



Yom Kippur 5768

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Due to a technicality, this sheet was not shown to Rav Sternbuch.

What is the halacha with regards to switching on an electric Shabbos urn close to Shabbos?

One is forbidden to put a pot of raw food or uncooked water on an **open** flame close to Shabbos, unless there is a sizable piece of meat in the pot, which will not be ready for the night meal. Since an electric urn does not incorporate a *blech* or hotplate it is considered an open flame. Therefore: Sephardim must fully boil the water before Shabbos.¹

There are, however, *poskim*² who hold that water cooked to the degree of *yad soledes bo* (40-45C) is considered fully cooked, and when there is not enough time before Shabbos to bring it to a boil, it is sufficient. Ashkenazim have what to rely on and suffice when the water is cooked to the degree of *yad soledes bo*.³ *L'chatchila* Ashkenazim should also fully boil the water before Shabbos.⁴

If boiling water was poured onto a tea bag, may one drink the tea?

The *Mishna Berura*⁵ writes that pouring hot water from an urn directly onto tealeaves

involves an *issur Torah* (a Torah prohibition), because one cooks the tealeaves and the tea is prohibited to imbibe.

How does one prepare tea essence before Shabbos?

The preferred method is to make tea essence before Shabbos by placing tealeaves/bags in a small kettle and cook them on the fire, or at least to pour boiling water onto the tealeaves/bags, stirring the leaves while pouring the water.

On Shabbos one pours hot water into a clean, dry cup and adds the tea essence to the water.⁶ One need not keep the essence hot during Shabbos.

Pouring the essence into a k'li sheini heats the essence, is that not bishul?

It is not *bishul* because the essence was cooked before Shabbos and the *Mishna Berura* writes that one may reheat **cooked** liquids in a *k'li sheini*.⁷

If one forgot to prepare tea essence before Shabbos, how is one to drink tea on Shabbos?

1. Borrow from a neighbor.

¹ Based on *simon* 253:1.

² *Iggros Moshe Orach Chayim* vol.4 74-1

³ Interpretation of the *Chazon Ish* of the *Rosh* cited in *Rama* 253:1.

⁴ Based on the interpretation of the *Bi'ur Halacha* of the *Rosh* cited by *Rama* 253:1, as opposed to the *Chazon Ish*'s *p'shat*.

⁵ *Simon* 318:39

⁶ In the *Sha'ar Ha'tsiun* he adds a *chumra* because of coloring that it would be preferable to put the essence into a 3rd cup, and the hot water to pour from 2nd cup onto the essence. I heard however, from HaRav Ezeriel Auerbach *shlita*, that it is unnecessary to keep that *chumra*.

⁷ *M"B simon* 318 - 23, 39.

2. According to the *poskim* who hold that *ein bishul bik'li sh'lishi*,⁸ one may put the teabags into a *k'li sh'lishi*. I.e. pour water from the urn into a cup, pour it into another cup and then put the teabag into the water.

3. However, many *poskim* are of the opinion that items that cook easily may not be placed even into a *k'li sh'lishi* or any other *k'li* that is *yad soledes bo*. Accordingly he will have to forgo a hot cup of tea that Shabbos.

Summary: 1&3 are preferred, 2 only if your Rav *paskens* so.

Is it permitted to pour hot water into a thermos on Shabbos?

The issue involved is *hatmana* – storing food in wrappers to maintain heat. As we have previously learned, it is forbidden to totally enwrap a hot food on Shabbos with intention to maintain its heat. However, there are two reasons why it is permitted to pour water into a thermos: 1) *hatmana* is forbidden only when applied to the original pot, but if the water has been transferred to a second pot, it is permitted.⁹ 2) *Hatmana* must be done to a pot but the pot itself is not *hatmana*, and since the thermos is considered as one pot with a few linings it is not *hatmana*.¹⁰

The fire under my blech went out, and I would like to enwrap my pots within my bed linen, may I?

No you may not because *hatmana* – enwrapping, when done on Shabbos, is forbidden even when there is no heat source present. You may however, partially enwrap the pots.¹¹ The same applies when you

realize that the socket of the hotplate is out and you want to preserve heat. One may partially wrap the hot pots but not enwrap them entirely.

Am I permitted to warm my baby's bottle by placing it inside a pot of hot water?

Several *poskim* agree that it is not permitted to immerse the entire bottle into hot water in order to warm the bottle for the same reason as in the previous answer. You may however, insert the bottle leaving the top uncovered.¹² The logic behind that is that *hatmana* means to entirely enwrap a container to preserve heat. Leaving a noticeable portion of the container uncovered does not constitute *hatmana*.

Inayanei D'yomah

R' Akiva said, אשריכם ישראל, לפני מי אתם, מטהרים, אביכם שבשמים. The *MaHaral* explains that *Am Yisrael* are purified on Yom Kippur because they bond to *Hashem yisborach*. The *Slonimer Rebbe* explains in *Nesivos Sholom* that the way to purify oneself in the *mikveh* is to allow the water to touch every part of the body without any interference. So too Yom Kippur, in order to purify on Yom Kippur one must bond to *Hashem* without any interference. One's ego stands between you and *Hashem* and crushing the ego permits a total bond. That is the secret of purity on Yom Kippur.

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לזכר נשמת חנה בת ברוך

⁸ The third *k'li* cannot cook. See *Iggros Moshe Orach Chayim* 4, 74-15

⁹ *Siman* 257:5, and *M"B* 29.

¹⁰ *Chazon Ish Siman* 37-32. *SS"K* 1-70.

¹¹ *Siman* 257:1

¹² *M"B* 258:2, *SS"K* 1-50. See footnote 140.

We wish all our readers a g'mar chasima tova and a shana tova.

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Note: The purpose of this series is intended solely for the clarification of the topics discussed and not to render halachic decisions. It is intended to heighten everyone's awareness of important practical questions which do arise on this topic. One must consult with a proper halachic authority in order to receive p'sak.