

דרך קצרה

Brief summaries of cRc Kashrus Policies

LARGE POTS

When food is cooked in a pot, the pot will typically not be filled 100% with food. The headspace between the top of the food and the top of the pot does not have continuous direct food contact, but even so food commonly sprays up and reaches those areas. And at times, the food even makes its way to the rim at the very top of the pot. Accordingly, all those areas must be *kashered*.

The simplest way to accomplish this is to submerge the non-kosher pot into a larger pot filled with boiling water so that boiling water touches all parts of the non-kosher pot. If the person doesn't have a pot which large enough for that, the *Gemara* suggests creating a ridge of dough around the top of the pot so that when the pot is filled with water and brought to a boil, the top of the pot and the rim will have contact with the *hag'alah* water.

Another suggestion is to drop a boiling hot rock (*even m'lubenes*) into the pot of boiling water, which causes the water to overflow and reach the upper edges and the rim. We recommend the following variation of this idea: The large pot that will be *kashered* should be filled with water and brought to a boil. At the same time, a saucepan should be filled with water and also brought to a boil. Once the water in both pots is boiling, the saucepan should be

lowered into the larger pot [don't pour the water from the saucepan into the pot] which will cause the water to overflow from the pot. Essentially, the saucepan is taking the place of the *even m'lubenes*.

There is a discussion in the *Poskim* whether any of these procedures are required when *kashering* a non-kosher, *ben yomo*, pot that will just be used as a "*kashering* pot" (rather than for cooking), and *Mishnah Berurah* only cites the lenient opinion that it is not. [If the "*kashering* pot" is *aino ben yomo* and clean, it does not have to be *kashered* at all before it is used for that role].

Some commercial kettles have a "level control" which prevents water from filling above a predetermined level. This controller must be overridden for the kettle

to be filled to the top (and overflowed). [The kettle's cover must be *kashered* separately, just like any pot cover]. Some tanks and kettles have a built-in mixing blade, and it can be used as a tool to overflow the tank during *kashering*. After the water in the tank is boiling, the mixer is turned on and

that agitates the water to the point that it will overflow.

Where overflowing a tank is required, it is typically impossible to verify that through

CAUTION!

Overflowing boiling water will burn anyone it comes into contact with. Be sure to wear thick shoes or boots, keep all unnecessary people away, and overflow as little water as needed.



Kashering a Large Pot (video)



charts etc., and the *Mashgiach* will have to be physically present during *kashering* to witness it.

CRC POLICIES

176. How should one *kasher* a pot that is too large to fit into another pot?

The large pot that will be *kashered* should be filled with water and brought to a boil. At the same time, a saucepan should be filled with water and also brought to a boil. Once the water in both pots is boiling, the saucepan should be lowered into the larger pot [don't pour the water from the saucepan into the pot] which will cause the water to overflow from the pot. Caution: Overflowing boiling water will burn anyone it comes into contact with. Be sure to wear thick shoes or boots, keep all unnecessary people away, and

overflow as little water as needed. Consider *kashering* on a back burner so less water spills onto the floor. Remember to turn off the gas after the overflowing water extinguishes the fire.

Others have had success with (a) using putty to create a "ridge" around the outer rim of the pot, so the pot can be filled beyond its inherent capacity, (b) submerging part of the pot at a time in another [similarly-sized] pot filled with boiling water, or (c) bringing the large pot to a communal *kashering* where the oversized kettles they use for *kashering* are larger than any pot used in a residential setting.

177. Must the procedures noted in the previous answer also be done when *kashering* a pot that will (only) be used to *kasher* other items?

No

מראה מקומות

שולחן ערוך סימן תנ"ב סעיף ו'
משנה ברורה תנ"ב ס"ק כ"ט