

Impurity of Earthenware Vessels

Ref: *Sefer Taharah, Hilchot Kelim, Chapter 13*

Contraction / Transmission of Impurities – Earthenware Vessels

		Earthenware	Other vessels
TOUCH (WHEN TOUCH IS MENTIONED REGARDING EARTHENWARE VESSELS, IT IS REFERRING TO IMPURITY TOUCHING THE INNER SURFACE)		Usually only contracts impurity from its inner space or when moved by <i>zav</i> (However outside could become impure if touched by impure liquids on outside)	These contract impurity when touched
	Contracts impurity	Touch by impure liquids only	✓
	Transmits impurity	To foods or liquids touching outer surface (as well as from inner space)	✓
CARRIAGE			
	Contracts impurity		
	Transmits impurity		
MOVEMENT (THERE CAN BE MOVEMENT WITHOUT CARRIAGE)	Contracts impurity	✓ movement by a <i>zav</i>	
	Transmits impurity		
MISHKAV AND MOSHAV (ZAV, ZAVAH, NIDAH, YOLEDET)			
COUCH / CHAIR (MISHKAV, MOSHAV)	Contracts impurity		
	Transmits impurity		
SADDLE (MERKAV)	Contracts impurity		
	Transmits impurity		
SPACE			
OHEL (UNIQUE TO HUMAN CORPSE)	Contracts impurity	Vessel turned upside down over <i>tumah</i> . If item within edge, vessel impure. If outside of edge then vessel remains pure	
	Transmits impurity		

SEALED VESSELS (SIMILAR TO <i>OHEL</i>)	Contracts impurity		✓ Do not seal as well as earthenware
	Transmits impurity	× Impure foods ✓ dead <i>sheretz</i> Depends on impurity and type of seal	✓ Do not seal as well as earthenware
<i>METZORA</i> PRESENCE IN BUILDING	Contracts impurity		
	Transmits impurity		
SPACE OF EARTHENWARE VESSELS	Contracts impurity	✓ Inner space only	×
	Transmits impurity	✓ From inner space	×
If attached to ground and has contact with human corpse	Contracts impurity	✓	×
	Transmits impurity	×	✓ Becomes <i>av</i>
Earthenware vessel with no receptacle (or has receptacle but was made with no intention to be used as a container)	Susceptible to impurity	×	
	Transmits impurity	×	