KASHRUT: DAIRY/MEAT: TASTE TRANSFER IN COUNTERTOPS

Hot, Wet Taste Transfer in Countertops

A hot (120° F--49° C--or more), wet utensil transfers its gender to a countertop upon which it is placed, but only at the area of contact.

Status of Countertop

1. Gender status of the countertop:
    - *D'rabanan*, the countertop area of contact remains that gender until *kashered* (as long as the countertop material is kasherable).
    - *D'oraita*, the countertop reverts to *kosher*-neutral/*pareve* after 24 hours.

    NOTE If the utensil and counter were not wet (nor dirty with food) at the area of contact, there is *b'di'avad* no transfer of gender.

2. If you put a hot, wet utensil of the opposite gender on that same spot, that counter space may become non-*kosher*.

STATUS OF UTENSILS

If the counter had not had a hot, wet utensil/container of food of the opposite gender placed on the same spot within 24 hours of each other, the utensils may be used and the utensils are still *kosher*.

STATUS OF FOOD

This does not apply to food that is *directly* placed on the counter, in which case the food might become non-*kosher*.

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