

Measures of Impure Foods

Ref: *Sefer Taharah, Hilchot Tumat Ochalin, Chapter 4*

Reminder

Pack on Weights and Measurements
Measures of Prohibition in Foods. Ref: *Sefer Kedushah, Hilchot Maachalot Assurot, Chapter 14, 15, 16*



FOODS

Measure to contract impurity – **any size**

To impart impurity to other foods, drinks or hands needs – **betzah** (egg bulk)

Eating of *tamei* food needs – $1\frac{1}{2}$ **betzah** = $\frac{1}{2}$ **pras** (**pras** = $\frac{1}{2}$ loaf) to make person *pasul* and disqualify him from eating *trumah* and *kadashim*

LIQUIDS

To contract impurity – **any amount**

To impart impurity to other foods etc – **any amount**

However, to disqualify a person from *trumah* and *kadashim* needs to drink **1 reviit**.

Unless eaten, foods (**1 betzah**) impart impurity only through touch and do not impart impurity to humans or *kelim*. Can only impart impurity to hands, other food, other liquids.

Liquids (**even 1 drop**) imparts impurity through touch to foods, other liquids, *kelim*.

COMBINATIONS

All liquids can combine to make up minimum measure of *reviit* to disqualify a person from *trumah* and *kadashim*.

All foods can combine to make up the minimum measure of *betzah* or $\frac{1}{2}$ *pras* to disqualify a person from *trumah* and *kadashim*.

However, one may have to consider each substance. E.g.

- Flesh of corpse minimum measure is **1 kezayit**. Impurity lasts **7** days.
- *Rekev* of corpse minimum measure is **1 handful**.
- Flesh of *nevelah* minimum measure is **1 kezayit**. Impurity lasts **1** day (also imparts impurity when carried).
- Flesh of *sheretz* minimum measure is **1 adashah** (lentil). Does not impart impurity when carried.
- Foods could be different levels of impurity e.g. *rishon, sheni, shlishi* or *revii* etc, but essentially are the same in nature. The difference between them is incidental. Therefore, they can be combined.
- The combination of 2 foods smaller than a *betzah* takes on the lower level of impurity. So, if a *rishon* is combined with a *sheni*, the mixture is a *sheni*.
- If both measures were at least the size of a *betzah*, then this maintains the higher level of impurity. So, if a *rishon* is combined with a *sheni*, the mixture is a *rishon*.