

Birkat Hamazon Unit
Birkat Hamazon and Minhag and Halakha
Worksheet

Bet Din Netilat Yadayim

Text: Section 40, Laws 1-21

1. Which types of cups cannot be used for *Netilat Yadayim* and why? What about a jug with a spout?
2. Describe the order of the ritual of the washing of the hands.
3. What part of the hand need be washed?
4. What should you do if there is no vessel or no running water?
5. Which other foods apart from bread require *Netilat Yadayim*?



Bet Din Hamotzi

Text: Section 41, Laws 1-10

1. Which foods require the blessing *Hamotzi*?
2. What interruptions can you make between washing hands and making the blessing *Hamotzi*?
3. Why do some people make a slight cut in the bread before they make the blessing *Hamotzi*?
4. What is the significance of having salt with the bread of *Hamotzi*?
5. Why do you think it is forbidden to throw bread?



Bet Din for the Preparation to say Birkat HaMazon

Text: Section 44, Laws 1-9

1. What is *Mayim Aharonim* (Later Waters)? How do you perform this ritual?
2. What should and should not be remaining on the table when *Birkat Hamazon* is said and why?
3. How much of what food must you eat to be obligated to say *Birkat Hamazon*?
4. How long do you have until it is too late to say *Birkat Hamazon*?
5. What options do you have if you have left the table before saying *Birkat Hamazon*?

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Bet Din Birkat Hamazon

Text: Section 42, Laws 19-23, and section 43, laws 1-7

1. Why is the *halakhah* so concerned with scenarios involving people leaving and returning to the table they ate at before they have said *Birkat Hamazon*?
2. What category of food does not need its own blessing after one has made *Hamotzi* over bread?
3. What kinds of food do need a blessing over even after one has made a blessing on bread?
4. When does fruit in the meal need a separate blessing and when does it not?
5. What about dessert, after dinner mints and coffee?



Bet Din Special Additions to Birkat Hamazon

Text: Section 44, Laws 10-18

1. Which special prayers must be added on special occasions? What are their names and when are they added?
2. What should one do if one forgot to add them?
3. Do we add *Retzeh* (special prayer for Shabbat) if we are saying *Birkat Hamazon* after Shabbat has departed, for a meal that began while it was still Shabbat?
4. In the above case, do we say *Ya'aleh V'Yavo* (special prayer for *Rosh Hodesh*) if Sunday is *Rosh Hodesh*?
5. What is the longest *Birkat Hamazon* of the year (i.e. with the most additions)?



Bet Din Zimmun

Text: Section 45, Laws 1-23

1. Who should lead the *zimmun*?
2. What happens if only two people eat together?
3. If there are ten people eating together, how is the *zimmun* ritual different?
4. How many of the ten need to have eaten bread?
5. What happens if one of the three members of the *zimmun* is still eating while the other two wish to say *Birkat Hamazon*?