

OU KASHRUT

BY RABBI EZRA FRIEDMAN

Director, The Gustave & Carol Jacobs Center for Kashrut Education

Summary: *Halachot* of **Immersing Utensils**

he following is a summary of the main halachot relating to tevilat keilim as discussed in the series of previous articles.

- Immersion is required for metal utensils. The Torah lists six types of metals: gold, silver, copper, iron, tin and lead. Alloys of these metal are also included in this list such as bronze or brass. Wood, ceramic, and plastic are exempt from immersion. Our Sages instituted that glass utensils must be immersed as well.
- Only utensils that are designated for food require immersion such as plates, pots, pans, and cutlery. Utensils involved in food preparation such as chicken shears and metal bbg grates require immersion as well.
- Two factors determine what needs to be immersed for a utensil made of a combination of materials, 1. If the material that comes in direct contact

with the food is metal than immersion. is required. 2. If metal is an essential component in the material even if it is not touching the food than immersion is required.

- Only an adult should immerse utensils. A child may not immerse utensils unless an adult is supervising.
- Before immersing utensils one confirm the kashrut of should the mikveh being used. One may immerse in a women's mikvah. It is not recommended to immerse in lakes, ponds or the ocean without competent halachic guidance.
- Stickers, labels and tags should be removed from utensils prior to immersion. Residue from stickers must also be removed. If following much effort the residue does not come off, the utensil may still be

Arthur Samuels, DPM



PODIATRIST Over 30 years experience

053-427-6363

ArthurMSamuels@gmail.com

CINEMA CITY MALL, JERUSALEM

The OU Israel Gustave & Carol Jacobs Center for Kashrut Education was created to raise awareness and educate the public in all areas of Kashrut in Israel. Rabbi Ezra Friedman, a Rabbinic Field Representative for the OU is the Center's director.



immersed. If stickers were accidently left on during immersion, it should be repeated with a *bracha*.

- All parts of the utensil must be immersed, this includes handles and lids.
- The utensil must be fully submerged at once. Water must enter all areas of the utensil. A utensil with a receptacle must be completely filled during immersion without the formation of air pockets. Two options exist in order to guarantee that no barrier comes between the utensil and the water. One's hand should first be immersed in the mikvah and then grasp the utensil while under water. Alternatively, one may grasp the utensil loosely while immersing in the mikvah. There is no need to transfer utensils from hand to hand under water.
- When immersing **one** utensil the *bracha* is:

״בָּרוֹךְ אַתָּה ה׳ אֱלֹקינו מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלֶם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנו בְּמִצְוֹתִיו וְצָנָנו עַל טְבִילַת כֶּלִי״

When immersing **two or more** utensils the *bracha* is:

״בָּרוֹךְ אַתָּה ה׳ אֱלֹקינו מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלֶם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנו בָּמִצְוֹתִיו וְצִנָנו עַל טְבִילַת כֵּלִים״

• There should be no interruption

between the recitation of the *bracha* and the actual immersion. When immersing two or more utensils there should be no interruption between immersions.

For additional guidance in immersing utensils, contact our hotline or Whatsapp.

Kashrut Questions in Israel?

Call or Whatsapp Rabbi Friedman at 050-200-4432

