JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES (LECHEM MISHNEH)

JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES (LECHEM MISHNEH): WHAT TO USE

Bagels for HaMotzi

You may use two bagels for the two loaves (*lechem mishneh*), even though they are already sliced most of the way through, if you can pick up each bagel by its slightly smaller half and the larger half does not fall off.

Crackers for HaMotzi

The minimum volume of a cracker or crispbread (such as Ryvita or Wasa) that may be used for *lechem mishneh* is 1 oz. (30 ml).

Other Foods for HaMotzi

You may not substitute other foods for the two loaves (*lechem mishneh).* You may not, for example, use two apples or two cans of fish.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES (LECHEM MISHNEH): HOW MUCH MAY BE MISSING

How Much Challa May Be Missing

Less than 1/48th missing is still considered a whole loaf. So if you only have two *challot* (or other loaves of bread) for a *Jewish festival*, you might be able to use one loaf twice:

- Wash your hands,
- Say *ha'motzi*,
- Cut off a piece that is less than 1/48th of the loaf, and
- Eat it.

REASON You may consider the remainder of that loaf as still being a full loaf and you may re-use it for your *Jewish festival* morning meal.

NOTE If you have pieces of bread or other *mezonot*, you may:

- Cut off less than 1/48th of the loaf,
- Eat the additional pieces of bread to make a total of at least 1.9 fl. oz., and then
- Re-use the same loaf for *Jewish festival* morning.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES (LECHEM MISHNEH): HOW TO COVER

White Challa Cover Above and Below

As on *Shabbat*, on *Jewish festivals* you should place a white cover above and another below the *challot* to remind us of the layers of dew and "*mun*" in the desert that the Israelites ate for 40 years.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES (LECHEM MISHNEH): HOW TO WASH AND BLESS

How To Wash for HaMotzi

To view all *halachot* related to washing for ha'*motzi*, see HaMotzi: Washing Hands.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES: (LECHEM MISHNEH): WHAT HAMOTZI COVERS

What HaMotzi Covers

See Which Foods HaMotzi Covers.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES (LECHEM MISHNEH): HOW TO CUT

Mark the Challa

Mark in the bread with a knife where you will cut before *ha'motzi*.

NOTE It is customary to just make a mark on the *challa*. You may cut almost all of the way through, but you must be able to pick up the bread by the small end and have it hold the big end up.

Cut Upper Loaf for Jewish Festivals

For *Jewish festivals*, cut the upper loaf at night and day.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: TWO LOAVES (LECHEM MISHNEH): SALT

Why Dip Challa in Salt

Before eating bread (at any time, not just on *Shabbat* or *Jewish festivals*), the bread should be dipped in some salt. This makes it taste better and makes it like a sacrifice (which had salt added to it).

NOTE You may sprinkle salt on the bread instead, but *kabbala* recommends dipping.

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