

# PESACH 5786 KASHRUS GUIDE

## Hisachdus Harabonim Di'Lakewood

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Important Rule: Every item must explicitly say 'Kosher for Passover' or have an approved 'P' designation.

### General Guidelines & Alerts

- Preferred Hashgocha: In general, OU-P grocery items with no heimish certification on the package are preferred, as OU supervisors are better trained.
- Sourdough Starter: All sourdough starter must be burned; it cannot be sold. (After Pesach, fresh starter can be ordered online from King Arthur Flour Co., which is an OU-approved, non-Jewish-owned company).
- Orange Juice Filtering: ALL orange juice (including Dvash, Golden Flow, New Square, Lakewood Farms) MUST be filtered with a 150-mesh filter prior to use due to scale insects.
- Wine Filtering: Non-commercial wines require filtering from mite insects. (Filters are available at Shain's: 1140 Forest Ave, Lakewood, NJ).
- Israeli Produce: Tithes and Maaser must be taken from fruits and vegetables from Israel; some may be Orlah.
- Sea Salt: Be aware that not all sea salt has a halachic status of Mevushal (cooked).
- Shatnez Testing: Only use testers trained by the International Association of Shatnez Testers; results from others are not considered reliable.
- Pesach Hotels: None are recommended due to kashrus and atmosphere concerns, with the single exception of Oppenheimer's Hotel (under KAJ all year and Pesach).
- Appliances: Shabbos Friendly appliances certified by Star-K are not recommended. GE Refrigerators with OU Shabbos Keeper are approved for Shabbos.

### Recommended Products by Category

#### Meat, Poultry & Fish

- Beef (North American Only): Fishels, Solomons, Birdsboro (available at Bingo), Alle, Teva-Rav Miller, Continental (Canada), Food-ex, Evergreen (Solomons only). Bais Yosef Beef: Birdsboro 'BY', Fishels, and Solomons BY.
- Poultry: Pella, Mesorah, Skver, Kiryas Joel, David Elliot.
- Fish (Requires 'P'): King of the Sea, Melech Yam, Dagim, Meal Mart, Fishy Neiman, Freund's.
- Salmon: Sides with skin from Aldi's; 'Farmed only' canned from Fishing Line. Fresh/frozen needs Pesach certification.
- Sardines: Melech Yam, Dagim (from Morocco) - Any OU in water only.
- Tuna: Shop-Rite (Any OU-P), Dagim, King of the Sea, Melech Yam, Season, Star-Kist OU-P.

#### Dairy & Eggs

- Milk: Golden Flow, Pride of the Farm (all milked before Pesach), Bethel, Wayside Goal milk products.
- Cheese, Cream & Butter: J&J, Mehadrin, Haolam, Norman's, Givat, Tenuva with Aida.
- Leben & Yogurt: Mehadrin, J&J, Norman's. (Givat strawberry/blueberry is from liquid). Note: No Gevina brand.
- Ice Cream: Mehadrin, J&J, Kleins. Note: Do not use if it contains real fruit (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries).

- Margarine: Eden, J&J, Mehadrin, Mothers, Haolam.

## Produce (Fresh, Frozen & Canned)

- Fresh Pre-Checked Veggies & Herbs (Spinach, Romaine, Broccoli): Positive / Kosher Garden, or Blossom only with CRC Hisachdus.
- Garlic: Fresh must be peeled and rinsed well. Frozen (Gefen, Any OU-P) must be rinsed well.
- Strawberries: Only peeled from Kosher Garden or High Breeze Farms. For fresh, cut off the top and peel the entire berry. No other brands allowed, even with certification.
- Canned Vegetables/Fruit: Gefen, Any OU-P.
- Dried Fruit: Yumzee, Manishtana, Joseph Xavier, Setton (Requires OU-P). Note: No raisins or figs allowed due to infestation; use Craisins with OU-P.

## Baking & Cooking Essentials

- Oil: Cotton-seed (Roberts, Pereg, Manischewitz, Masbia, Hadar, Gefen, Nut-Ola, Any OU-P). Grapeseed (Laufers, Any OU-P). Avocado (Any OU-P). Walnut/Hazelnut (Taamon with Aida, Gefen, Lieber - check dates to avoid rancidity). Note: Gefen Pesach is approved. OU on olive oil is NOT acceptable for Pesach.
- Sugar: White granulated USA with Pesach / Domino, Confectionary (Gefen), Vanilla Sugar (Bakers Choice, Gefen) - Any OU-P.
- Baking Powder / Potato Starch: Bakers Choice, Gefen, E&S - Any OU-P.
- Cocoa / Chocolate Chips: Hershey's Cocoa Powder (OU - not special dark), Bakers Choice, Carmit, Kedasia - Any OU-P.
- Spices & Salt: Pereg, Masbia, R&L, Hadar. Salt must be non-iodized. All require OU-P.

## Beverages

- Coffee & Tea: Nescafe House Blend (W/P), Taster's Choice Regular, Gefen, Instant Tea (Wisotzky, Nestea, Lipton), Tea Bags (Lipton, Pathmark, Shoprite, Wisotzky, Gefen) - Any OU-P. Note: Folgers Regular needs no 'P'.
- Grape Juice: Gefen, Kedem, Schwartz, Hadar, Laufer.
- Seltzer & Soda: Unflavored/Flavored Seltzer (Any OU-P, Vintage), American Dry, Be'er Mayim, Caffeine-Free Coca Cola, Classic Cola, Mayim Chaim, Mae Tovim, Pepsi with Bdatz, Seagrams, Sprite - Must have Pesach certification. Note: No diet sodas.
- Wine & Liquor: Carmel, Rav Rubin, NYS Kedem with Tzelem, Segbach, Eidah, Schwartz's, Armon, Kedasia, Skver, Rottenberg, Franfurter. Liquor (Slivovitz, Tam Pree, Carmel, All OU-P).

## Pantry & Prepared Foods

- Matzos: Hand: East Kenedy Lakewood/Bobov (preferred), Yad Binyomin, Komemious, Beit Shemesh with Skver, Yahlom with Kedasia, Pupa-Tzeleim. Machine: Beit Shemesh only with She'aris Hashgocha.
- Condiments: Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Tomato Products, Vinegar (Kedem NY Balsamic - not Bartenura) - Gefen or Any OU-P.
- Baby Formula (Separate Keilim required): MATERNA from Israel, J&J, Ross, Similac LeMehadrin 1/2/3, Sunrise.
- Snacks: Potato Chips/Sticks (Blooms - not Bloomy's, Schwartz, Liebers, Golden Fluff). Macaroons (Oberlanders, Gefen).
- Nuts: Baker's Choice, Costco/Kirkland Almonds/Walnuts (with plain OU or OU-P). Raw pecans require OU-P (no preservatives). Note: No Klein's, BTH, or Nuts Galore. All must be unshelled.
- Rice & Quinoa: Ashkenazim: None. Sefardim: Quinoa with OU-P is considered very infested; Rice (Lundbergs) is approved for Sefardim who eat it.

## Household Items

- Paper Goods: Aluminum foil (any all-year hashgocha). Parchment paper / Roasting bags / Crock pot liners (Geula, Fantastic, Reynolds, Any OU-P or Star-K P).
- Cleaning / Personal Care: Soap Pads (Geulah, Gefen, Rokeach, Any OU-P). Toothpaste (Zohar, Adwe, Orbitul, Any OU-P).

## Strictly Not Recommended / Do Not Use

- Do Not Use Meat: Tevya's, Agri Star, Aarons, KJ/KY beef, SBD (including SBD 'BY'), Meyuchad, S. American Alle/Meal Mart.
- Do Not Use Poultry: Meal Mart, Empire, Aarons/Agri, Blu-Pak (at Bingo).
- Do Not Use Produce: Whole Romaine, Romaine Hearts (from Andy Boy, Costco, Heimish, Israeli - even with certification). Frozen Strawberries/Blueberries/Raisins/Figs (due to infestation).
- Do Not Use Sushi/Nori: All Nori sheets are infested with copepods. Do not use any, even during the rest of the year (use soy or rice paper instead).
- Unreliable Certifications (Per this guide): Minchas Chinuch, Lakewood's KCL, Tartikuv, Star-K, SBD, Steinmetz.
- Bingo Store Warnings: Bingo displays contain unrecommended brands (like Blu-Pak). The guide also advises against their confectionary re-packs due to hashgocha reliability and possible infestation.