaKol). If two men are ready to recite Birchas Hamazon, the third person who is still eating must stop and answer the mezamein.23 If two "new" people now sit down with the fellow who answered the mezuman, and the three of them eat a kezayis of bread together, another zimun can be made.24

If the group occupies two or more tables, a mezuman is formed if they see each other and are part of one group, such as one family,25 one yeshiva,26 or any group that has come together to eat (e.g., a simcha).²⁷ A mezuman of three men can be formed in a car, bus, train or airplane. However, "Elokeinu" is not added if ten men are in transit together.28

If two men who ate bread together finished eating and continued to talk (i.e., they did not end the meal), and then a third man walks in and eats bread (or anything else), a mezuman has been formed even though they did not "eat together". Since the original two men could have eaten with the latecomer had they desired to do so, this constitutes eating "together".29 However, if the two men had already washed mayim acharonim³⁰ before the third person came and ate, there is no mezuman as they may no longer eat after

20. See Igros Moshe Orach Chaim 1:56, who says "Yomru bfeirush kodem.she'ayn mischavin l'hitztaraph." This heter is for when he has a need to leave before Birchas Hamazon because the meal is lengthy (e.g., a wedding, when it is difficult to stay until the end) or due to another davar nachutz (important matter). See Ba'er Moshe 3:32 who adds that one should ideally also begin eating before or after the others at the table, thereby not forming a k'vius with them.

21. In such a case, if three men are ready to recite Birchas Hamazon, they may make a mezuman. At a wedding, if ten men who are together are ready to recite Birchas Hamazon early, if they make a mezuman they would need to also recite Sheva Brochos, which may prove to be impractical (see different opinion in Ba'er Moshe (ibid.) regarding not reciting Sheva Brachos in such a case).

22. If they do not want to interrupt their meal, they are not required to stop and he will have to wait to recite Birchas Hamazon. Furthermore, if it is not urgent it is not derech eretz for one person to ask two individuals to stop their meal unless he assumes that they will not be makpid. A son must stop for a father and a student for his rebbi (Shaarei Teshuva Siman 200).

23. See S.A. and Rama siman 2001 & 2.

24. MB. 193.33. Also see M.B. 200.9, who discusses this case and an array of similar cases concerning a mezuman of three or ten.

a mezuman of three or ten.

25. MB. 19318.

26. HaRav Moshe Heinemann, shlit"a, noted that it is said in the name of Harav Aron Kotler, zt"l that individuals eating in a yeshiva dining room at a time set by the administration form a mezuman, even if they are eating at different tables, as long as they see each other. This is true both on Shabbos and during the week. A similar opinion is found in Minchas Yitzchok (8:8:3). For a full discussion, see Sefer V'zos Habracha Chap. 14 which quotes additional opinions on this issue.

27. In a restaurant, if two men are at one table and two men are at a different table, there is no mezuman (Minchas Yitzchok 8:8:3). However, if three men are at one table and form a mezuman, individuals at other tables may respond (see Piskei Teshus) 1937).

individuals at other tables may respond (see Piskei Teshuvos 193:7).

29. See S.A. 197:1. Similarly, a mezuman is formed if two men ate meat and one ate dairy. In such a case, the custom is for the one who ate dairy to lead the *mezuman* because he is able to also eat meat. See *MB*, 1969, who also discusses cases where the dairy is hard cheese.
30. According to some opinions, they can no longer form a *mezuman* with a third person even if they simply said, "Let's *bentch*" (see *Biur Halacha* 197, "Aval im...").

11. S.A. 196:1 and Mishna Brura (M.B.) Seif Katan (S.K.) 3.
12. If one inadvertently ate non-kosher food, he should recite Birchas Hamazon (or an after-brocha, 12. If one inadvertently ate non-Rosner rood, he should recite Birchas Hamazon for an atter-procend, depending upon what he ate). However, he may not be counted as part of a mezuman (M.B. 196.4). If a cholch sheyaish bo sakana (someone with a life-threatening illness) needs to eat non-kosher food, he should recite brochos and he can be part of a mezuman (S.A. 196.2).

13. This is true even if more people ate other food. For example, a mezuman is formed if two men ate bread and six men ate fruit. The two still constitute a noticeable majority of the minimum requirement of three.

requirement of three.

14. This means that the *kezayis* must be consumed *b'kday achilas pras*. Therefore, one must consume 1.33 fl. oz. (40 ml) of food ideally within a span of 2 minutes, but *b'dieved* even within a span of up to 4 minutes.

15. However, he may not be the *mezamein*. He recites his *brocha acharona* after answering "Amen"

15. However, he may not be the mezamein. He recites his brocha acharona after answering "Amen" to "Hazan Es Hakol", M.B. 18328. See Chazon Ish Orach Chaim 30:2, who disagrees and says one may recite a brocha acharona immediately after answering the mezamein.

16. The third person should drink at least a revi'is, 3.8 fl. oz. (112 ml), within 30 seconds. The Biur Halacha (1972 sheyaish bo) says one can possibly be maykil if the third person drank a "rov revi'is"-slightly larger than half a revi'is, 2 fl. oz. (59 ml).

17. This is the opinion of the S.A. (197:2); others allow water. For further discussion, see M.B. 197:12 and Sefer Zimun K'hilchasa pg. 10.

18. Seven is the minimum number that constitutes a "rubah d'minkra", i.e., two-thirds of 10.

19. This means that at least seven men must eat bread to recite Sheva Brachas. The other three who

19. This means that at least seven men must eat bread to recite *Sheva Brochos*. The other three who eat or drink something else cannot lead *Birchas Hamazon*, but they could recite *sheva brochos*. There are other requirements for *Sheva Brochos* beyond the scope of our discussion (e.g., *panim chadashos*, etc.).



urprise Du Jour **RABBI TZVI ROSEN** EDITOR, KASHRUS KURRENTS

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Askosher restaurants do not routinely maintain segregated fryers, due to the constant preparation of assorted meat and pareve items, keeping a "pareve" fryer is nearly impossible. Accidental splattering or interchanging of compatible equipment or cooking oil would make it very difficult to consider those fries pareve, even if there is a separate fryer. Similarly, most fried Chinese noodles that are served as an appetizer in a kosher Chinese restaurant are cooked in the meat fryers and should be considered 100% fleishig.⁵

TYPICAL RESTAURANT SCENE #2 (

"What do you want to order?" "I don't know, but I am not in the mood for meat." "Why don't you try some grilled fish. It's delicious!"

Ordering fish in a meat restaurant is a popular alternative to meat or chicken, and can create other *halachic* pitfalls to the unaware kosher consumer. It is common to offer fish entrées on a meat restaurant menu. Sushi bars have become very common in many fleishig establishments, as well. One of the well known halachos regarding Jewish health concerns, sakana, stipulates that one is forbidden to eat fish and meat together.⁶ Therefore, fish items in reliably kosher certified *fleishig* restaurants are cooked and prepared using separate utensils. Furthermore, it is customary to drink a beverage and eat something *pareve* after the fish, such as a cracker or piece of *challah*, before eating any meat⁷ if the fish was served as an appetizer.

When a popular entrée such as blackened salmon is ordered, it is common to request a fried side dish, such as rice, french fries or steamed vegetables that compliment the main dish. Rice is typically cooked in pareve rice cookers. However, if these items are cooked in common keilim, they are considered to be fleishig and the consumer may unwittingly be violating the law of sakana, eating fish and "meat" together.8 It is the policy of STAR-K certified restaurants to note on the menu whether vegetables are pareve or are to be considered fleishig.

TYPICAL RESTAURANT SCENE #3

"Waiter, I am Sefardi. I am makpid (Beit Yosef) on Bishul Yisroel." "No problem. We have a fulltime mashgiach on the premises."

Many of the items served in kosher restaurants or fast food eateries are oleh al shulchan melachim, i.e., fit to be served at a banquet or state dinner, and are subject to the rules of Bishul Akum. As such, food items that are 100% kosher yet cooked by an aino Yehudi are forbidden for consumption.9 Often, restaurants employ cooks who are aino Yehudim. The Shulchan Aruch suggests different methods for avoiding Bishul Akum. According to the *Rema*, ¹⁰ the *mashgiach* should make sure that he/she turns on all the fires of any cooking appliance. This includes the stove, burners, steamers and rice cookers ensuring that all oleh al shulchan melachim items on the menu are Bishul Yisroel. However, the Rema's solution for the fulfillment

of Bishul Yisroel will not satisfy Bishul Yisroel Safardi. According to the mechaber Maron Bais Yosef, in order to satisfy Bishul Yisroel the mashgiach would actually have to place the food in the lit oven or on the lit burner, 11 light the fire when the food is on the burner, or put the actual food into a hot oven. Therefore, while a restaurant might be in 100% halachic compliance and correctly advertises Bishul Yisroel, the food being served may not be permitted to a Sefardic consumer if the food was prepared according to Bishul Yisroel Ashkenazi.

Some kosher doughnut shops offer more than kosher doughnuts and coffee. They also serve muffins and croissants, eggs on a muffin, a popular breakfast menu item. The halacha states that eggs are oleh al shulchan melachim and are subject to the laws of Bishul Akum.12 It goes without saying that even kosher certified doughnut shops do not have the luxury of hashgacha temidis. In order to avoid the prohibition of Bishul Akum, eggs are microwaved instead of conventional cooking. Microwaving is not subject to the laws of Bishul Akum.¹³ However, if the doughnut shop prepares the omelets on the grill, the laws of Bishul Akum would certainly apply. If certification applies only to the doughnuts and coffee and does not cover the breakfast menu, an uninformed kosher consumer could inadvertently consume non-kosher eggs.14

TYPICAL RESTAURANT SCENE #4

"It is so nice to have the cousins together for this special evening." "Yes. It's great to have an elegant kosher restaurant in town." "Do they serve wine?" "They have a great selection!"

Many restaurants have different policies regarding mevushal wines. Some fine dining restaurants offer mevushal and non-mevushal wines, with a frum waiter to pour them. Other kashrus organizations permit only mevushal wines to be served.¹⁵ Some customers will order a whole bottle of non-mevushal wine for their party. If some of the guests are aino Yehudim and pour their own wine, the wine becomes stam yayin and cannot be used since the wine was not mevushal.16

AND FOR THE FINAL GURPRISE..

Do you think that kosher pizza shops or milchig restaurants don't have surprises?

Have you ever topped your pizza, lasagna or baked ziti with parmesan toppings? Are you aware that the parmesan cheese topping is real grated hard cheese? Since the cheese is aged over six months and can only be cut by grating, one has to wait six hours before eating anything fleishig. Six hours milchig... you've got to be kidding!17

^{16.} Y.D. ibid:1 Rema 17. Y.D. 89:1 Shach 15



^{5.} IDIU 6. Y.D. 1162; O.C. (Orach Chaim) 1732. Sefardim also consider fish and dairy a sakana, as well. 7. O.C. 173 M.B. (Mishna Brurah) Shar Tzion 2.

^{9.} Y.D. 113:1

^{10.} Y.D. 113:7 Rema

¹¹ ibid·7

^{13.} ibid:13 *Rema*. According to *HaRav* Moshe Heinemann, *shlit"a*, microwaving radiates the food item so the water or fat molecules vibrate quickly, creating rapid molecule motion that creates heat which reacts with the food. Microwaving is not a method of conventional cooking and is not subject to the laws of Bishul Akum.

^{14.} Another common problem could arise from serving sandwiches. If tuna fish is one of the items available, who is watching the tuna fish preparation? Fish is an item requiring two simanim, distinct identifications. Without proper hashgacha, tuna sandwiches would be prohibited; Y.D. 83·3 &t 4

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washing mayim acharonim.³¹ Therefore, we do not consider them as having eaten "together".

If three men ate bread and one of them forgot that there is a mezuman and recited Birchas Hamazon, one of the two remaining men can still lead the mezuman before he says Birchas Hamazon.32 The other two men (including the one who already recited Birchas Hamazon) respond. However, if only two men ate bread and one ate or drank something else, and any one of them forgot and recited the necessary brocha acharona,33 it is too late to say Birchas Hamazon with a mezuman.34

A mezuman should not be formed (i.e., three men should not sit together) at the seudas hamafsekes on erev Tisha B'Av (that falls on a weekday). At a seudas havra'a,35 the availim should l'chatchilah not sit together to a mezuman.³⁶ Availim at other meals can form a mezuman.37

SOMEONE WHO DID NOT EAT

If someone does not eat or drink anything³⁸ and is in the presence of three men who have formed a mezuman, he can still answer "Yehi shaim Hashem ..." Then, when the mezamein says "Nevoraych sheachalnu mishelo," this fourth person who did not eat should say the following (i.e., a different nusach than those who ate), "Baruch umevorach shmo tamid l'olam vaed."39 Similarly, if there are ten men answering, an "eleventh person" present who did not eat40 should respond "Baruch Elokeinu u'mevorach shmo ..."41

THE MEZAMEIN

Ideally, 42 the mezamein (leader) holds a cup 43 (kos) of wine (or grape juice) when leading the mezuman.44 After completing Birchas Hamazon, a Borei Pri Hagafen is recited and he drinks from the cup. 45 It is *mehudar* to drink a *revi'is*, however, one is *yotzai* even if he only drinks a small amount from this "kos shel brocha" (cup over which the blessing was recited). L'maaseh, the prevalent minhag at most meals is not to recite Birchas Hamazon on a kos. 46 Nonetheless, many have a kos when there is a minyan or at a seudas mitzvah. Some also use a kos on Shabbos and Yom Tov. 47

Although women do not form a mezuman, 48 if they eat together with a mezuman of men they must answer the mezamein.⁴⁹ If they are too busy to say Birchas Hamazon at that time, they should answer the mezamein thereby participating in the mezuman and then recite Birchas Hamazon later.

The minhag of Ashkenazim is that all three (or 10) members of the mezuman must be Bar Mitzvah.⁵⁰ Sfardim allow one of the three (or 10) men to be as young as 9 years old.51 If an Ashkenazi eats at the home of Sfardim, and the mezuman consists of a Sfardi over the age of Bar Mitzvah, a 9-year old Sfardi and the Ashkenazi, the Ashkenazi can participate but cannot be the mezamein.52

> Technically, the baal habayis⁵³ can ask whomever he wants to be the *mezamein.*⁵⁴ It is praiseworthy to honor any of the following individuals to lead Birchas Hamazon: a guest,⁵⁵ a Talmid chochom, a kohen, a Levi, one who has yahrzheit or who is in the 12 months of aveilus.56

Sefer Shoshanim L'Dovid⁵⁷ asks why

we say in Birchas HaTorah "Barchu es

Hashem", yet during a mezuman with a minyan we say "Elokeinu", a different name of Hakadosh Boruch Hu? He answers that the name "Elokeinu" signifies *din*/judgment, and the name of Hashem that we recite signifies rachamim/ When we learn Torah, it is a shaas rachamim (time of mercy). However, when we eat it is

a time of din/judgment. Indeed, when a mezuman is formed and there is a "public" display of praising the Ribbono Shel Olam, this zechus allows all of those present to receive a favorable judgment for parnassah, brocha and hatzlacha.

Leadership in

^{31.} See Rama 1971.
32. S.A. 1941. Thus, the two people who recite Birchas Hamazon are yotzai zimun. The one who

forgot is not yotzai zimun ("ayn zimun l'mafraya").

33. In other words, either of the following inadvertently occurred without a mezuman. One of the men who ate bread recited Birchas Hamazon, or the one who ate other food or drank recited the necessary brocha acharona. In either case, there is no mezuman. 34. See M.B. 197.9

^{35.} The meal the mourners eat after a funeral.

^{36.} Gesher Hachaim 2:181. If they did sit together at the seudas havra'a they would bentch b'mezuman (without "Elokeinu", even if there are ten men). See Shach Yoreh Deah 379:6. 37. Shulchan Aruch Yoreh Deah 379:5

^{38.} If he drinks water, although he is not *mitztaref* to the *mezuman*, he can still respond like those who ate. See *Aruch Hashulchan* (O.C. 198:2). 39. If he came in as they were already responding "*Baruch Sheachalnu*" – he should simply respond

^{40.} If this 11th person just had something to drink, see M.B. 198:1.
41. If he is at a Sheva Brochos and did not eat, he should respond, "Boruch Elokeinu u'mevorach shmo tamid l'olam vaed shehasimcha b'mono" (M.B. 1986). Likutei Maharich (Seder Birchas Hamazon) says to insert "shehasimcha b'mono" after saying "Elokeinu".
42. It is a mitzvah min hamuvchar to have a kos (S.A. 192:1).

^{43.} The cup must hold at least a revi'is and in general is similar in halacha to a cup used for Kiddush

tuni, etc.). 44. The custom is to hold the cup up through "Al Yichasraynu" (Kt2os Hashulchan 46:f21). 45. If it is after sunset at the end of Shabbos or Yom Tov, one does not drink from the cup (unless it

is Sheva Brochos). The custom in many shuls is to save it for havdala.

^{46.} Igros Moshe Yoreh Deah 3:52:3

^{47.} Of course, a kos is required at Sheva Brochos and it is customary at the seuda of a bris (each of these occasions has a special nusach as printed in most bentchers). A kos is also required at the seder on the first two nights of Pesach (even if there are less than three men, and the "mezuman nusach"

is not rectied). 48. See Biru Halacha 199.7, "Nashim…ach haolam lo nahagen kayn." 49. See S.A. 199.7 and Birr Halacha "V'yotzos…elah…" For further discussion, see Piskei Teshuvos 199:f9.

^{51.} See S.A. 199.9 and M.B. S.K. 24; however, the 9-year old cannot lead the mezuman. He can lead

only upon becoming Bar Mitzvah.
52. See Sefer V'zos Habrocha Chapter 14.
53. When a guest leads bentching, the custom is to add the words "Birshus Baal Habayis". Additions of "Birshus Harav" or "Birshus Hakohain", etc. are added when relevant. 54. See Sefer Ktzos Hashulchan siman 45 in the Badei Hashulchan end of oys 42 in the name of the Levush.

^{55.} See S.A. 201:1, who notes that the guest should also recite the Yehi Ratzon insertion as a special brocha for the host. See Seder Birkas HaMazon (Dayan Raskin, London 5774), excerpt from forthcoming edition of Siddur Rabeinu Hazaken im Tziyunim Mekoros ve'Heoros, pgs. 50-51 for an explanation as to why the nusach was not found in most earlier siddurim and why some are not

noheg to say it. 56. For more detailed specifics regarding which of the above takes precedence, see *S.A.* 201 and the various nosei keilim on the siman

^{57.} Brochos 7:3





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 $\textbf{For general guidelines regarding the laws of } \textbf{\textit{tevilas keilim}}, \textbf{\textit{see}} \underline{\textbf{\textit{www.star-k.org/cons-appr-tvilaskelim.htm}}$

UTENGIL	TEVILAH
Aluminum Pan, disposable	Tevilah without a brocha if intended to be used only once; tevilah with a brocha if intended to be used more than once.1
Aluminum Pan , non-disposable	Tevilah with a brocha²
Apple Corer (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Baking/Cookie sheet	Tevilah with a brocha
Barbeque Grill	Racks require tevilah with a brocha, other components do not require tevilah.
Blech	No tevilah
Blender/Mixer	Glass or metal bowl, metal blades and other attachments require <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> , other components do not require <i>tevilah</i> . Handheld immersion blender requires <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> .
Bottle (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha. If bought filled with food and subsequently emptied by a Jew, does not require tevilah. ³
Brush (grill, egg yolk, pastry)	No tevilah
Cake Plate (metal or glass)	Plate needs tevilah with a brocha, cake plate cover does not require tevilah.
Can (metal or glass)	<i>Tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> . If bought filled with food and subsequently emptied by a Jew, does not require <i>tevilah</i> . ³
Can Opener	No tevilah
Cast Iron Pot	Tevilah with a brocha
Ceramic Knife	Tevilah without a brocha
Challah Board	Metal board, or glass top on wooden board, requires <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> . Wood board with a plastitop does not require <i>tevilah</i> .
Cheese Slicer (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
China (glazed)	Tevilah without a brocha ⁴
Coffee Grinder	No tevilah
Coffee Maker (electric)	Does not require tevilah if it will break if toveled, otherwise requires tevilah with a brocha. ⁵
Colander (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Cookie Cutter	No tevilah (if only used with food that is not edible).6
Cookie Sheet (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Cooling Rack (metal)	Tevilah without a brocha
Corelle Plate	Tevilah with a brocha ⁷
Corkscrew	No tevilah
Corningware	Tevilah without a brocha
Corn Skewers (metal prongs)	Tevilah with a brocha
Crock Pot	Metal or glass insert requires <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> , ceramic insert requires <i>tevilah</i> without a <i>brocha</i> , heating element does not require <i>tevilah</i> ; glass lid requires <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> .
Cup/Mug	Tevilah with a brocha if metal or glass, tevilah without a brocha if glazed ceramic, no tevilah if plastic.
Cupcake/Muffin Pan (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Cutlery (metal) i.e., forks knives, spoons	Tevilah with a brocha. Knife used for arts and crafts only does not require tevilah.
Cutting Board (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha
Dentures	No tevilah
Dishes	Tevilah with a brocha if metal or glass, or tevilah without a brocha if glazed ceramic.
Dish Rack	No tevilah
Egg Slicer (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Flour Sifter	No tevilah ⁶
Frying Pan (metal)	Tevilah without a brocha if Teflon coated, with a brocha if uncoated.
George Foreman Grill	Tevilah without a brocha.8 Does not require tevilah if it will break if toveled.5
Glasses (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha
Grater (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Grill	See Barbeque grill
Hot Plate/Platta	No tevilah
Ice Cream Scooper (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Immersion Blender	Metal blades and other attachments require tevilah with a brocha.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



A Practical Guide to Tevilas Keilim

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

UTENGIL	TEVILAH
Immersion Heater	No tevilah
Kettle (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha
Keurig Machine	Does not require tevilah if it will break if toveled, otherwise requires tevilah with a brocha. ⁵
Kiddush Cup (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha. Does not require tevilah if manufactured in Israel, but does require tevilah if sold in Israel and manufactured elsewhere.
Knife Sharpener	No tevilah
Ladle (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Measuring Spoon (metal)	Tevilah without a brocha ⁹
Meat Grinder (metal)	Attachments require tevilah with a brocha (if only used for raw meat, tevilah without a brocha)6
Meat Tenderizer (metal hammer)	No tevilah ⁶
Meat Thermometer	No tevilah
Medicine Spoon (metal or glass)	Tevilah without a brocha if used solely for medicine.
Melon Baller (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Microwave Turntable (glass)	Tevilah without a brocha
Nutcracker	Tevilah with a brocha, if used at the table. Tevilah without a brocha, if not used at the table.
Oven Rack	No tevilah. See Toaster Oven.
Peppermill	Tevilah without a brocha
Peeler	Requires <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> if blade is metal, even if the rest of the unit is plastic.
Plastic Utensil	No tevilah
Popcorn Maker (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha. It does not require tevilah if it will break if toveled. ⁵
Pot (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha. If Teflon, enamel or plastic coated, requires tevilah without a brocha.
Pot Cover (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha
Pyrex Cookware	Tevilah with a brocha ¹⁰
Roasting Pan (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Rolling Pin	No tevilah
Salt Shaker (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha. Metal cap on a plastic salt shaker requires tevilah without a brocha.
Sandwich Maker	Tevilah without a brocha ⁸
Scissors/Shears (poultry)	Tevilah with a brocha, if used for edible food. If only used for raw food, requires tevilah without a brocha.
Sieve (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Silicone Bakeware	No tevilah
Sink Rack	No tevilah
Skewer (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Spoon Rest	No tevilah
Storage Container	No $tevilah$, if container is not brought to the table at meals. ¹¹
Sugar Bowl (metal or glass)	Tevilah with a brocha
Teflon Coated Pan (metal)	Tevilah without a brocha
Thermos	Thermos (metal or glass) with no insert requires <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> . Casing of thermos which has an insert does not require <i>tevilah</i> ,and insert (metal or glass) requires <i>tevilah</i> with a <i>brocha</i> .
Toaster	Tevilah without a brocha
Toaster Oven	Rack and tray require tevilah, other components do not.
Trivet	No tevilah, if food does not touch the surface.
Urn (metal)	Tevilah with a brocha
Waffle Maker	Tevilah without a brocha ⁸
Warming Tray	No tevilah
Washing Cup (metal)	No tevilah, if used only for washing hands.
Wooden Cask	No tevilah. Requires tevilah without a brocha if it has metal straps.

1. רבו הדעות בדין טבילת כלי העשוי לשמוש חד פעמי, עי בשו"ת אגרות משה יו"ד ח"ג סי כג ושו"ת מנחת יצחק ח"ה סי לב ושו"ת חלקת יעקב יו"ד סי מו ושו"ת חשב האפוד ח"ג סי ע ושו"ת שלחן הלוי פכ"ד אות לה וספר אשרי האיש יו"ד פ"ט אות ג ואות ז, ומש"כ בפנים הוא דעת מו"ר ר' היינעמאן שליט"א. 2. ערוך השלחן יו"ד סי קכ על שו"ע יו"ד סי קכ ובחלקת בנימין שם סעי א ביאורים ד"ה 'מתכות' ובספר טבילת כלים פ"ד הערה טו בשם הגרש"ז אויערבאך זצ"ל ושם הערה כ מהגר"ח קניבסקי שליט"א בשם החזו"א ובשו"ת חלקת יעקב יו"ד סי מב ושו"ת ציץ אליעזר ח"ח מוסף סי לו וחלקת בנימין סי קכ ס"ק צב. 4. עי בחי רע"א יו"ד סי קכ על הש"ך ס"ק ד וערוך השלחן שם סעי כט, ועי מש"כ באמת ליעקב סי קכ הערה 52 לגבי כלי חרסינה של ימינו, ועי בשו"ת שלחן הלוי להגר"י בעלסקי שליט"א פכ"ד סעי לב הערה ה' תהליך עשיית הציפוי לכלי חרסינה בימינו יש לטבול כלי חרסינה המצופה בגליזיר"ט בלי ברכה, וכן פסק מו"ר שלחן הלוי להגר"י בעלסקי שליט"א פכ"ד סעי לב הערה ה' תהליך עשיית הציפוי לכלי חרסינה בימינו יש לטבול כלי חרסינה המצופה בגליזיר"ט בלי ברכה הוכן שכל האיסור הר' היינעמאן שליט"א. 5. מו"ר ר' היינעמאן שליט"א אמר שאם בודאי יתקלקל הכלי ע"י טבילה וא"א לטבלו ולהשתמש בו אח"כ, א"כ הרי הוא אונוס שא"א לקיים המצוה, וכיון שכל האיסור בו אוכל עדיין צריך האוכל תוקון אחר חייב בטבילה בלא ברכה, ואם הכלי הזה א"א להשתמש בו מחבר ליש שמתקנים בהם המצות א"צ טבילה בלא ברכה, ואם הביאור הגר"א שם ס"ק יד השיג על הש"ך. והפר"ח שם ס"ק יג פסק שהברזילים אינם צריכים טבילה (מטעם אחר של הש"ך, עי"ש), וההכמת אדם כלל עג סע" ט פסק כדעת הש"ך, ואם ביאור הגר"א שם ס"ק יד השיג על הש"ר. "החכמת אדם. אמנם ע" בחלקת בנימין שם ס"ק לט ובספר טבילת כלים פר אות עו"ד פ"ט אות עו וספר טבילת כלים פרק א הערה ל. 11. ע"ב בוספר שבילי על בשר"ת ציץ אליעזר ח"ח סי כו, וכן פסק מו"ר ר' היינעמאן שליט"א. אמנם ע" בספר טבילת כלים פ"א אות עו"ד פ"ק א הערה יל, וע"ע בשו"ת ציץ אליעזר ח"ח סי כו, וכן פסק מו"ר ר' היינעאמן שליט"א. אמנם ע" בספר טבילת כלים פ"א אות עו וספר סבילת כלים פר א הערה יג וברכי תשובה שם ס"ק ז, וע"ע בשו"ת ציץ אליעזר ח"ח סי כו, וכן פסק מו"ר ר' היינעאמן שליט"א. אמנם ע" בספר טבילת כלים פ"א הערה יג ובהה. עובה ל"ד בולת כלים פ"א הערה ה'. ווב מ"ל בש"ח בי"ל בי"ל בי"ת ציין לכ"



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Please be aware that carrots (e.g., Dorot Farms brand), peppers, and other vegetables from Israel are consistently being sold at produce markets throughout the U.S. The labels on the packages state "Product of Israel". From the numerous inquiries we have received, it is apparent that many consumers are unaware of this when shopping. These vegetables were grown during the shmitta year and may not be eaten. Furthermore, they may not be thrown out and require special handling. If you bought these products, please contact your local Orthodox rabbi for further guidance.

Some fruits (e.g., peaches, nectarines, cherries, lichi, grapes, figs, apples and apricots) from Israel are already from the shmitta crop, which means that they need to be eaten with special care (see articles on our website at www.star-k.org).

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Kashrus Kurrents is also available on the web at www.star-k.org/cons-kash.htm or send an email to kashruskurrents-subscribe@star-k.org.

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