

בית הוראה דעטראיט
BAIS HORA AH OF DETROIT
HALACHA HOTLINE

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF HaRav Shmuel Irons שליט"א VAAD HALACHA Rav Aharon Yoel Sorscher • Rav Yissachar Wolf • Rav Boruch Miller

KITCHEN • SHABBOS • YOM TOV • BRACHOS • AVEILUS • TAHARAS HAMISHPACHA • EVERYDAY SHAILOS

ISSUE #1: PURIM FAQ's: Commonly Received Questions and their Answers

- **Why are we commanded to give Mishloach Manos?**
 - There are two reasons for Mishloach Manos:
 1. Haman's accusations against Klal Yisroel were based in part on the idea that we are a splintered nation that does not care one for another. The act of giving Mishloach Manos is intended to promote peace and friendship among Jews, thereby disproving Haman's contention.
 2. To ensure that all of Klal Yisroel will have food for the Purim Seudah. In order not to embarrass anyone, we give to the poor and rich alike.
- **What is the requirement?**
 - One must give two different food items to at least one person.
- **How different do the two foods need to be?**
 - The foods simply need to have different tastes. They do not have to be different Brachos. For example, a chocolate danish and a cinnamon danish would qualify as two different foods.
- **Do drinks qualify?**
 - Yes, drinks qualify. However, seltzer and water, even with added flavor are not sufficient. All other drinks are acceptable.
- **How much food must be given?**
 - One must give the equivalent amount of a food item that you would serve to a guest during a meal.
- **Do instant soups or instant coffee qualify?**
 - These should not be used for several reason, primarily because they are not ready to be eaten.
- **Do dips qualify?**
 - Foods which are only meant to be eaten together with another food, for example dips or spreads, do not qualify.
- **How many minim does a salad qualify as?**
 - All the ingredients in a salad are considered one min. For example, deli in a lettuce salad would not be considered two minim. Similarly, a meat knish would only be one min. Even though dough and meat are different tastes, when they are combined together into a knish the whole knish is considered only one min.

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