# **Preparing For Shabbat**

Here are some suggestions (these are NOT <u>halachot!</u>) of what to prepare in advance of <u>Shabbat</u>. Add or delete to suit your needs!

# **Candle Lighting**

- Check candle lighting time
- Set the candles in their holders (and have matches nearby)

#### Set the Table

Set the table, including the *challa* and its cover and the wine cup.

#### **Kitchen Preparation**

- Sharpen knives
- Tear paper towels
- Refrigerator: Turn off or unscrew lights; disconnect any LEDs or fans
- Set up blech
- Set up hot water urn
- Turn off stove, oven

# **Food Preparation**

- Thaw frozen meat, fish, and other food that might take hours to defrost before being cooked
- Cook whatever can be cooked ahead of time on Thursday night, Friday morning, or earlier in the week
- Squeeze lemons; do any other *boreir*-type preparations
- Chill wine
- Open bottles and cans that will be needed on Shabbat
- Prepare tea essence

#### Cleaning

- Make beds
- · Sweep or vacuum
- Dump garbage

### **Clothing**

- Do laundry
- Empty pockets of *muktza* (or if there is no *eruv*, of everything!)
- For men, set out Shabbat talit

# Muktza

Check that nothing you will need is beneath a muktza item

#### **Personal Care**

- Cut hair and nails, if needed
- For men, shave or trim beard and mustache, if needed
- Tear dental floss
- Tear toilet paper or put out tissues in bathrooms
- Open any new boxes of tissues

#### **Electronics**

- Set heat or air conditioning
- Turn on or off lights, or set timers for them
- If desired, turn off or disconnect:
  - Alarms
  - Cellphones and phones
  - Computers
  - Microwave detectors
  - Other electronics

# Eruv

Check that the eruy (if any) is good

© Copyright 2025 Richard B. Aiken | www.practicalhalacha.com