

The Passover Calendar—5786

An overview of the days of Passover in 2026 (Adapted from Chabad.org)

Tuesday

March 31 – 13 Nissan

Search for the *chametz* after dark. Recite the blessing prior to the search, and the nullification of the *chametz* (Kol Chamira) following the search. See page 8 for more information on the search and removal of *chametz*.

Wednesday

April 1—14 Nissan

Fast of the Firstborn. All firstborn males are required to fast. To be exempt from fasting, one can participate in a meal marking the fulfillment of a mitzvah; such a meal is generally held in the synagogue after morning prayers on this day.

Stop eating *chametz* before the end of the fourth seasonal hour.

Burn your remaining *chametz* before the fifth seasonal hour and recite the relevant passages.

Since Shabbat occurs immediately following the festival, an "[eruv tavshilin](#)" is prepared prior to the festival, so that it should be permitted to prepare food for Shabbat during the festival.

Light holiday candles reciting blessings 1 & 2, given below.

The Seder plate items and the Seder dinner food should be prepared today.

According to Chabad custom, complete Hallel is recited during Maariv evening prayers.

First Seder: The Seder contains the observance of many biblical and rabbinical mitzvot, including: eating matzah, eating *maror* (bitter herbs), drinking four cups of wine, relating the story of the Exodus to our children, reclining as a symbol of freedom, etc.

1. The Blessing for Holiday Candles

Bah-rookh ah-tah ah-doh-noi eh-loh-hay-noo meh-lekh hah-oh-lahm ah-sheh ki-deh-shah-noo beh-mitz-voh-tahv veh-tzee-vah-noo leh-hahd-lik nayr shehl yohm tohv.

ברוך אתה א-לני א-להינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו, וצונו להדליק נר של יום טוב

Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the Yom Tov light.

2. Additional Blessing for Holiday Candles (Except for the Final Days of Passover)

Bah-rookh ah-tah ah-doh-noi eh-loh-hay-noo meh-lekh hah-oh-lahm sheh-heh-kheh-yah-noo veh-kee-yi-mah-noo ve-hig-ee-yah-noo liz-mahn hah-zeh.

ברוך אתה א-לני א-להינו מלך העולם, ששהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion.

Thursday

April 2—15 Nissan

1st day of Passover

Morning service.

Torah reading: [Exodus 12:21–51](#) and [Numbers 28:16–25](#).

Haftorah: [Joshua 3:5–7](#), [5:2–6:1](#), [6:27](#).

Beginning with the Musaf Amidah, we recite *morid hatal*, the prayer for dew, and we omit the prayer for rain. This practice continues until Shemini Atzeret, the day after Sukkot.

The priests bless the congregation with the priestly blessing during the Musaf prayer.

“Yaaleh Veyavo” is inserted in the Grace After Meals. Festive lunch meal.

We count the 1st day of the Omer (refer to “[Counting the Omer Guide](#)”). The counting of the Omer is recited during each of the next forty-nine days, leading up to the holiday of Shavuot on the fiftieth day. The 49 days embody the 49 steps of self-improvement — beginning with the

departure from our “personal” Egypt, until our arrival at Mount Sinai, when we are ready to accept the wisdom of the Torah.

After dark, light candles for the second day of Passover, using an existing flame, and recite blessings 1 & 2, on page 2.

The food for the meal can be warmed up after the holiday has ended, using a flame that has been lit from the onset of the holiday.

Second Seder: The Seder contains the observance of many Biblical and Rabbinic Mitzvot, including: eating Matzah, eating Marror (bitter herbs), drinking four cups of wine, relating the story of the Exodus to our children, reclining as a symbol of freedom, etc.

Friday

April 3—16 Nissan 2nd day of Passover-Yom Tov

Morning service. Full Hallel is recited. Two Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark.

Torah reading: [Exodus 12:21–51](#) and [Numbers 28:16–25](#). **Haftorah:** [Joshua 3:5–7](#), [5:2–6:1](#), [6:27](#).

The priests bless the congregation with the priestly blessing during the Musaf prayer.

“Yaaleh Veyavo” is inserted during all prayers and in the Grace After Meals. Festive lunch meal.

Before sunset, light the Shabbat candles (using an existing flame), and recite blessing 3 below.

Shabbat evening prayers begin with *Mizmor leDavid* rather than with *Lechu Nerannena*. Following the Amidah, Count the second day of the Omer”.

Enjoy a relaxing Shabbat meal with Passover food (no Challah of course — use two matzahs instead).

"Retzeh" is said in the Grace After Meals.

Nightfall marks the beginning of Passover’s intermediate days. Between the first two and the last two days of Passover, we may resume much (not all) of our regular, workday activities (except on Shabbat, when regular Shabbat observances are kept); but, of course, we continue to eat Kosher for Passover foods exclusively. It is customary to drink a glass of wine or grape juice each day, in celebration of the festival.

3. The Blessing for Friday-Night Shabbat Candles

Bah-rookh ah-tah ah-doh-noi eh-loh-hay-noo meh-lekh hah-oh-lahm ah-sheh ki-deh-shah-noo beh-mitz-voh-tahv veh-tzee-vah-noo leh-hahd-lik nayr shehl shah-baht koh-dehsh.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֱ-לֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שַׁבָּת קִדְּשׁ

Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the light of the holy Shabbat

Shabbat

April 4—17 Nissan

3rd day of Passover

1st day of Chol Hamoed (intermediate days)

Morning service: Shabbat prayers, with the addition of the Yaaleh Veyavo insert in the Amidah. Half Hallel is recited. Two Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark.

Exodus 33:12–34:26 and Numbers 28:19–25. Haftorah: Ezekiel 37:1-14. The Musaf Amidah is recited. During all of the intermediate days, “Yaaleh Veyavo” is inserted during all prayers and in the Grace After Meals.

Holiday Musaf Amidah, with Shabbat inserts, is recited.

Shabbat lunch meal. "Retzeh" is said in the Grace After Meals

Atah Chonantanu is added in the Amidah of the evening prayers. After nightfall, count the 3rd day of the Omer.

After nightfall, perform the Havdalah ceremony.

Sunday

April 5—18 Nissan

4th day of Passover

2nd day of Chol Hamoed (intermediate days)

Morning service: In many communities, throughout the intermediate days of Passover, tefillin are not worn. Half-Hallel is recited. Two Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark. Torah reading: Exodus 22:24 - 23:19

and [Numbers 28:19–25](#). During all of the intermediate days, “Yaaleh Veyavo” is inserted during all prayers and in the Grace After Meals.

The intermediate days are observed with limited work restrictions.

After nightfall and evening prayers, count the 4th day of the Omer.

Monday

April 6—19 Nissan
5th day of Passover
3rd day of Chol Hamoed (intermediate days)

Morning service: In many communities, throughout the intermediate days of Passover, tefillin are not worn.

Half-Hallel is recited. Two Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark. Torah reading: Torah reading: [Exodus 34:1-26](#) and [Numbers 28:19–25](#). The Musaf Amidah is recited. During all of the Intermediate Days, “Yaaleh Veyavo” is inserted during all prayers and in the Grace After Meals.

After nightfall, count the 5th day of the Omer.

The Intermediate Days are observed with limited work restrictions.

Tuesday

April 7—20 Nissan
6th day of Passover-Yom Tov
4th day of Chol Hamoed (intermediate days)

Morning service: In many communities, throughout the intermediate days of Passover, tefillin are not worn.

Half Hallel is recited. Two Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark. Torah reading: [Numbers 9:1–14](#) and [Numbers 28:19–25](#). The Musaf Amidah is recited. During all of the Intermediate Days, Yaaleh Veyavo is inserted during all prayers and in the Grace After Meals.

The Intermediate Days are observed with limited work restriction.

Light candles for the 7th day of Passover, and recite blessing 1 on page 2.

Evening prayers. After the Amidah, count the 6th day of the Omer.

“Yaaleh Veyavo” is inserted in the Grace After Meals. Festive evening meal.

It is customary in many communities to remain awake all night, studying Torah, in commemoration of the great miracle of the Splitting of the Sea, which occurred on the 7th day of Passover.

Wednesday

April 8—21 Nissan

7th day of Passover — Shevi'i Shel Pesach

Morning service. Half Hallel is recited. Two Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark.

Torah reading: [Exodus 13:17–15:26](#) and [Numbers 28:19–25](#).

Haftarah: [II Samuel 22:1–51](#).

The Priests bless the congregation with the Priestly Blessing during the Musaf prayer.

Festive lunch meal.

Evening prayers. After the Amidah, count the 7th day of the Omer.

Light a yahrtzeit candle then light candles for the 8th day of Passover *after sundown*, using an existing flame, and recite 1 on page 2.

“Yaaleh Veyavo” is inserted in the Grace After Meals. Festive evening meal.

April 9 – 22 Nissan

Final Day of Passover — Acharon Shel Pesach

Morning service. Half Hallel is recited. Two Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark.

Torah reading: [Deuteronomy 14:22–16:17](#) and [Numbers 28:19–25](#).

Haftarah: [Isaiah 10:32–12:6](#).

The Yizkor memorial service is recited following the Torah reading.

Thursday

The Priests bless the congregation with the Priestly Blessing during the Musaf prayer.

“Yaaleh Veyavo” and "Retzeh" are inserted in the Grace After Meals. Festive lunch meal.

On this final day of Passover we strive for the highest level of freedom, and focus on the Final Redemption. Following the Baal Shem Tov’s custom, we end Passover with “Moshiach’s Feast” — a festive meal complete with matzah and four cups of wine, during which we celebrate

the imminent arrival of the Messiah. The feast begins before sunset and continues until after nightfall.

Evening prayers, the weekday Amidah (insert "Atah Chonen") is recited. After the Amidah, count the 8th day of the Omer.

After nightfall, perform the Havdalah ceremony, omitting the blessings on the spices and on the candle flame.

Nightfall is the official end of Passover.

You can now eat *chametz* again

Friday

April 10 —23 Nissan

The day following the holiday is known as **Isru Chag**. It is forbidden to fast on this day.

Search, Removal and Burning of Chametz

By Eliyahu Kitov (from Chabad.org)

On the evening before Passover, make a formal search of the home and all its surrounding properties while holding a lit candle.

It is customary to put pieces of hard bread in various places some time before the search, so that the one who searches will find them.

According to the Kabbalah, one should place 10 pieces.

Before starting the search, the following blessing is recited: Blessed are You, Lord, our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us concerning the removal of chametz.

One is to search by candlelight in all hidden places, even cracks in the floor.

One is not to speak between the blessing and the beginning of the search, even concerning the search itself.

Throughout the search one should not speak about anything that is not relevant to the search. Members of the household should stand nearby to hear the blessing, with each one then searching his own place without speaking in between.

Take heed to search first in the room nearest the place where the blessing was heard, and not to go to another room immediately after the blessing.

After the search one must be careful that the chametz retained to be eaten or to be burnt in the morning, be put in a safe place, so that it not be carried about and thereby crumbled and spread by children or rodents.

After the search one must also nullify [the chametz he may have overlooked] and say:

All leaven and anything leavened that is in my possession, which I have neither seen nor removed, and about which I am unaware, shall be considered nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.

On the morning before Passover, in the fifth hour of the day (calculated from sunrise), one should make a special fire and burn the chametz and nullify it.

For the nullification of the chametz say:

All leaven and anything leavened that is in my possession, whether I have seen it or not, whether I have observed it or not, whether I have removed it or not, shall be considered nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.

The ten pieces are to be burnt, and the following is said during the burning of the chametz:

May it be Your will, Lord, our G-d and G-d of our fathers, that just as I remove the chametz from my house and from my possession, so shall You remove all the extraneous forces.

Remove the spirit of impurity from the earth, remove our evil inclination from us, and grant us a heart of flesh to serve You in truth.

Make all the sitra achara, all the kelipot, and all wickedness be consumed in smoke, and remove the dominion of evil from the earth. Remove with a spirit of destruction and a spirit of judgment all that distress the Shechina, just as You destroyed Egypt and its idols in those days, at this time. Amen, Selah.