

DISHWASHERS

If a dishwasher was used for non-kosher (or chametz) it cannot l'chatchilah be used for kosher without kashering. If the dishwasher is made of porcelain enamel it cannot be kashered. But if it is made of stainless steel or plastic, then hag'alah is suitable, and the way to kasher it is – once again – with כבולעו כך פולטו. That means that the dishwasher must be thoroughly cleaned, not used for 24 hours, and allowed to run through the hottest cycle (with the "sensor" off). This will bring hot water to all areas where hot water was during dishwashing, and that will kasher it.

Many recommend that in addition to following this procedure, the dishracks should be replaced because they have many cracks and crevices (e.g., in the silverware baskets, where the wire racks cross) where food can get trapped. As we have seen, Rema rules that a utensil with many spots that are very hard to clean, should not be kashered, and it appears that replacing the racks is a fulfillment of this ruling.

Here again we can ask: what about the possibility that residue might be stuck in the trap/filter that is located on the bottom

of the dishwasher's basin? How can one kasher the dishwasher if Rema teaches us that something which with small holes which is difficult to clean cannot be kashered?

Rav Schwartz answered that Rema's minhag is limited to cases where there is a possibility that the bit of residue stuck in the utensil might get into the kosher food. But in the case of a dishwasher, the worst-case scenario is that residue from the trap will be sprayed onto the kosher/Pesach dish and cause it to absorb ta'am. Therefore, there is no minhag to avoid kashering and one must merely be careful to clean the dishwasher well before kashering begins.

CRC POLICIES

119. Is it permitted to *kasher* a home dishwasher for year-round? What about for *Pesach*?

It is permitted for year-round use but not for *Pesach*

120. When kashering a home dishwasher, is one required to replace the dishracks? Yes

<u>מראה מקומות</u>

שולחן ערוך סימן תנ"א סעיף י"ח

