

The fifteen steps of the Seder

The Seder follows an order (that is what *seder* means) of fifteen steps. Many families sing the list of names at the start of the evening, so that everyone knows where the night is going.

	HEBREW	NAME	MEANING	PAGE
1	קִדֵּשׁ	Kadesh	Sanctify	9
2	וְרַחֵץ	Urchatz	Wash	12
3	כַּרְפָּס	Karpas	The vegetable	12
4	יַחַץ	Yachatz	Break	12
5	מַגִּיד	Magid	Tell the story	13
6	רְחֹצֶה	Rachtzah	Wash again	43
7	מוֹצִיא	Motzi	The blessing over bread	43
8	מַצָּה	Matzah	The blessing over matzah	44
9	מָרֹר	Maror	The bitter herb	44
10	כוֹרֵךְ	Korech	The sandwich	44
11	שְׁלַחַן עוֹרֵךְ	Shulchan Orech	The meal	45
12	צִפּוֹן	Tzafun	The hidden matzah	45
13	בִּרְךְ	Barech	Grace after Meals	46
14	הַלֵּל	Hallel	Songs of praise	58
15	נִרְצָה	Nirtzah	Accepted	78

Good to know. The meal (step 11) comes after the story, not before it. Steps 1 to 10 take about an hour in most homes; plan the food so it can wait.

The Seder plate

Six foods sit on the Seder plate in front of the leader. This is the most common arrangement, as the leader sees it; many families arrange the plate differently, and all are right.



זרוע zeroa'	a roasted bone, for the Pesach offering	חרסת charoset	apples, nuts and wine: the mortar of the bricks
ביצה beitsa	a roasted egg, for the festival offering	כרפס karpas	parsley, celery or potato, dipped in salt water
מרור maror	horseradish or romaine: the bitterness of slavery	חזרת chazeret	more bitter herb, for the Korech sandwich

What is on the table

- **Three matzot**, covered with a cloth. The middle one is broken at Yachatz (step 4).
- **A cup for everyone**, filled four times during the evening with wine or grape juice.
- **Elijah's cup**, a large cup in the middle of the table, filled before the door is opened.
- **Salt water**, for dipping the vegetable at Karpas (step 3).
- **Pillows** to lean on, to the left, as free people did when they ate.

Twenty-five words of the Seder

These words come back again and again during the evening. Read each one out loud before the Seder; you will hear them all night.

חֶמֶץ <i>chamets</i> leavened food	מַצָּה <i>matsa</i> matzah, unleavened bread	הַגָּדָה <i>hagada</i> telling; the Haggadah	סֵדֶר <i>seder</i> order; the Seder	פֶּסַח <i>pesach</i> Passover; the Pesach offering
זֶרוֹעַ <i>zeroa'</i> the shank bone	מֵי מֶלַח <i>mei melach</i> salt water	כַּרְפָּס <i>karpas</i> the vegetable	חֲרוֹסֶת <i>charoset</i> charoset, the sweet paste	מָרֹר <i>maror</i> bitter herb
קַעֲרָה <i>ke'ara</i> the Seder plate	אַפִּיקוֹמָן <i>afikoman</i> afikoman, the hidden matzah	יַיִן <i>yayin</i> wine	כּוֹס <i>kos</i> cup	בֵּיצָה <i>beitsa</i> egg
חֲרוּת <i>cherut</i> freedom	עֲבָדִים <i>avadim</i> slaves	פַּרְעֹה <i>paro</i> Pharaoh	מִצְרַיִם <i>mitsrayim</i> Egypt	הִסָּבָה <i>hasiba</i> leaning
יְרוּשָׁלַיִם <i>yerushalayim</i> Jerusalem	אֵלִיָּהוּ <i>elijahu</i> Elijah	בֵּן <i>ben</i> son, child	מַכָּה <i>maka</i> plague	גְּאֻלָּה <i>ge'ula</i> redemption

1

KADESH • Sanctify

קִדְּשׁ

Fill the first cup of wine. The matzot stay covered. Everyone stands or sits, and Kiddush is said.

(On Shabbat begin here:)

וַיְהִי-עֶרֶב וַיְהִי-בֹקֶר יוֹם הַשְּׁשִׁי. וַיְכֻלּוּ הַשָּׁמַיִם וְהָאָרֶץ וְכָל-צִבְאָם.

Vayhi-erev vayhi-voker yom hashishi. vaychulu hashamayim vecha'arets vechol-tseva'am.

And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. The heavens and the earth were completed, and all their host.

וַיְכַל אֱלֹהִים בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה

Vaychal elohim bayom hashevi'i melachto asher asa

On the seventh day God completed the work He had done,

וַיִּשְׁבֹּת בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי מִכָּל-מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה.

Vayishbot bayom hashevi'i mikol-melachto asher asa.

and He rested on the seventh day from all the work He had done.

וַיְבָרֶךְ אֱלֹהִים אֶת-יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי וַיְקַדֵּשׁ אוֹתוֹ

Vayvarech elohim et-yom hashevi'i vaykadesh oto

God blessed the seventh day and made it holy,

כִּי בּוֹ שָׁבַת מִכָּל-מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים לַעֲשׂוֹת.

Ki vo shavat mikol-melachto asher bara elohim la'asot.

for on it He rested from all His work, which God had created to do.

(On weekdays begin here:)

סְבִירי מָרְנָן וְרַבָּנָן וְרַבּוֹתֵי.

Savri maranan verabanan verabotai.

Attention, my masters, rabbis, and teachers:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגֶּפֶן.

Baruch ata Adonai, eloheinu melech haolam, bore peri hagafen.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר בָּנוּ

Baruch ata Adonai, eloheinu melech haolam asher bachar banu

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has chosen us

5

MAGID • Tell the story

מגיד

This is the heart of the evening: the story of the going out from Egypt, told in questions and answers.

This is the bread of affliction

הָא לַחֲמַא עֲנִיא

(Uncover the matzot, lift the plate, and say aloud:)

הָא לַחֲמַא עֲנִיא דִּי אֶכְלוּ אַבְהַתָּנָא בְּאַרְעָא דְּמִצְרַיִם.

Ha lachma anya di achalu avhatana be'ara demitsrayim.

This is the bread of affliction that our fathers ate in the land of Egypt.

כָּל דְּכַפִּין יֵיתִי וְיֵיכֹל, כָּל דְּצָרִיךְ יֵיתִי וְיִפְסַח.

Kol dichfin yeitei veyeichol, kol ditsrich yeitei veyifsach.

Let all who are hungry come and eat; let all who are in need come and share the Pesach.

הַשְׁתָּא הָכָא, לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה בְּאַרְעָא דְּיִשְׂרָאֵל.

Hashata hacha, leshana haba'a be'ara deysra'el.

Now we are here; next year in the land of Israel.

הַשְׁתָּא עַבְדֵּי, לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה בְּנֵי חוֹרִין.

Hashata avdei, leshana haba'a benei chorin.

Now we are slaves; next year, free people.

The four questions

מָה נִשְׁתַּנָּה

(Remove the plate. Fill the second cup. The child asks:)

מָה נִשְׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל הַלַּיְלֹת?

Ma nishtana halayla haze mikol haleilot?

Why is this night different from all other nights?

שֶׁבֶכֶל הַלַּיְלֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין חֶמֶץ וּמָצָה, הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה

Shebechol haleilot anu ochelin chamets umatsa, halayla haze

On all other nights we eat leavened bread and matzah; this night,

כָּלוּ מָצָה. שֶׁבֶכֶל הַלַּיְלֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יֵרָקוֹת

Kulo matsa. shebechol haleilot anu ochelin she'ar yerakot

all of it is matzah. On all other nights we eat other vegetables;

הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה (כָּלוּ) מָרֹר.

Halayla haze (kulo) maror.
this night (all of it) maror.

שֶׁבֶּחַ לַהֵילֹת אֵין אָנוּ מַטְבִּילִין אֶפִּילוּ פַּעַם אַחַת

Shebechol haleilot ein anu matbilin afilu pa'am echat
On all other nights we do not dip even one time;

הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים.

Halayla haze shetei fe'amim.
this night, two times.

שֶׁבֶּחַ לַהֵילֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבִין וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין

Shebechol haleilot anu ochelin bein yoshevin uvein mesubin
On all other nights we eat either sitting or leaning;

הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלָנוּ מְסֻבִּין.

Halayla haze kulanu mesubin.
this night, all of us are leaning.

We were slaves

עֲבָדִים הָיִינוּ

(Return the plate to the table. The matzot stay uncovered.)

עֲבָדִים הָיִינוּ לַפַּרְעֹה בְּמִצְרַיִם,

Avadim hayinu lefaro bemitsrayim,
We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt,

וַיּוֹצִיאֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מִשָּׁם בְּיָד חֲזָקָה וּבִזְרֹעַ נְטוּיָה.

Vayotsi'enu Adonai eloheinu misham beyad chazaka uvizroa' netuya.
and the Lord our God brought us out from there with a strong hand and an outstretched arm.

וְאֵלֹהֵינוּ לֹא הוֹצִיא הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא אֶת אֲבוֹתֵינוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם,

Ve'ilu lo hotsi hakadosh baruch hu et avoteinu mimitsrayim,
If the Holy One, blessed be He, had not brought our fathers out of Egypt,

הָרִי אָנוּ וּבְנֵינוּ וּבְנֵי בְנֵינוּ מְשֻׁעָבָדִים הָיִינוּ לַפַּרְעֹה בְּמִצְרַיִם.

Harei anu uvaneinu uvnei vaneinu meshu'badim hayinu lefaro bemitsrayim.
then we, our children, and our children's children would still be slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt.

Passover Haggadah with Transliteration

Free sample: 6 of 104 pages

The full book, with free audio of every word:

alephbetstudio.pages.dev/b5

Aleph Bet Studio · Created in Israel