TASTE (TA'AM) TRANSFER: SPICY/CHARIF: PRESSURE

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Pressure: What Acquires Taste

Pressure can transfer taste from spicy/*charif* food to utensil/container or vice versa.

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Pressure: Types of Pressure

Here are some types of pressure that transfer taste from spicy/*charif* food to utensil/container or vice versa. When a spicy/*charif* food is:

- Cut with a knife,
- Crushed,
- Squashed by a spoon or fork,
- Squeezed in a garlic press, or
- Juiced in a juicer (including in a plastic orange juicer with plastic done that fits under the half-orange and spins slowly back and forth electrically).

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Pressure: Food Absorbing Taste of Utensils

When a spicy/*charif* food takes on the gender of the cutting/squeezing utensil:

- You may not cook or eat that food with food of the opposite gender.
- However, you MAY eat the opposite-gender food immediately after eating the gendered spicy food without waiting.

SITUATION An onion is cut with a meat knife, on a meat cutting board:

- The onion acquires meat status.
- You MAY NOT later cut this onion with a *dairy* knife or on a *dairy* cutting board. (If you do, the onion, the *dairy* knife, and the *dairy* cutting board will all become non-*kosher*.)

  EXCEPTION If the knife and cutting board had not been used (even for cold items) for at least 24 hours, consult a *rabbi*.

  EXCEPTION If you can sand off the surface to below the level of any knife cuts, the board might be *kosher*. Consult a *rabbi*.
- You MAY NOT cook this onion in a *dairy* utensil.
- You MAY NOT eat this onion with *dairy* food.
- You MAY eat *dairy* immediately after eating this onion (as long as there is no actual meat mixed into the onion).
- You MAY cook this onion with fish (even though you may not cook meat and fish together) but the fish may not be eaten with *dairy* food.

SITUATION You cut an onion with a meat knife and fry it in a neutral/*pareve* pan.
STATUS The pan becomes meat, but consult a *rabbi* for possible leniencies.

SITUATION You cut an onion with a meat knife and fry it in a *dairy* pan.
STATUS The pan becomes non-*kosher*. If you cook a neutral/*pareve* food in that pan after 24 hours have passed since the onion was cooked in it, and you ate the *pareve* food with *milk*, it is OK *b'di'avad* but you may not do that *l'chatchila*.

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Non-Kosher Utensils

A non-*kosher* fork, knife, or spoon may not be used to eat or cut spicy/*charif* food, such as tart pineapple. (If the food is not spicy or hot, you may use a clean, non-*kosher* utensil on an ad hoc basis.)

EXAMPLE A non-*kosher* implement (fork, knife) that is stuck into a spicy/*charif* or salty food, such as a spicy pickle, will make that pickle non-*kosher* immediately.
Suggestion Cut onion, garlic, and other spicy/*charif* foods on a *pareve* board and with a *pareve* knife.

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Pressure: Utensils Absorbing Taste of Food

If you use a neutral/*pareve* utensil with pressure on a gendered spicy/*charif* food, you may not use this utensil with food of the opposite gender unless they are all clean and less than 120° F (49° C) and even then, only on an ad hoc basis, not as a regular practice.

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Pressure: Blade Sharpness

When cutting a spicy/*charif* food, pressure (not the physical sharpness of the knife's edge) transfers taste.

NOTE There is more likely to be higher pressure when cutting with a dull knife rather than with a sharp one!

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Pressure: Forgotten Gender

SITUATION You forgot the gender of a cut onion in the refrigerator.

WHAT TO DO

- You may eat the onion with *pareve* food.
- You may NOT use the onion with *dairy* or with meat.

Taste (Ta'am) Transfer: Spicy/Charif: Sitting in Container

Cold, spicy/*charif*, solid food (with no liquid) does not transfer gender UNLESS it was under pressure, so simply sitting in an opposite-gender or non-*kosher* container does not have any effect.

NOTE Cold, spicy/*charif*, liquid food sitting in an opposite-gender or non-*kosher* container is *kosher* only if it sat less time than needed to become cooked.

EXAMPLE You ate cold (less than 120° F, or 49° C) spicy/*charif* food of one gender on a cold plate of the opposite gender:

Liquid Food

If the cold spicy/*charif* food is liquid but it is in contact with a utensil of the opposite gender for less time than it takes to boil, it would be *kosher* but, again, you should only do this ad hoc.

Also see Spicy/*Charif* Soaking: Long Enough To Be Cooked: Food and Utensil.

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