

MAKING A VIRTUAL SEDER

Passover 2020

The Center for Jewish
ENGAGEMENT & LEARNING
powered by the
BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION

Just as we are all getting the hang of quarantine (and remote work and home school) - now we have to figure out how to host a Passover Seder. *Oy!* Fear not, Jews have observed Passover for centuries in all kinds of, shall we say - challenging - circumstances. So we can make it work this year.

Let's make the best of Passover in the time of COVID-19!



Setting the Seder Table

Here are the basic items you will need to host a Passover Seder (and some potential substitutions). First, start with a Seder Plate... and add;

- **Candles** (Shabbat candles, or birthday candles work too)
- **Fruit of the Vine** (grape juice, wine, or that old pack of juice boxes down in the basement)
- **Karpas** (any fruit that grows from the earth: celery, parsley, potato, banana)
- **Salt Water** (for dipping and, no, homeschooling tears don't count)
- **Matzah** (Remember that you can make your own)
- **Bitter Herbs** (maror, the bitter herbs— horseradish, lettuce or radishes)
- **Charoset** (simple recipe: chop up apples nuts, cinnamon and a tiny bit of wine/grape juice)
- **Egg** (hard boil and then use tongs to roast on your burner)
- **Shank Bone** (This may be hard to acquire, so how about a roasted beet?)
- **Plan Dinner** (a traditional meal, or matzah PB&J – **#quarantinekitchen** at its finest)
- And don't forget to choose a **HAGGADAH** (and share it digitally with your guests)

THE BASICS

Seders happen at home!

We have this piece taken care of.

The Hebrew word Seder means Order

The order of the Seder has 15 steps.

Passover tells the story

of the Jews escaping from slavery in Egypt to freedom. What a great opportunity to practice gratitude. And reflect on the freedoms we possess (even under quarantine).

Unleavened Bread

Jews abstain from eating any leavened or fermented food products during the 8 days of the Passover holiday. Matzah, unleavened bread, is the primary carb for the full 8 days of the quarantine — we mean the holiday. Did you know that you can make your own Matzah at home?

Family

Seders are meant for the entire family but each year we are instructed to "let all who are hungry come and eat." Think about who you can include in your virtual Passover Seder.

Two Seders

This year the Seders will happen on Wednesday April 8th & Thursday April 9th (both after sundown).

PREPARE YOUR VIRTUAL GATHERING

The single most important thing you can do as a host is to know why you're gathering and what you want folks to leave with at the end of the experience.

Pick your digital platform. Some leaders in the Orthodox community have determined that it is Kosher to host a Seder over ZOOM.

Send a creative invitation! We love these graphical instructions to teach digital immigrants how to use video technology.



Plan ahead, just a smidge (assign roles, ask people to prepare readings, grab legos so the kids can build lego pyramids).

BE THE BEST VIRTUAL HOST YOU CAN BE!

1. Bring your patience to the party! Some of your Seder participants may need some extra support to fully participate.
2. The chat feature on ZOOM is your friend (have lyrics and questions ready to pop into the Chat box.)
3. Set up a plan for side conversations. Encourage the kids to hop on FaceTime or Skype if they want to chat with their cousins.
4. At the beginning of the Seder, set the stage. Review basic virtual gathering etiquette, tell everyone what to expect, who to text for tech support, and how they can participate (chat, raise a hand, thumbs up).
5. Remember to thank everyone for experimenting, and being present during the Seder. And, grant yourself grace for this grand experiment in Jewish gathering!

DIGITAL PASSOVER RESOURCES

5 Great Resources

1. [How to Seder Solo](#)
2. [Everything you need to celebrate Passover during Coronavirus](#)
3. [Ten ways to make your Family Seder accessible to all](#)
4. [Planning a Child Friendly Seder](#)
5. [Games and Tips for the Passover Seder](#)

5 Great Digital Haggadot

1. [Haggadot.com](#)
2. [Kveller](#)
3. [JewBelong](#)
4. [FriendSeder](#)
5. [PJ Library](#)

5 Great Passover Videos

1. [Dayenu Karaoke](#)
2. [The 4 Sons](#)
3. [Making Matzah](#)
4. [4 Questions](#)
5. [Echad Mi Yodeah](#)

For support, or to share stories about your Virtual Seders, reach out to Jewish Buffalo's Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning team: [Miriam Abramovich](#), [Mike Stekloff](#), or [Susan Schwartz](#)

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