

# דרך קצרה

Brief summaries of cRc Kashrus Policies

## כלי אבן

*Tur* and *Beis Yosef* cite three opinions regarding כלי אבן (stone): some say that they do not absorb at all, others say that they are like metal which absorbs and can be *kashered* with *hag'alah*, and the most strict opinion is that of Rav Hai Gaon that they are like *cheress* which absorbs but *hag'alah* is not effective. *Shulchan Aruch* accepts the middle opinion.

What is the difference between *klei even* (stone), *klei adamah* (items made of earth), metal, and *cheress* (pottery)? Why is it that the first three of those can be *kashered* but the last one cannot? Are they not all made from natural materials taken from the ground? *Magen Avraham* explains that the difference is that when clay is fired in a kiln at high temperatures, it hardens and becomes chemically altered such that it becomes particularly porous and unable to be *kashered* with *hag'alah*. With metals, the heat has no meaningful effect on the metal (other than to liquefy it) and is merely done to burn away the impurities. Accordingly, the metal is basically the same before and after the heating process, and therefore as a natural product it can be *kashered*. In contrast, *cheress* is natural clay which has been changed through the

heating process, and therefore cannot be *kashered*.

Based on *Magen Avraham's* principle, we understand that one can perform *hag'alah* to marble, granite, natural rubber/latex, and asbestos. Each of these are *klei even/klei adamah* and are not *cheress*. On the other hand, ceramic, bricks, cement, concrete, and mortar are *cheress* and cannot be *kashered*.

## cRc POLICIES

83. Can items made of the following materials, be *kashered* with *hag'alah*?

Asbestos?	Granite?
Yes	Yes
Bricks?	Latex (natural)?
No	Yes
Cement?	Marble?
No	Yes
Ceramic?	Mortar?
No	No
Concrete?	Rubber (natural)?
No	Yes

### מראה מקומות

שולחן ערוך סימן תנ"א סעיף ח'  
מגן אברהם תנ"א ס"ק ד'

