# Introduction to Toveling: Utensils

*Tevila* is the *Hebrew* word for immersion.  You must *tovel* (immerse in a *mikva* or other halachically purifying water) new utensils made of metal or other materials that require *tevila* unless you know that they were:

- Made by a Jew,
- Sold by a Jew, and
- Not owned by a non-Jew in between.

***Toveling*: Utensils: How To *Tovel***

To *tovel* a utensil, you may go to any *kosher* natural *mikva* (see section on natural mikvas) or to a mikvat keilim (a small *mikva* for utensils, often attached to the outside of a regular *mikva* building). To *tovel* several items, some of which require a blessing and some on which there is doubt whether a blessing is necessary, say the blessing over the item that requires the blessing and have in mind that the blessing will cover all the rest of your items.
Remember to remove all stickers, rust, etc., before you begin. Nail polish remover may help with stubborn stickers. Say the blessing *al tevilat keilim* and then let the item free fall through the water. Unlike with *hagala*, during which the item may be immersed in sections, when you *tovel* a utensil, the entire item must be in contact with the water at the same time, even if only for an instant.

***Toveling*: Utensils: What Gets *Toveled*?**

NOTE The main *halacha* applies to metal utensils that will be used repeatedly.
Say the blessing *al tevilat keilim* on metal or glass items--including Pyrex, Duralex, and Corelle-- that come in contact with food. Items that require *toveling* include:

- Bowls
- Cups
- Forks
- Knives
- Pans
- Plates
- Pots
- Spoons
- Storage containers (only if they are brought to the table).

The below chart is copied with permission from the Star-K (www.star-k.org):

| **Utensil** | ***Tevila* Guideline** | **Utensil** | ***Tevila* Guideline** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aluminum Pans, Disposable *if intended to be used more than once* | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Meat Tenderizer Hammer, Metal | No *Tevila* |
| Aluminum Pans, Disposable *to be used only once* | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Melamine | No *Tevila* |
| *Blech* | No *Tevila* | Metal Cutlery | *Tevila* with *Brocha* |
| Blender with metal blade on bottom | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Metal Flour and Sugar Storage Canisters | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* |
| Bone | No *Tevila* | Metal Pots Coated with Teflon, Enamel or Plastic | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brush, Pastry | No *Tevila* | Metal Spoon Specifically for Medicine |
| Brush for Grill, Metal | No *Tevila* | Microwave Turntable, Glass |
| Can Opener | No *Tevila* | Mixer Beaters |
| Cans, Reusable Empty *if opened by a Yehudi* | No *Tevila* | Paper |
| China, Bone | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Peeler, Vegetable |
| China, Glazed | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Plastic |
| Colander, Metal | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Pot with Enamel |
| Cookie Cutters, Metal | No *Tevila* | Racks, Cooling |
| Cookie Sheets, Metal | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Racks, Oven |
| Cork Screw | No *Tevila* | Rolling Pins *Metal or Wood* |
| Corningware | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Sandwich Maker |
| Crockpot Ceramic Insert | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Silicone |
| Crockpot Glass Lid | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Sink Racks, Stainless Steel |
| Crockpot Outside Metal Shell | No *Tevila* | Spatula, Metal |
| Dish Rack, Metal | No *Tevila* | Stoneware |
| Dishes, Ceramic | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Stoneware, Non-Glazed |
| Earthenware, Non-Glazed *Dull Finish, e.g. Flower Pot* | No *Tevila* | Storage Utensils, Glass *not brought to the table* |
| George Foreman Grill | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Strainer |
| Glass *(including Pyrex, Duralex & Corelle)* | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Tea Kettle, Corelle |

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|---|---|---|
| Grater, Metal<br>*used for foods that are ready to eat, eg, apples, onions* | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Toaster w/o *Brocha* *which will not break* |
| Grater, Metal<br>*used only for foods that need further cooking,eg potatos* | *Tevila* w/o *Brocha* | Toaster with *Brocha* Oven *rack & tray only* |
| Hamburger Maker | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Trivet, *Tevila* Metal |
| Hot Air Popcorn Maker, Metal | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Waffle Iron with *Brocha* |
| Hot Water Urn, Metal | *Tevila* with *Brocha* | Warming Tray *Tevila* |
| Knife, Arts & Crafts | No *Tevila* | Wood *Tevila* |
| Knife Sharpener | No *Tevila* | Wooden Cask with Metal Straps w/o *Brocha* |
| Meat Thermometer | No *Tevila* | |

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