

CHOMETZ SHE'AVAR ALAV HAPESACH (BUYING CHOMETZ AFTER PESACH)
(From the Kosher Information Bureau – Kashrus Conscience for 2024)

Due to the severity of the “Issur” (prohibition) of Chometz, Chazal reinforced the sale of Chometz with a fine. This fine was levied on any Jews who kept Chometz in their possession or ownership during Pesach. This is called “Chometz She’avar Alav HaPesach.” Jewish law requires that if a Jew owns Chometz on Pesach, no Jew is allowed to eat that food, even after Pesach.

Some common products that one may assume are Chometz,(but are actually not), and therefore may be purchased in a store that did not sell their Chometz are the following... baker’s yeast, cosmetics, dry cake mixes, kitniyos, glue containing Chometz, ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard, pickles, medicine containing Chometz, maltodextrin, maltose, malt flavoring, food coloring, flour, extracts, raw pearly barley, vanilla and vitamins/medicine containing Chometz.

Rav Moshe Feinstein ZT”L, in his sefer “Igros Moshe”, states that if a Jew sold his Chometz for Pesach, and then kept his store open during Pesach and continued to sell items of Chometz, one is nevertheless allowed to buy from that store after Pesach.

A Jew may buy from the following stores immediately after Pesach: 7-Eleven, 99 Cent Store, Albertsons, Aldi, B’js, Bev/Mo, Big Lots, Bristol Farms, Coffee Bean, Costco, CVS, Dollar Tree, Erewhon, Food4Less, Food Lion, Fresh & Easy, Gelson’s, Jetro/Restaurant Depot, Jon’s, K-Mart, Nuts & More, Petco, Petsmart, Ralphs/Kroger, Rite Aid, Royal Farms, Sadaf, Safeway, Sam’s Club, Smart & Final, Smith’s, Target (California), Trader Joe’s, Vons/Pavillions, Walgreens, Walmart, Wegmans, Whole Foods, Wine & Liquor Depot

In addition, all reliably certified Kosher stores are fine to shop in for Chometz after Pesach. Reliably certified Kosher stores all sell their Chometz before Pesach.

Note: Rabbi Elmaliach, the Rabbi in charge of Kashrus at Ben Gurion airport, reports that the stores at area D7 in the airport are clear of Chometz She’avar Olav Hapesach. There is a restaurant in the Ben Gurion airport called “Aroma Espresso Bar”, under Chug Chosom Sofer Hashgacha and it is fine to eat there after Pesach. The other stores in other areas of the airport had their Chometz sold but were open on Pesach and continued to sell Chometz during Pesach. Some poskim allow purchases from such establishments after Pesach, while some do not..Please note that many of the products sold in Ben Gurion airport which are certified Kosher in the U.S. are not kosher there due to being produced in other countries without kosher supervision