

To the families of *Kehilas Anas"h* 'שי at the European Union - Brussels
and of Virtualcommunity@sichos.online

“Reminders” for Pesach 5785 (Erev Pesach occurs on Shabbos) - Part 1
From Rosh Chodesh Nissan until Wednesday 11 Nissan

May not be posted on any website, be distributed, be shared on WhatsApp groups etc. without prior consent from the author.

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Mechiras Chometz: Starting from Monday, *Bais Nissan*, at 1466 Union St. (bet. Kingston and Albany avenues – basement entrance). Generally I am in the office **from 4:00 pm until 9:00 pm** (besides for the night to *Yud Alef Nissan* that I will be until 8). I suggest that you text me at the above cell number before you come (or if you need to come at other times). If you can't make it in person you may do the *Mechira* on the above website by filling out a form. However, the preferred method is by making a *Kinyan* with the *Rov*. I also suggest that you come with your children.

[May we celebrate this Pesach in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!](#)
[Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik](#)

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* Experience has shown that it is best if both husband and wife (and children...) review this each day thoroughly so that miscommunications and last-minute panics can be avoided, and *Yom Tov* can truly be celebrated joyfully.

* All the sources are in the Hebrew section of the Reminders.

* **Important note:** It has been stressed many times that these are “**Reminders**” to be able to see things “at a glance” and they are **not** a compilation of *Halocho*.

* Since there several *Halochois* that require elaboration, the format of the “Reminders” has been kept, and the additional details from the “Laws and customs” by Rabbi Lesches (with his permission) are included on the bottom of each page.

* **Please take special note as this year Erev Pesach falls out on Shabbos and there are several details that need to be looked out for, as outlined below.**

* Additionally, on our website, sichos.online there is a wealth of information regarding *Pesach*. I urge you to visit it before you look for the *Rov* to ask a *Shailah*.

Please post this on the refrigerator or another central location.

The following are only “Reminders” part 1 - on *Sichos.online* you can find many more details.

During the month of *Nissan* (in general):

1. **30 Days before *Pesach*:** The Alter Rebbe states in his *Shulchon Oruch*, in the beginning of *Hilchois Pesach*, that 30 days prior to *Pesach* we start reviewing the *Halochois* concerning *Pesach*. This year there is an additional importance to do so since ***Erev Pesach* occurs on *Shabbos***.
2. ***Tachanun*:** *Tachanun* is not recited throughout the entire month.
3. ***Nossi*:** From *Rosh Chodesh* until *Yud Gimmel Nissan* the *Nossi* is said.
4. ***Brocho* on Trees:** During *Chodesh Nissan* there is a special *Brocho* to be said on trees that blossom.
5. ***Taanis Bechorim (Fast of the first-born)*:** If the household has a *Bechor*, he [or his father, if the *Bechor* is under *Bar Mitzvah*] should not forget to finish his *Masechta* to be completed by *Erev Pesach*. [As there are still 2 weeks left there is still time to complete a small *Masechta*]. **This year, 5785**, the fast will take place on **Thursday, 12 Nissan**, three days before *Pesach*. (If one wasn't able to finish his own *Masechta* he can listen to a *Siyum* from the *Rov*), which usually takes place in *Shul* after *Shacharis* of the fast day.
6. ***Matzo*:** *Matzo* is not eaten until the *Seder*. [See below in "laws and customs" regarding giving children *machine-Kosher-L'pesach-Matzo* (which is not served on *Pesach*) or *Matzo* crackers etc. until the evening before *Erev Pesach*.]
7. ***Mivtza Matzo Shmuro* to acquaintances:** One of the **first *Mivtzoim*** of the *Rebbe* was that we should distribute *Matzo Shmuro* to friends, neighbors, doctors, etc. with whom we come in contact. **For your convenience, Tza"ch has made a service available – contact them at 718-953-1000 - and they will assist.**
8. ***Ma'os Chittim*:** Give money to help others with *Pesach* needs. And also educate the children to give.
9. **Learning the *Halochois*:** It is customary that fathers set aside time to learn the *Halochois* of *Pesach* with their children. (They can start with the "Reminders"....)

Laws and Customs by Rabbi Leshes

☞ THIRTY DAYS PRIOR TO PESACH

From *Purim* onward, one should learn and become fluent in the ***Halachos of Pesach***. Since an inspiring *Pesach* is the product of diligent preparation, one should learn *Maamarim* which focus on its inner dimension.

***Matzah* is not eaten.** However, until the end-time for eating *Chometz* on *Erev Pesach*, one may eat *Matzah*-like crackers that are really *Chometz* or egg-*Matzah*. One may also eat *Matzah* balls or foods containing *Matzah* meal. One may also be lenient for children below the age of *Chinuch*.

During these days, *Chometz* should not be scattered in a manner that makes it hard to clean and remove before *Pesach*, or that could allow it to go unnoticed before *Pesach*.

One should give ***Maos Chittim*** so that the *Pesach* requirements (including food and clothing) of the needy are met. [For Melbourne, please donate at mjcf.com.au.]

One should participate in ***Mivtza Matzah***, ensuring that every Jew has round hand-made *Shmura*-*Matzah* for *Pesach* (or at least for the *Seder*) and attends a *Seder*. Suitable arrangements should also be made for Jewish servicemen, as well those in hospitals, aged-care facilities or jail.

Before *Pesach*, all children should be given the opportunity to attend a **model-*Seder***. [It should be conducted in a manner that does not conflict with the respective family *Minhagim* of the children in attendance.]

***Mechiras Chometz*:** Every Jew should be encouraged to sell his *Chometz*, even if there is concern that he will consume it on *Pesach*. [Of course, such a person should be educated not to use it.] See more details on the next page.

Traveling for *Pesach*: Those with travel plans should ensure that they will be able to observe *Pesach* properly without compromising any standards. One should avoid crossing the International Dateline on the return journey, so as not to impact one's *Sefiras Haomer*. [Polar flight routes can be equally, if not more, problematic. Guidance should be sought from a *Rav* familiar with these matters.]

☞ MONTH OF NISSAN

Tachnun is not recited the entire month. Similarly, *Av Harachamim* and *Tzidkosecha* are omitted each *Shabbos*.

The ***Nossi*** is recited each of the first twelve days of *Nissan*, followed by the *Yehi Ratzon* printed in the *Siddur*. It is recited even by a *Kohen* and *Levi*. On the thirteenth day, one recites the passage from "*Zos Chanukas Hamizbeach*" until "*Kein Assah es Hamenorah*", but without reciting the *Yehi Ratzon*.

One may not fast during *Nissan*, except a *Chosson* and *Kallah* on their wedding day, who fast even if it falls on *Rosh Chodesh*.

Blessing on trees: During the month of *Nissan*, one recites the applicable *Brocho* upon seeing blossoming fruit-trees for the first time. This *Brocho* is not recited in the Southern Hemisphere.

Haircuts may be taken only until *Erev Shabbos*, 13th of *Nissan* (see further).

10. **Four Questions:** Review with the children the פיר קושיות of the *Ma Nishtanah*.
11. **Selling the Chometz:**
 - a. Any time after *Rosh Chodesh*, the head of the household goes to the *Rov* to appoint him to sell the *Chometz* of the home, office, summer home, etc. It is advisable/educational to take along the children. Those that for whatever reason cannot go personally to the *Rov* may do it online. A form can be found on *sichos.online* on the front page.
 - b. Those who are traveling eastward for *Pesach* [e.g., to *Europe, Eretz Yisroel*, or further east], or have *Chometz* in those parts of the world, should sell the *Chometz* at their destination or discuss this with your *Rov* who will assist you. Those living in Europe who are traveling to the USA should sell it in Europe. If they are already here, they should contact the *Rov*.
 - c. In any case, discuss it with the *Rov*.
 - d. The times when I will be available for *Mechiras Chometz* are above on page 1.
 - e. **Not home for Pesach:** To those who are going away for *Pesach* and are planning to sell their entire home through the *Rov* (and no one will enter their home during *Pesach*): It is advisable to discuss the details of the sale and regarding *Bedikas Chometz* with the *Rov* (where and when it should be performed).
12. **Renting a home: If you are renting a home for Pesach:** ensure with the owner that: 1. the utensils, oven etc. are *Kosher L'Pesach*. DO NOT rely on *Koshering* Erev *Pesach*.... 2. The place was all cleaned for *Pesach*.
13. **Koshering the Kitchen:** see “*koshering* instructions” at the end of this document or on *sichos.online*. If help is needed for *Koshering* the kitchen, you can contact: In Crown Heights: R’ Shaltiel Lebovic (1888gokosher).
14. **Car:** If the car will be used on *Pesach*, arrange when the car will be cleaned thoroughly before *Pesach*.
15. **Medicines and special gluten-free diets:** Those who take medicines on a regular basis should consult with their doctor if it is necessary to do so during *Pesach*. NEVER discontinue a medicine without the doctors approval. If it’s *chometz*, you may contact the *Rov* on how to deal with it **but please don’t wait for the last minute** as many times it may take a few days for research. The same applies to gluten-free diets.
16. **Beis** (second day in) **Nissan, Yohrzeit of the Rebbe Rashab:** See *Sefer Haminhogim*, page 86, regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of a *Rebbe*.
17. **Yud Alef Nissan:** Make all the relevant preparations for **the Rebbe’s 123rd birthday. Bais Shmuel – Chabad will have its own program as every year.**
18. **Haircuts:** Remind everyone to get haircuts before *Yom Tov* and not wait until *Erev Yom Tov*. This year (because *Erev Pesach* occurs on *Shabbos*) one may get a haircut a whole day Friday (not only until *Chatzos* as in other years). However, don’t wait until the last minute. From *Pesach* until *Erev Shavuos* it is our custom not to cut one’s hair.
19. **Nail cutting:** This year, nails may be cut all day on *Erev Shabbos*.
20. **Bedikas Chometz in the office:** If the office will be used on *Pesach*, and it will be difficult to go there on Thursday night prior to *Pesach*, ask the *Rov* for the procedures of an “early” *Bedikas Chometz*.

Laws and Customs by Rabbi Leshes

MECHIRAS CHOMETZ

Mechiras Chometz is effective only if one sincerely commits to sell his *Chometz* in an unconditional and absolute sale. It is therefore customary to perform a *Kinyan* (act of acquisition) when authorizing the *Rav* to sell the *Chometz*. [However, this *Kinyan* is not an absolute requirement.]

Mechiras Chometz occurs before the fifth seasonal hour (11:24am) on *Erev Shabbos*, in line with the usual schedule every other year. However, it is preferable to visit the *Rav* before the night of *Bedikas Chometz* (i.e. Thursday night). Practically, one should not wait until then, and instead go at the earliest opportunity.

When the householder sells the *Chometz*, his dependents (who reside with him permanently) do not need to, unless they own *Chometz* independently.

Chometz belonging to a *Shule* or public organization should be sold by the office-bearer responsible for finances.

In the sale, one includes all *Chometz* and *Chometz* utensils. Since the actual location of the *Chometz* is also leased to the non-Jew, one should list the full address of each of his personal and business properties, including common-owned properties, preferably concluding with the words “and wherever my *Chometz* may be found”.

If one owns *Chometz* in a different time-zone or will be travelling to a different time-zone for *Pesach*, he should inform the *Rav* of his situation for further guidance.

If one will be away from home for the entire *Pesach*: If arriving at his destination before the night of *Bedikas Chometz*, he includes his entire home in the *Mechiras Chometz*. If he will still be at home the night of *Bedikas Chometz*, he includes most of his home in *Mechiras Chometz*, but excludes a small area in which to conduct *Bedikas Chometz* (see “*Bedikas Chometz*” section).

Things to buy in advance:

1. **Bedikas Chometz set:** consisting of: a. a paper bag, b. a candle, c. a feather, d. a wooden spoon, e. string and f. a paper to wrap all of the above.
2. **Matzos:** Buy enough *Matzo* for the *Sedorim*, all eight days of *Pesach*, guests, etc. Don't wait for the last minute.
3. **Wine:** Buy enough wine (for the type and color of wine – see laws and customs below) for the *Sedorim*, all eight days of *Pesach*, the four cups for *Acharon Shel Pesach*, as well as for guests, etc. Suggestion: if you have an אינו-יהודי/ה working in the house, or are making a public *Seder* etc. buy only מבושל - *Mevushal* wine (unless you can have special arrangements).
4. **Haggadas:** Buy enough *Haggadas* for the parents and adults, as well as for the children **with pictures – per the Rebbe's instruction**, (if they don't have one yet, or they haven't received one from school, etc.)
5. **Siddurim and Bentschers:** We customarily do not to use the same *Siddurim* and *Bentschers* on *Pesach* that have been around the house during the rest of the year, so it is suggested to purchase new ones (unless you have special ones for *Pesach*).
6. **Scale:** There are those who use a (non-*Muktze*) small kitchen scale (portion control) to measure the correct amounts for the *Matzo* and *Maror*.
7. **Candles and candle-holders:** Those who use glass holders that need to be cleaned after each use should ensure that they have enough for *Shabbos* and two days of *Yom Tov*, as on *Yom Tov* there is a *Shailo* (question) regarding the removal of the washer that is stuck to the wax.
8. **Long-lasting candles** (like a *Yohrzeit Licht*): At least two long-lasting candles for those who do not have a gas flame lit over *Yom Tov*. However, those who have household help should light one even if there is a gas flame lit, for sometimes the flame is inadvertently turned off.
9. **Clothes and Jewelry:** One should buy clothes and jewelry for his wife and children according to his means.
10. **Carbon monoxide detector:** Those who have the gas on for a prolonged time should ensure that they have proper ventilation and that they have a proper carbon monoxide alarm system in place. Make sure to test it a couple of days before *Yom Tov*.
11. **Vacuum cleaner bag:** To be replaced on *Erev Pesach*.

Also ensure to plan the purchases of those things that will be bought closer to *Yom Tov*, such as:

1. Fish.
2. Chicken.
3. *Zeroa* for the *Ke'oro* (the neck of the chicken).
4. Eggs.
5. Lettuce.
6. *Maror*.
7. Potatoes.
8. Onions.
9. Nuts.
10. Fruits for *Charoses*: **apples, pears, nuts**, etc. If one is using fruits from *Eretz Yisroel*, ensure they have a proper *Hechsher* so that *Terumos* and *Ma'aseros* have been taken (and that they are not from *Shmitah* etc.).

Monday- *Bais Nissan* , ב' ניסן, The Rebbe Rashab's Yohrzeit.

See *Sefer Haminhogim* page 86 regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of a *Rebbe*.

Shabbos Parshas Vayikra – 7 Nissan

* ***Shabbos Hagadol Drosho:*** Before *Musaf* or after *Davening* the *Rov* says the *Shabbos Hagadol Drosho* (although *Shabbos Hagadol* is next week).

* ***Vihy Noam – Veato Kodoish:*** On *Motzoei Shabbos* in *Maariv*, this year, we **do recite** ויהי נועם and ואתה קדוש.

* ***Kidush Levana:*** If there is a visible moon, then *Kidush Levana* should be recited tonight.

* **B'somim**: After *Havdolo*, put away the *B'somim* in the *Chometz* (as our custom is not to use *B'somim* on *Pesach*). This year anyway there is no *Shabbos Chol Hamoed*.

Wednesday, *Yud Alef Nissan*, י"א ניסן – יום הבהיר, The Rebbe's 123rd birthday.

*After *Davening* we begin to say the Rebbe's new *Kapitel*, 124, in *Tehillim*.

*This is a day for reflection and taking on *Hachlotos Toivos*, and it is appropriate to read additional details in the *Hayom Yom* of today and in *Sefer Haminhogim* p. 85 etc. *Bais Shmuel – Chabad* will have a program TBA.

To be continued in "Reminders" part 2
From the 11th of *Nissan* until the first day of *Chol Hamoed*

This *Pesach* we will celebrate in *Yerusholayim* in the *Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!*

[Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik](#)

[Sichos.online](#)

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Addendum to the Reminders Part 1

A **Partial** list of some of the things to be aware of that are different when
Erev Pesach* falls out on *Shabbos

[The full reminders format will come out *B'ezras Hashem* on *Rosh Chodesh Nissan*]

The *Alter Rebbe* has a whole *Siman* in *Shulchon Oruch* סימן תמד where the Laws of **ערב פסח שחל להיות בשבת** are discussed.

1. ***Shabbos Hagadol Drosho*** (sermon): The *Alter Rebbe* writes in *Shulchon Oruch* that the *Shabbos* before *Pesach* (*Shabbos Hagadol*) the *Rov* says a *Drosho* (sermon). Unless *Erev Pesach* falls out on *Shabbos*, then that day is *Shabbos Hagadol* and the *Drosho* is moved to the *Shabbos* before.
2. ***Taanis Bechorim*** (fast of the first born): This year it is moved to the **Thursday** before *Pesach* (12 *Nissan*). The ***Siyumim*** will be performed on **Thursday morning**.
3. ***Bedikas Chometz***: is performed Thursday night, 12 *Nissan*. It is performed like all the years.
4. ***Biur Chometz*** (burning of the *Chometz*):
 - A. The *Chometz* is burned on Friday before midday (see local calendar) like every year (although one may still continue eating *Chometz* **prudently**).
 - B. We recite the *Yehi Rotzon* but we **do not** recite the *Kol Chamiro*. We will recite it tomorrow, on *Shabbos* morning, when we (finish eating and) get rid of the *Chometz*.
5. **Preparations for the *Seder***: All preparations for the *Seder* are made on *Erev Shabbos*.
6. **Haircuts and nail cutting**: may get a haircut and cut nails ALL day - not like other years that it is only until *Chatzos* (midday).
7. ***Shabbos* meals**: they are all *Pesachdik* besides for the fact that we use *Challohs* **PRUDENTLY** (see details in the "Reminders" and "Laws and customs").

8. Shabbos morning – Erev Pesach:

- a. Davening: (Men go to the *Mikvah* and) we *Daven* **early** (7:00 am or earlier – see local calendar) in order to be able to make *Kidush*, and finish eating *Challoh* and get rid of all *Chometz* **before** the *Zman Ho'isur* (see local calendar).
- b. Bior Chometz: we finish eating *chometz* at (see local Calendar), and we get rid of all *Chometz* by (see local calendar), and we recite the Second *Kol Chamiro*.

9. Preparations for the Seder: See the “Reminders” and “Laws and customs”.

10. Farbrengen: in 5781 the Rebbe *Farbrenge*d on *Shabbos Hagadol/Erev Pesach* in the afternoon with... water and bananas!

The above is just a partial list. The rest will be available (in detail) in the “reminders” part 2.

May we merit to celebrate *Yud Alef Nissan* with the Rebbe and bring the *Korban Pesach* in the *Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi*!!!!