

Overview of Vessel Impurity

Ref: *Sefer Taharah, Hilchot Kelim, Chapter 1*

7 kinds of utensils contract *tumah*. (*Deoraita* – according to Scriptural Law)

- Clothes (any article that is woven from wool, linen, hemp, silk or other fabrics that grow on the land (i.e. not the sea)). Felt (a textile that is produced by matting, condensing and pressing fibers together) is also regarded as clothes.
- Sacking (threads of hair from goats, horses etc that are braided like a chain e.g. sacks, band that holds saddle bags of donkey. Rope is not included)



• Leather vessels (*Derabanan*: Even if they are flat like a mat). *Zav* impurity on a flat vessel is *Deoraita*.



• Bone vessels. (*Derabanan*: even if they are flat, they are susceptible). *Zav* impurity on a flat vessel is *Deoraita*.

- Metal vessels (whether receptacles e.g. pots or flat e.g. knives. Even a large container larger than **40 seah**).



• Wood vessels (Flat wooden vessels are also susceptible *Derabanan* e.g. chair.). *Zav* impurity on a flat vessel is *Deoraita*. A container larger than **40 seah** is not susceptible.

All vessels like baskets made from branches, leaves and barks etc are considered wood.

- Earthenware (Flat earthenware utensils not susceptible)

Reminder

Pack on Impurity of Vessels

Pack on Impurity of *Zav*, *Zavah* etc



Everything from the sea is pure and is not susceptible to any form of impurity – *Mipi Hashmuah*.

Bird skin and bones are not susceptible to impurity.



Glass vessels not susceptible to impurity but *Rabanan* decreed them susceptible to impurity. They are like earthenware but they do not only become impure through their inner space. They only become impure through touching, whether on the inside or the outside of the vessel.

Utensils made from

- Stone – always pure
- Earth – always pure
- Manure – always pure

Not even a *zav* can make them impure. In general, besides these, a *zav* will make impure any vessel made to lie or ride upon. – *Deoraita*. Glass would be impure *Derabanan*.

Ovens are all regarded as earthenware vessels and are susceptible to impurity.

- *Tanur* (oven)
- *Kiraim* (range - openings for two pots)
- *Kupach* (stove – opening for 1 pot)