



2021

Passover Haggadah הגדה של פסח

Your essential everybody-friendly Zoom Seder
+ 4 new questions for now.

Read less. Say more.

Welcome back to Passover – mid-Pandemic. This night, different from so many previous Passover nights we've known, invites us to keep showing up, committed to continuity, connection, and care. In the midst of grave uncertainty, isolation, illness and loss, we gather online to retell our sacred journey as a people in constant formation.

The ancient Exodus saga and our contemporary dire straits inform each other and help us transform this night into a sacred, stubborn, and delicious celebration.

Sayder includes highlights from the Passover Haggadah, links to readings, songs and activities, simple directions for the Sayder host and interactive cues for all participants.

Sayder is everybody-friendly—designed for all varieties of Jew/ish—the people we live and love with, friends and guests.

Sayder uses Lab/Shul's God-Optional poetic and non-gendered translations of the traditional liturgy. Choose your own adventure, customize your metaphors and focus on what matters most to you tonight—with joy.

We've got this. Welcome to Sayder.

Estimated Length: 90-120 min (including dinner)

Ages: 13+ (with engaging kid friendly options)

INGREDIENTS



(Per participating household)

- Printed or digital **Sayders**
- **Seder plate** + add-ons (see below)
- **2 candles** + matches (consider adding a yahrzeit/memorial candle)
- **Elijah's Cup + Miriam's Cup** (these can be regular wine/water glasses)
- **Wine/juice glass** per participant (go fancy)
- **Water bowls** or hand sanitizer + towels
- **Matza** (at least 3 pieces)
- A bowl of **salt water**
- **Appetizers**, spring style (karpas can be anything from veggies to sushi)
- Festive **dinner**
- Computer/tablet/phone (charged up)

SEDER PLATE 2021



"Oh no! I don't have a seder plate!" No worries. Get a big plate. Put on it:

- **Roasted egg** (hard boiled is fine)
- **Karpas** (green leafy veggies—parsley's a classic)
- **Maror** (bitter herb—usually horseradish)
- **Lamb's bone** (go vegan: use a beet for "blood")
- **Charoset** (mythic mortar—mix chopped fruit, nuts, spices, and sweet wine)
- **Optional social justice-minded additions** include an orange (for LGBTQ+ inclusion), a lock & key (for those currently enslaved and incarcerated), a tomato (for our farmworkers), and more.
- **Covid-19 add-on:** What will you add to your Seder plate this year? (Mask, or Purel, anyone?)

HOW TO HOST SAYDER

Mazel tov! You're the host of this Passover like no other. Thank you for taking on a sacred task. Here's what you need to make this ritual night enjoyable, participatory, meaningful and memorable

1. Get ingredients ready. Check list and edit/add as needed.
2. Communicate the Zoom links, ingredients list, and any welcome note or directions to all participants.
3. Make sure computers/tablets/phones are charged or plugged in.
4. New to Zoom? There's a great visual tutorial [here](#). You may want to test your Zoom link with all participants prior to the start of Sayder. Allow time for troubleshooting.
5. As host, part of your role is to guide your guests through this ritual. That means you get to play the part of EmCee, assign roles and readings, keep the flow, and keep track of time.
6. Partner up. Get a responsible participant to take on co-hosting roles to help welcome people, mute/unmute, split into breakout groups if needed, share music/links.
7. There are 4 Questions, 4 Children, and 4 Cups of Wine for Seder. So we've got 4 Categories to guide you through this sayder:
 - **DO** is an action, whether washing hands or eating matzah ball soup.
(Tip: Tell your guests what's about to happen and invite them to take part if you'd like!)
 - **SAY** is a thought, a blessing, a piece of inspiration to read aloud.
(Tip: Lead & Read or delegate ahead.)
 - **UNMUTE** is a chance for discussion: a worthy question to ask of one another.
(Tip: Give people an idea of how much time they should share.)
 - **SING** is, well, what's a Seder without a few great songs?
(Tip: It's hard to sing together on Zoom because of lag, so either pick a soloist or embrace the cacophony!)

Sample Introduction by Sayder Host to get things started:

Welcome to Sayder.

This is a great time to check that you're muted and that you can see and hear me. We will unmute often—don't worry.

To see everyone, hit "gallery view" in the top right corner of your Zoom screen. Or you can hit "speaker view" and you'll just see the person talking.

Do you have everything you need for tonight? Grab your copy of "Sayder," and review the list of ingredients.

Now take a deep breath, smile at someone on a screen, and let's make this night different, special and meaningful to us all. Here we go!

1. קִדְּשׁ KADESH

Sacred Time



DO: Light two candles (and perhaps a memorial candle).

SAY/SING:

A blessing: in the Presence of the Infinite,
we treasure our sacred tradition
as we ignite the healing light of this sacred night.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ *Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu*
רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם *ruach ha'olam*
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו *asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav*
וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל יוֹם טוֹב *v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel yom tov*

SAY: We didn't expect to be still gathered like this tonight.
We pause to take a deep breath in acknowledgement
of the circumstances that brought us together,
welcoming all who join this ritual, honoring all who are
remembered, and celebrating the privilege of being
alive.

SAY/SING:

A breath: in the Presence of the Infinite,
we pause with gratitude, honoring all the journeys
that have brought us to the here and now.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ *Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu*
רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם *ruach ha'olam*
שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ *shehecheyanu v'ki'manu,*
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה *v'higianu laz'man hazeh*

DO: Honor the losses of this past year: Invite guests to name who's missing, or to
take a minute in silence in honor of the empty chairs.

Showcase the Seder plate(s). Compare notes! Anybody have a new addition?
Now's the time to share.

Invite our invisible prophets to Seder: Pour a glass of wine for Elijah and a
glass of water for Miriam.

Fill your own glasses with juice or wine.

SAY: Passover is an exercise in collective optimism, which
is another word for faith. Faith is not necessarily the
same thing as believing in a God with a muscular arm
and outstretched fingers. Faith can be a commitment
to the unprovable proposition that it's worth the
struggle to cross the next impossible barrier, to seek
meaning in our lives, to try, try again and do justly and
build another peace. We raise the cup, we rephrase our
enslavement and liberation, we sing, turning disaster
into dramaturgy. – Anita Diamant

SAY: Tonight we ask four new questions. Each question
is also a chance for a toast as we raise our glasses in
blessing each other. The first one is about what we are
grateful for.



UNMUTE: FIRST QUESTION

מה נשתנה MA NISHTANA: How are we different?

How is this night different than all other nights?

FIRST GLASS OF WINE



SAY: **On this Passover night we raise our first glass of blessing and ask:** What significant change has occurred in your personal life since this time last year? Name one meaningful way in which you've grown or changed this past year? Or ask: How has the world changed this past year, for better or for worse?

DO: Take turns sharing names if required + share your responses. Keep it brief! You can use the chat.

DO: Lift your glass!

SAY/SING:

A toast: in the Presence of the Infinite,
we savor the blessing of transformation:
vine to wine.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ Baruch atah Adonai Eloheynu

רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם ruach ha'olam

בוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגֶּפֶן bore p'ri hagafen

More? Find full Seder kiddush [here](#).

2. וְרַחֵץ URCHATZ

Hand Washing



SAY: We are humans relearning to wash our hands.
Washing our hands is an act of love
Washing our hands is an act of care
Washing our hands helps us return to ourselves by
washing away what does not serve.
– Dori Midnight

DO: Wash your hands. Slowly.

(Use water bowls, wet towels, or hand sanitizer. Soap not ritually required here. Towels will be handy)

SAY: We invite to our Seder Miriam the Prophetess who saved her baby brother Moses from drowning in the waters of the Nile, showing us, along with the Egyptian Princess, how to be allies. We sing the song of liberation she taught us, thank her for nourishing our thirst in the wilderness and for inspiring this [healing blessing](#) that is also [sung](#). May we all be our siblings' keepers always. We raise this Cup of Miriam as we honor the water of life.

3. כָּרְפָס KARPAS



Appetizers

SAY: Karpas is Greek for appetizers. We've suffered enough. Get creative beyond parsley (but hold off on the matza for now).

DO: Dip a vegetable in salt water to remember the tears of oppression. Remember that we weren't the first generation to face challenges. Pause to appreciate the privilege of food on our plate.

SAY/SING:

A dip: in the Presence of the Infinite,
we savor the flavor of the fruits of our earth.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ *Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu*

רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם *ruach ha'olam*

בוֹרֵא פְּרִי הָאֲדָמָה *bore p'ri ha'adamah*

4. יָחַטֵּץ YACHATZ



Hide & Seek

SAY: Yachtz in Hebrew means 'split in half.' Afikoman is Greek for Dessert. This is a ritual in two parts. One of us will now split a matza into two, hiding one half for another to find, as we spend this night seeking our hidden truths. When it's time for dessert, the Afikoman must be revealed for Sayder to conclude.

DO: Take 3 pieces of matzah, pull out the middle one, and snap it in half. The larger piece is your afikomen.

How to hide it?

- If you have multiple people at your seder, hide the matzah during dinner so people (kids!) can search for it. The winner gets a prize. (Get creative!)
- You can also hide the Afikmoan online! During dinner, snap a photo of the area where you've hid it and post it somewhere clever. Facebook? Instagram? Twitter? Let your diligent participants figure it out.

SAY: Try this. As we split and hide the Matza, let's come up with a list of organizations that are helping make a safer, happier, healthier, freer world. Each participant can come up with one suggestion. Let's compile a list (use the chat box to type your suggestion) and we'll get back to this when it's time to reveal the Afikoman and wrap up the night.

[Click here](#) to watch drag queens Ona Louise and Golide Lox introduce Yachtz.

5. מַגִּיד MAGID



The Passover Story

SAY: Magid means ‘storytelling’ this is when we get to focus on the story of the Exodus from Egypt—Moses, Plagues, and all. In every generation we retell this epic story of liberation as though we were actually there. Every year we make the seder our own, linking past and present, nostalgia and the news. We make new meaning of our myths and stories, seeking to make some sense of our reality and to build a better world for the future.

Tonight we tell the story using any or all of these options.

SING: [The Four Questions](#) (traditionally sung by the youngest person at the seder table)

Prefer to listen? Here's [a cute kid singing](#) for you, or there's [Four Questioncappella](#).

Add one or two questions of your own.

DO: Share screen (check out the middle green button on bottom of your Zoom screen) to watch these short videos, or read aloud selected texts:

Kids: [Animated Passover Story in 10 Scenes](#) (3:30 minutes)

Families: Act it out with [ShirLaLa's interactive Passover story script](#)

Adults: DIY maggid—use the traditional text from [here](#), more creative options [here](#), or download a seder supplement that ties the Magid to the [refugee crisis](#), [hunger](#), [human justice](#), or [earth justice](#).

Poets: [Maggid—poem by Marge Piercy](#)

Queer it Up with this [Broadway version of the story](#).

DO: Raise up your Matza—fill the screen!

SAY/SING:

We are raising this bread of affliction,
eaten by our ancestors when they were enslaved in
the narrow place, the land of Egypt.

May all who are hungry have enough to eat. Let all
who are in need, come and “passover” with us.

This year, we are here.

Next year, in our homelands of promise.

This year, we are still enslaved.

Next year, we yearn to be free.

הָא לַחֲמַא עֲנִיָא דִּי אָכְלוּ	<i>Ha lach'ma anya di achalu</i>
אֲבֹהֵתָנָא בְּאַרְעָא דְּמִצְרַיִם.	<i>av'hatana b'ar'a d'mitzrayim.</i>
כָּל דְּכָפִין יֵיתִי וְיִיכֹל;	<i>Kol dich'fin yeitei v'yeichol,</i>
כָּל דְּצָרִיךְ יֵיתִי וְיִפְסַח.	<i>kol ditz'rich yeitei v'yif'sach.</i>
הַשְׁתָּא הָכָא, לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה	<i>Hashata ha'cha l'shanah ha'ba'ah</i>
בְּאַרְעָא דְּיִשְׂרָאֵל.	<i>b'ar'a d'yisrael.</i>
הַשְׁתָּא עַבְדִּי,	<i>Hashata av'dei</i>
לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה בְּנֵי חוֹרִין.	<i>l'shanah ha'ba'ah b'nei chorin</i>



UNMUTE: SECOND QUESTION

עבדים היינו AVADIM HAYINU:
Slaves then and now?

We were enslaved by the Pharaoh in Egypt

SECOND GLASS OF WINE

DO: Lift your glass. Drink.



SAY: This story of slavery is ancient, and timeless. What enslaves you today? What are the systemic ways our society is holding us back from being more free, happy, and living lives of justice and joy?

DO: Go around, sharing responses. Take your time. This is the essence of the night.

6. רַחֲצָה RACHTZAH



Wash Hands, Again

SAY: As we prepare to eat our feast, we wash our hands again, with water and a blessing, like we mean it.

SAY: A drop: in the Presence of the Infinite,
we treasure our sacred tradition
immersing our hands in the waters of life.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu
רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם ruach ha'olam
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav
וְצִיָּנוּ עַל נְטִילַת יָדַיִם v'tzivanu al n'tilat yadayim

DO: To make this moment special, use a pitcher or cup to pour water over your hands or the hands of someone sitting with you.

7. מוציא מצה MOTZI MATZAH



Bless this Bread

SAY:

A taste: in the Presence of the Infinite,
we partake in our sacred tradition by eating this
Matza—the bread of paradox.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ *Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu*
רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם *ruach ha'olam*
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו *asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav*
וְצִיָּנוּ עַל אֲכִילַת מַצָּה *v'tzivanu al achilat matzah*

DO: Take a bite of matzah. And savor it. Slowly.

8. מָרוֹר MAROR



Bite the Bitter

SAY:

A spoonful: in the Presence of the Infinite,
we treasure our sacred tradition
to eat this bitter root of hardship.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ *Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu*
רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם *ruach ha'olam*
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו *asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav*
וְצִיָּנוּ עַל אֲכִילַת מָרוֹר *v'tzivanu al achilat maror*

DO:

Spoon a little or a lot of the Maror onto a bit of matzah.
(Tears? Great. That's the idea...)

9. כּוֹרֵךְ KORECH

Bitter-Sweet Wrap



SAY: We combine the bitter and the sweet, mixing up bad memories with optimism and hope. Charoset is a delicious mix of fruits and nuts resembling the mortar of our bondage, upgraded into the triumph of survival.

DO: Mix it up. Put some charoset and some maror on a piece of matzah.

SING: **Dayenu.** It's a classic for a reason. Full lyrics [here](#) (sing as many verses as you like!) or [watch The Maccabeats be ridiculous.](#)

10. שְׁלַחַן עוֹרֵךְ SHULHAN ORECH

Feast!



DO: Enjoy!

Stay on one screen together, split into smaller breakout rooms, or whatever works.

11. צַפּוּן TZAFUN

Reveal



SING: Gather back to wrap up Sayder with a song. Sing any of the classics/family favorites or check out our [Passover playlist](#) on Spotify.

? UNMUTE: THIRD QUESTION
דיינא DAYENU: Enough already!
It would have been enough just to be free.

THIRD GLASS OF WINE



DO: Lift your glass. Drink.

SAY: We've had enough with suffering. What are we going to do about it? What can you do to end that which holds you back from more freedom and justice? How can we collectively take on the Pharaohs within and beyond, making this a better world for all?

Remember the list of organizations we came up with at the start of Sayder? It's now time to review the list so that whoever found the hidden Afikoman can decide and debate which of these organizations will receive a gift from all Seder participants—at whatever gift level each of us is able to afford.

DO: Review the list of organizations. Some participants may want to explain why they chose a particular cause. Declare the winner(s)! If the Afikoman finder is too young to handle this, team up. Collect the funds post-Sayder and share with guests how much was collected.

[Click here](#) to watch drag queens Ona Louise and Golide Lox tackle Tzafun

12. בָּרַךְ BARECH

Bless You



- SAY:** Close your eyes for a moment for gratitude. What nourished you tonight?
- DO:** Share favorite moments and flavors. You may want to recite the traditional [Grace after meals](#).

13. הַלֵּל HALLEL

Raise the Praise



- SING:** Whatever you want to end with, including the classic [Halleluja!](#)
- DO:** Open the front door to Elijah the Prophet and to all our new visions.

? UNMUTE: FOURTH QUESTION

לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה L'SHANA HA'BAA: Future vision...

Next year in Jerusalem of Peace.

FOURTH GLASS OF WINE



- DO:** Raise and drink.

- SAY:** The Seder concludes with “Next Year in Jerusalem”—a hopeful intention, and a wish for return to the wholeness that Jerusalem represents. What is one wild hope and vision for wholeness you have for the world this time, next year?

- DO:** Take turns sharing your visions and hopes.

14. נִרְצָה NIRTZAH

All Done!



We did it!

- DO:** Go around thanking all participants, helpers and chefs. Take a moment to send healing to all with hopes of freedom, health, justice and love to all of us and our planet.

Stick around to chat, sing, or [dance](#)!

- SAY:** This Passover Seder is complete, according to its law and customs. As we were privileged to participate tonight, may we do so again: alive, free, healthy and happy.

חֲסֵל סִדּוּר פֶּסַח כְּהִלְכָּתוֹ, Chasal sidur pesach k'hilchato,
כָּכֹל מִשְׁפָּטוֹ וְחֻקָּתוֹ. k'chol mishpatוֹ v'chukato.
כַּאֲשֶׁר זָכִינוּ לְסִדֵּר אוֹתוֹ. Ka'asher zachinu l'sader oto.
כֵּן נִזְכֶּה לַעֲשׂוֹתוֹ. Kein nizkeh la'asoto.



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