

## Summary of Vessels in General

### Ref: *Sefer Taharah, Hilchot Tumat Kelim, Chapters 27–28*

This chapter summarises most of the vessels discussed in previous chapter e.g. wagons, shields, beds, chests etc. (18 are discussed)

Each category of vessels reflects 3 types i.e.

- 1) One which one can lie or sit upon and therefore susceptible to *midras* impurity.
- 2) One which
  - one cannot sit or lie upon.
  - if one did sit upon, say working equipment where the operators would say ‘stand up and let us perform our work’, these are vessels and contract the other types of impurity, but not *midras*. (I.e. it wasn’t made for sitting or lying on it.)
- 3) One which is not considered a vessel at all or it does not directly benefit man, and is therefore pure.

#### PRINCIPLE

Whenever an article is susceptible to *midras* impurity it is also susceptible to the corpse impurities. But not vice versa.

Whenever an article is susceptible to corpse impurity it is also susceptible to other types of impurity (whether of Scriptural origin or of Rabbinic origin), and they are susceptible to impurity from liquids.

Vessels being rendered impure by liquids from inside or outside.

When vessels become impure on outside from liquids, their inner side does not contract impurity regarding *trumah*. (In addition, the necks and handles also do not become impure). If the inner portion of the vessel becomes impure from liquids, all the rest of the vessel becomes impure.

	Impure liquid on external surface	Impure liquid on inner surface
Sack vessels, leather vessels, baskets	Inner surface stays pure	
Flat vessels that are not susceptible to <i>midras</i> but can be <i>toiveled</i>	Inner surface stays pure	
Flat vessels susceptible to <i>midras</i> and can be <i>toiveled</i>	Inner surface become impure	Outer surface becomes impure
Measures for wine or oil	Inner surface becomes impure	Outer surface becomes impure
Garments	Inner surface becomes impure	Outer surface impure