

דרך קצרה

Brief summaries of cRc Kashrus Policies

CHERESS AND PLASTIC

One may not perform *hag'alah* on equipment made of *cheress*/ceramic, and a common home example of that is a coffee mug. [Other possible examples such as bricks, cement, concrete, china, glass, granite, porcelain enamel, rubber, stone, and wood will be discussed in chapters 24, 50, 52, and 56].

In a factory setting, there are three places where *cheress* might be found: homogenizer pistons, packing in a distillation column, and as a filter for a liquid such as juice. If these are present in equipment, that part of the factory would essentially be impossible to *kasher*.

Contemporary *Poskim* disagree as to what status to assign to plastic and other synthetic materials, as relates to *kashering*. One group understand that all materials can be *kashered* except for those specifically excluded by the *Torah*. Others take exactly the opposite approach and contend that we may only perform *hag'alah*

on those which the *Torah* and *Gemara* specify as qualifying. If so, plastic cannot be *kashered*.

In practice, most Israeli *Poskim* and American *hashgachos* accept the lenient approach, while one major American *hashgachah* and most American Congregational Rabbis follow the ruling of Rav Moshe Feinstein and do not *kasher* plastic.



cRc POLICIES

1. Are plastic and other synthetic materials suitable for *kashering* with *hag'alah*, or should it be given the same status as *cheress*?

They may be *kashered* with *hag'alah*, subject to the concerns of דלמא חייס עלייהו (discussed below in Chapter 3).

מראה מקומות

פסחים ל':

ציץ אליעזר חלק ד' סימן ו'

מנחת יצחק חלק ג' סימן ס"ז

אגרות משה או"ח חלק ב' סימן צ"ב, או"ח חלק ג' סימן נ"ח

