

# 2023 GUIDE TO SELLING CHOMETZ GAMUR/ REAL CHOMETZ BEFORE PESACH

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Although *l'Halacha*, any chometz may be sold before Pesach, there are pious individuals who do not sell “real” chometz, but rather give it away, burn it, or eat it before Pesach. How does one define *chometz gamur*, “real” chometz? A food for which there is an *issur* of *bal yeira'eh u'bal yematzeh d'Oraysa* (there is a *Torah* prohibition of ownership on Pesach) is “real” chometz. This includes all items that are *chometz gamur*, real chometz (bread, cake, cookies, pretzels, pasta, etc.). It should be noted that people who do not sell real chometz may purchase real chometz after Pesach from a Jewish owned store that sold their chometz.

*Ta'aroves chometz*, food consisting of chometz ingredients, where the *chiyuv biur* (obligation to burn) is only *m'drabanan* (rabbinic), or at least according to some opinions only *m'drabanan*, is not *chometz gamur*. In addition, *safek chometz* medications (i.e., one is unable to determine whether it is chometz) and non-edible items, as well as products processed on chometz equipment, are not considered to be *chometz gamur*. These products are sold before Pesach even by individuals who are stringent not to sell *chometz gamur*. Many individuals who do not sell *chometz gamur* will sell alcoholic beverages before Pesach. Each family should follow their own custom.

The following chart offers guidelines as to which products are considered ‘real’ chometz. ‘*Chometz Gamur*’ means it is ‘real’ chometz. Pious individuals customarily do not sell these products before Pesach. Rather, they either consume it, burn it, or give it away as a gift to a non-Jew before Pesach. ‘Not *Chometz Gamur*’ indicates the product is not ‘real’ chometz. Even pious individuals will generally sell such products to a non-Jew before Pesach. (Where indicated, some products may remain in one’s possession during Pesach, and a sale is not required.)

## CHOMETZ GAMUR/REAL CHOMETZ CHART

PRODUCT	STATUS
Barley (if pearled, raw and packaged)	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Beer	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Bread	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Cake	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Cake Mixes (dry)	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Cereal with primary ingredient of wheat, oats or barley	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Chometz content is more than a <i>kezayis</i> . A <i>kezayis</i> of chometz can be eaten in a time span of <i>kedei achilas pras</i> <sup>2</sup> (e.g., box of Froot Loops cereal).	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>

# CHOMETZ GAMUR/REAL CHOMETZ CHART

PRODUCT	STATUS
Chometz content is more than a kezayis. A kezayis of chometz cannot be eaten <i>b'kedei achilas pras</i> <sup>2</sup> (e.g., box of Cap 'N Crunch cereal).	Chometz Gamur
Chometz content in entire package is less than a kezayis but is greater than 1/60 of the product (e.g., Corn Flakes cereal).	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>8</sup>
Chometz content is less than 1/60 of the product	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>4</sup>
<i>Chometz Nokshe</i> (e.g., chometz glue)	Not Chometz Gamur
Chometz products non-edible even for canine consumption ( <i>nifsal mei'achilas kelev</i> )	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>3</sup>
Condiments containing vinegar (e.g., ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard, pickles)	Not Chometz Gamur
Cooked on chometz equipment (not during Pesach) but contains no chometz in the product	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>5</sup>
Cookies	Chometz Gamur
Corn Flakes (even if contains malt flavor)	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>8</sup>
Cosmetics	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>4</sup>
Cream of Wheat	Chometz Gamur
Couscous	Chometz Gamur
Detergents	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>4</sup>
Extracts	Not Chometz Gamur
Farfel	Chometz Gamur
Flour (including regular wheat, whole wheat, spelt, oat flour, and flour that contains malted barley)	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>6</sup>
Food Coloring	Not Chometz Gamur
Gefilte Fish (even if contains matzah meal & is not KFP as long as label does not state chometz content)	Not Chometz Gamur
Ketchup	Not Chometz Gamur
<i>Kitniyos</i>	Not Chometz Gamur <sup>3</sup>
Licorice	Chometz Gamur
Malt extract	Chometz Gamur <sup>9</sup>
Maltodextrin/ Maltose (in product and from unknown source)	Not Chometz Gamur
Matzah and Matzah Meal - not certified for Pesach (label does not state chometz)	Not Chometz Gamur
Mayonnaise	Not Chometz Gamur
Medicine containing chometz	Not Chometz Gamur
Modified Food Starch (from unknown source)	Not Chometz Gamur
Mustard	Not Chometz Gamur

# CHOMETZ GAMUR/REAL CHOMETZ CHART

PRODUCT	STATUS
Oatmeal (Instant, Regular, Baby cereal)	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Oat Flour	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Pasta	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Pet Food made from chometz (i.e., if there is more than a <i>kezayis</i> of wheat or barley in the package of pet food)	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Pickles	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Pretzels	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Rice Krispies (even if contains malt flavor)	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i> <sup>8</sup>
Rolled Oats	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Salad Dressing	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Soy Sauce	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Vanillin/Ethyl Vanillin	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Vinegar (from unknown source)	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Vitamin Tablets containing chometz	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Wheat Germ	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Wheat Gluten/Wheat Protein (unknown amount in product)	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>
Whiskey <sup>7</sup>	Follow family custom <sup>1</sup>
Yeast (Baker's)/Yeast Extract	Not <i>Chometz Gamur</i> <sup>3</sup>
Yeast (Brewer's)	<i>Chometz Gamur</i>

1. Some individuals sell this chometz, others do not. One should follow his family custom.

2. *Kedei achilas pras* is the amount of time it takes to eat the volume of buttered bread equaling three to four eggs (approximately 2-4 minutes). For example, if one eats a bowl of Froot Loops cereal, he will eat a *kezayis* of chometz within 2-4 minutes. However, if one eats Cap'N Crunch cereal he will not eat a *kezayis* of chometz fast enough since the amount of chometz in Cap'N Crunch cereal is relatively minimal. Nonetheless, since there is a *kezayis* of chometz in the box, it is *chometz gamur*.

3. These products are not chometz. One may even retain possession on Pesach. Sale is not necessary (*mutar behana'a b'Pesach*). The product may not be eaten on Pesach.

4. These products are not chometz. One may even retain possession on Pesach. Sale is not necessary (*mutar behana'a b'Pesach*).

5. One may retain possession of these products on Pesach. Sale is not necessary. They may not be eaten on Pesach.

6. This applies to flour that is not an ingredient in a product (e.g., flour sold in bags). However, as an ingredient in a product it is usually *chometz gamur*.

7. This includes bourbon, rye, liquor, gin, scotch & whiskey (unless they are certified for Pesach or are known to be from non-chometz sources).

8. Consumer boxes of Corn Flakes contain less than a *kezayis* of malt extract. The same is true with other cereals that contain barley or malt extract and are therefore not *chometz gamur*. Industrial-sized boxes of Corn Flakes (e.g., for food service) and other cereals that contain malt extract likely contain more than a *kezayis* of malt extract and would therefore be considered *chometz gamur*.

9. Malt extract is *chometz gamur*. If malt extract is an ingredient in an otherwise non-chometz product, see footnote #8.