INTRODUCTION TO TOVELING: UTENSILS

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 *Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Brush, Pastry	No *Tevila*	Metal *Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Brush for Grill, Metal	No *Tevila*	Metal *Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Can Opener	No *Tevila*	Metal *Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Cans, Reusable Empty *if opened by a Yehudi*	No *Tevila*	Paper *Tevila*
China, Bone	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	Plastic *Tevila* with *Brocha*
China, Glazed	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	Plastic *Tevila*
Colander, Metal	*Tevila* with *Brocha*	Plastic *Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Cookie Cutters, Metal	No *Tevila*	Racks, Cooling *Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Cookie Sheets, Metal	*Tevila* with *Brocha*	Racks, Oven No *Tevila*
Cork Screw	No *Tevila*	Rolling Pins *Metal or Wood* No *Tevila*
Corningware	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	Sandwich Maker *Tevila* with *Brocha*
Crockpot Ceramic Insert	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	Silicone No *Tevila*
Crockpot Glass Lid	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	Sink Racks, Stainless Steel No *Tevila*
Crockpot Outside Metal Shell	No *Tevila*	Spatula, Metal *Tevila* with *Brocha*
Dish Rack, Metal	No *Tevila*	Stoneware *Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Dishes, Ceramic	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	Stoneware, Non-Glazed No *Tevila*

Earthenware, Non-Glazed *Dull Finish, e.g. Flower Pot*	No *Tevila*	No *Tevila*
George Foreman Grill	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	No *Tevila*
Glass *(including Pyrex, Duralex & Corelle)*	*Tevila* with *Brocha*	*Tevila* with *Brocha*
Grater, Metal *used for foods that are ready to eat, eg, apples, onions*	*Tevila* with *Brocha*	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Grater, Metal *used only for foods that need further cooking,eg potatos*	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*	*Tevila* with *Brocha*
Hamburger Maker	*Tevila* with *Brocha*	No *Tevila*
Hot Air Popcorn Maker, Metal	*Tevila* with *Brocha*	*Tevila* with *Brocha*
Hot Water Urn, Metal	*Tevila* with *Brocha*	No *Tevila*
Knife, Arts & Crafts	No *Tevila*	No *Tevila*
Knife Sharpener	No *Tevila*	*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Meat Thermometer	No *Tevila*	
Storage Utensils, Glass *not brought to the table*		No *Tevila*
Tea Kettle, Corelle		*Tevila* with *Brocha*
Toaster *which will not break*		*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*
Toaster Oven *rack & tray only*		*Tevila* with *Brocha*
Trivet, Metal		No *Tevila*
Waffle Iron		*Tevila* with *Brocha*
Warming Tray		No *Tevila*
Wood		No *Tevila*
Wooden Cask with Metal Straps		*Tevila* w/o *Brocha*

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