

**Nishma Research Pesach Survey
April 2024**

Verbatim Responses

Question	Number of Responses	Pages
Are there any comments you would like to add regarding Pesach preparation?	239	1-8
Would you care to share some of the different approaches you have taken at the seder?	13	8-9
Any thoughts on the seder starting time or length; or thoughts relating to the second seder?	283	9-17
Is there anything else you would like to add regarding any aspect of Pesach?	128	17-22

This document contains all of the verbatim responses received via this survey. They are presented for all respondents combined – Modern Orthodox, Haredi and other Orthodox, as they do not vary much across segments – alphabetized and without editing for spelling or grammar. You are reading the unfiltered views of the community.

Are there any comments you would like to add regarding Pesach preparation?

- A lot of the preparation I do, which is really spring cleaning, I do because my mother did it that way. But I do enjoy the result.
- A lot of us don't stay home or host It's a totally different question Like "how hard is it to pack or buy plane tickets" That would be more general anxiety rather than related to pesach
- Abi gezunt.
- Although I know that—halachically—whatever crumbs of chametz I miss us nullified, I still feel the need to do a deep deep cleaning of my house, which is stressful and exhausting, especially with absent-minded children in the house who undo all the cleaning/organizing as soon as it is done.
- Although it's a lot of work, I do feel it gets me into the mindset of Pesach and I wouldn't really want Pesach without the preparation. Also, I don't go as overboard as many people do.
- Although not fiscal burden to me it is obscenely expensive
- Are my age, with my health issues, everything is hard. Peach is no exception and is more difficult physical problems that make cleaning the floor very difficult.
- As a single woman living alone, I clean for Pesach, but I don't kasher my entire kitchen. During the holiday, I survive off of foods that don't need to be cooked and getting invited to friends' homes for meals. This means that my prep is not as onerous as it is for many.
- As a young couple in a one bedroom apartment that mainly spends pesach at families, pesach prep isn't particularly stressful or time consuming
- As I get older I'm more fatigued, less interested and inspired, and would like to take a step away from everything about Pesach. My husband is still highly inspired and engaged in preparing Seder discussion materials. But the adult kids don't yet feel the ability to take over the project, and don't yet see the older generation as being incapable.
- As we go to my parents or inlaws, part of the stress is airfare and travel
- Ask your Rav how much is actually required - don't assume
- Because of the difficulty in preparation, I am going away for the Yom Tov. The two years (2020 & 2021) that I stay home, I absolutely hated it. Also doing a solo Seder was depressing.
- Being a newlywed 20-something has, I think, an unusual type of peaseach responsibility: we are in no position to be in our apartment for the chag,

but that doesn't mean we can ignore the apartment. We still need to clean and gather chumatz. But, now we also have a sense of responsibility to help both sets of parents/in-laws because we intend to split the chag between the two homes. So instead of 1 place to clean for pesach, we have 3 separate unwhole commitments. Even if we can't actually help in both other locations (this includes post-pesach clean up)

- Being married to a Orthodox Rabbi has taught me that most people make it a lot more complicated and harder than it needs to be. I have found ways to make it so much easier like using disposables even though it's not my preference and doing a kosher cleaning not a crazy spring cleaning. I start at purim every time I clean I have in my mind that it's for Passover. Even if it's the same regular cleaning I would have been doing any other time of the year or day of the week. It helps make the holiday feel more special, makes it feel like it's not a burden, makes me feel like I'm already accomplishing something for it, and makes me feel more joy for it. I buy desserts I buy stuff prepared. It's not how my mother did it, but nothing is 😊
- Big issue of women doing spring cleaning instead of Passover cleaning
- biggest concern is getting K for P food where we are
- Can be stressful financially as added resources makes the preparations so much easier and pleasant
- Cleaning. Shopping Cooking Are all very difficult. I need help financially and assistance in cleaning and preparing
- Creates anxiety
- Depends on the circumstances. If we are hosting it is more stressful; if we are guests less do.
- Despise every aspect
- Distinction between halachic cleaning and spring cleaning makes all the difference!
- do what halacha requires not spring cleaning
- Even doing the simplest Pesach preparation is stressful and costly.
- Even though it's hard, it's something that I look forward to.
- Favorite Yom Tov of whole family
- Finding all the foods I want ok for holiday
- Focus on gratitude. That you CAN do it!
- Food shopping in a small community with limited resources is particularly worrisome and cause for anxiety.
- Footing the bill is stressful but part of life. While women do carry the burden of the physical prep, men do help a lot and also carry the financial burden
- Getting done early enough to have time to cook before erev yomtov is the biggest stress
- Growing up my father did most of the heavy cleaning and changing of dishes and my husband does most of this as well. I'm very lucky!
- Happy when all is done!!
- Hard to make time and \$ for Pesach when already feel strapped and stressed. Adult single kids don't live at home but coming for holiday so prep is all on me- divorced single mom. Going out for some meals thankfully.
- Have Passover Meals online!
- Having family members with incredibly disparate food and lodging needs and having to do all the preparation ourselves leads to challenges and discomfort.
- Having young children at home is the most stressful part of Pesach prep because I can't prepare until a few days before, or they will undo it. I also likely have chametz in random places in my house and therefore have to more thoroughly clean everywhere. I didn't stress out about Pesach prep as much before I had small kids.
- HKBH will always ensure it's successful. We have to do our hishtadlus. Worry a bit, but not too much. It'll all be ok
- I agree to the clothing shopping but unconnected to Pesach.
- I am a man and I do all the cleaning and cooking for Passover while my wife works. I also work.
- I am a man and live on my own, so no wife to help with preparation.
- I am financially secure and good with time management. It has become increasing easier to kasher the kitchen
- I am getting too old for this. Last year I went away for Pesach and I am doing so again this year.
- I am not really a good sample for this topic, since I am single and try to arrange to go away for the entire Pesach so that I don't have to clean my apartment. However, I still find Pesach preparations very stressful, since there are still so many things that I have to take care of, & I have to do it all myself. (mechiras chametz, checking if my products are Pesachdik, buying Pesachdik

products, finding a place to stay & arranging transportation, making sure everything I take with me is cleaned for Pesach, etc.). Additionally, the fact that I am usually very sick with hay fever this time of year makes it hard to do all the things that I have to do.

- I am now the 'elder statesman' in my daughter's home and have passed the torch
- I am very lonely and can't be of help for my friends preparing for Yomtov.
- I answered the question about women preparing according to my perception of the average since it didn't ask about me in particular, but in my family, my husband does as much or more preparation.
- I believe having proper Rabbinic guidance for cleaning is the key
- I do almost of the Pessch prep in our house.
- I do more than I feel that I need to so we will not be rejected socially.
- I do not do most of the food shopping, as I am a guest.
- I do not live with any women and have historically done all my own prep, but I do agree in many circumstances it is the women that the burden of labor falls upon and that should NOT be the case
- I don't make Pesach at home so for me the biggest stress is packing for myself and the kids for a week at my parent's house. We do kasher our kitchen but my husband usually does all the work. (He returns home for chol hamoed.) We follow sephardic kashering laws which are waaaay easier than what I've seen my ashkenazi friends and family do.
- I don't make Pesach, we go away to family
- I don't personally do it because we go to family for Pesach.
- I don't shop for clothing
- I don't worry about new clothing or fancy meals- we are very simple people. Thankfully the finances are not a worry, but we're also not spending that much. We keep the meals very simple, and our kids are little and new yomtov/new season clothing was never a thing for me growing up so I don't care or stress about that. My husband has OCD about the cleaning so we do it together, I take it seriously but am more laid back about it. I do most of the cooking but he helps. Generally I find women do the majority of the work.
- I dread it. I take off several days from work to be a kitchen slave.

- I feel zero pressure to have new clothes though sometimes I do get. My husband does fully half of the preparation with me. I know I am an anomaly in both these areas.
- I find it very rewarding when the Yom Tov finally arrives.
- I find myself in breaking down in tears almost every year at some point in the process of getting ready for Pesach. In my household, I tend to do almost all of the shopping and cooking and more than half the cleaning and kashering that needs to be done.
- I find that it's harder than in my childhood, because my extended family prepared and celebrated together in childhood, but now that I live farther away from extended family, it's more work on each nuclear family and a little lovelier, too.
- I generally go away for Pesach so the preparation is not an issue for me
- I go to my mother in law for Pesach, since my wife can't prepare for Pesach by herself.
- I hate it!
- I hate that Pesach cleaning is always lumped in with Spring cleaning and a lot more things are done that probably don't need to be.
- I hate the price gouging by the kosher shops.
- I have a food processor that helps tremendously in making charoset , maror for myself and my daughters' families . I do one Seder and my younger daughter does the second Seder . My older daughter lives 21/2 miles away and makes her own sedurim bc her mother in law is coming to her home. All my Pesach housewares are in my redone kit in the uppermost cabinets . With stone countertops it is easier to kasher the surfaces. I turned over the kitchen days before holiday. Bake ahead of time . I just buy new cookie sheets every year for Pesach . The rest is in the apt from year to year . Bought some staples already . I am very relaxed. Love making recipes from my beloved mother ! Love the traditions . Signed up for three shirurim for Pesach . Love making Seder in our own home
- I have finally figured out how to prepare for Passover with out too much stress. There is really no halachic reason to go crazy with the cleaning. I have over 60 people between the two Seders and have managed to get It all done in one day.
- I have learned to spread out the work so it is less overwhelming. Also, with more experience, the preparation is less stressful, and I have learned to

simplify what I do in terms of the complexity of meals, the number of guests, to make it more manageable.

- I just to find it very hard but ever since I started going by actual Halacha it's been very easy
- I keep it simple. There isn't much available here that is kosher for Pesach beyond basic unprocessed foods so it's not expensive . There is no shul to go to. I don't buy new clothes. I have only 1 family member here for the Seder. My experience probably isn't typical. I look forward to living in a Jewish community again. I think the people who go insane painting their walls and steam cleaning their rugs are doing it for reasons beyond Pesach
- I love Pesach & look forward to it & all our other holidays. The fact that they are hands on & include everyone in the family help keep them vibrant & alive:)
- I live alone but have a large apartment. I am usually invited to someone else's home for the first days of Yom Tov. I hate packing and hate the decisions around what to bring. I usually do the last minute vegetable shopping. But I come back for the last days. I find cleaning my apartment and shopping for yom tov difficult because I get anxious planning
- I love peach!
- I love the Chag, but as I get older it's harder to do. If I had help, hired or within household, I know I'd feel differently. I also don't order in food. Which I know would help a lot with cooking.
- I somewhat agree that "women do all or pretty much all of the preparation work" in the American Jewish community overall. In my home however, it is not the case.
- I start worrying as tu b'Shvat approaches
- I think it's fun to prepare for the holiday, whether it's Pesach, Sukkot, or Shavuot. Every year there is something new to discover.
- I think many people go beyond the requirements of halachah and make preparations more onerous than necessary.
- I think the difficulty of preparing helps explain why so many go away.
- I try to be realistic each year that I grow older, as to how much I do in terms of the people I invite and the menu I serve. I don't want to be so worn out by the work involved that I don't prepare spiritually in the way I want to connect to the spiritual potential of Pesach.
- I wasn't sure whether the line about "women do" meant in my home or in society in general.
- I wish my husband would help more.
- I worry less about food than having utensils, dishes, pots and other cooking equipment in place for the holiday.
- I would differentiate between cleaning preparation and other preparations. The most time consuming preparation, and therefore stressful in finding the time, for me is looking at the Haggadah before the Seder.
- I would love to have a room just for Pesach stuff. The room would need to have shelves (or cabinets), sink, stove, refrigerator, and also a table or counters. The room doesn't have to be large.. My dream. Shopping doesn't faze me. What does always worry me is the cleaning and food preparation.
- I would probably want to turn over earlier so I have more time to cook in advance, but my family is resistant. It is also very anxiety inducing for me to have both chametz and KFP stuff out at the same time, even in different rooms, because not everyone is careful and I always have to monitor what's going on in the house. You don't address the anxiety in the your questions about the prep. Anxiety that you're doing everything right. Anxiety that both chametz and KFP things are out on the house and being used, though separately, in the days to to pesach.
- I'm my family the wife (me) handles nearly all the cleaning, with hired help, and my husband handles the meal planning and most of the shopping and cooking. I also handle the Torah preparation such as it is. Shopping for kids clothes is not more stressful that the usual shopping for kids. We bH can easily swing the cost of pesach at home and but prepared food if needed to make things workable.
- I'm not a very reliable help so my involvement and my feelings towards any of these matters is very skewed. We also still often go to my in-laws for the entirety of Pesach, even though we've been married for 16 yrs.
- I've been preparing for Peach for many years, so it has become easier and less stressful. Some years I am able to do more prep than other years, and Pesah still happens, on time, every time.
- If you have a healthy relationship with Halacha it doesn't need to destroy your life.
- If you plan in advance it's not stressful!

- In my family it is definitely a shared effort between husband and wife
- In our house I feel that there is a relatively even split on pesach prep, but more globally I believe the burden tends to fall on women.
- It bothers me that so many people have a negative attitude towards Pesach because of the work involved in cleaning, etc.. If more people would learn what is actually necessary to make our home "kosher l"pesach," it would allow for a more positive attitude - especially for our children.
- it costs a fortune too
- It creates a special feeling in the house, so even with all the work I look forward to it and love it.
- It depends how motivated you are for chumras in Pesach
- It is slavery. Excessive. To do this while working full time is extraordinarily onerous. Stamps out the joy of the chag. This year, I'm only using milchig to make it slightly easier. I hate this more than any other aspect of being observant.
- It is time consuming and exciting and cathartic simultaneously.
- It is tough for anyone who is home
- It is worse when there are food allergies that include gluten and potato
- It makes me glad to be with my family for pesach and I am grateful and happy to prepare for them but the amount of work to make hundreds of meals over the course of a short time is out of control
- it must have been easier to leave egypt rather than prepare for passover.
- it varies depending on the family - all of these things can be easy or hard depending on how you approach them - but none of them is inherently hard or easy
- It varies from year to year, based on changing family circumstances.
- It was a holiday I loved as a child and hate as an adult
- It wasn't clear of the last two questions were about pesach or not
- It's a lot of time and effort. It's a lot of cooking. It's a lot.
- It's a lot to do in a short amount of time and it is very expensive.
- It's a necessity, more of a means to an end
- It's a pain in the ass and the Rabbis have made it worse. I can't stand it!
- It's a time consuming job but if one is feeling burdened and overwhelmed they are probably either going beyond the actual requirements, don't have sufficient assistance, and/or are taking upon themselves to bake and cook more than necessary.
- It's a ton of work but makes Pesach special, once we finally get there
- It's a vital component of the holiday.
- It's all in how you frame it. It's a choice. BH I am divorced - my Pesach can be pleasant. BH my children and grandchildren and mother (and up until last year my grandmother, AH, even at 96) all pile in to my very cramped little house. BH I have money to pay for food, or at least a credit card to tide us over. And being organized and starting early help too.
- It's alot of work but I like a clean house.
- It's become more inspiring as my children have grown where they help with the prep and it becomes lovely, though tiring, family time.
- It's fun and inspiring but it costs a huge amount of money
- It's hard to find everything I want, takes multiple trips to multiple stores, and they sell out quickly (especially for dairy products). Note: Food only, don't buy new clothes
- It's important to find a middle grown. You can follow the strictest opinion without covering everything in aluminum foil.
- It's inspiring and I try to something new each season!
- It's simply too much.
- It's the necessary cleaning coupled with the turnover process, that is stressful and time consuming
- It's worth everything when I sit down with the people I love and begin to tell the story.. BTW- I start thinking about Seder on Yom Kippur
- It's worth it
- It's worth it for the family get-together.
- its hard to see the final destination through the expansive forest!
- Kosher for Pesach food is price-gouging our community. It's disgusting.
- Living outside of a large city makes Pesach prep even harder. Mail ordering KFP spices, for example, is something most people take for granted in a big city. I really wish some of the supplies were available a little bit earlier in the year. It feels like a scramble to get everything in time when all the supplies come from afar.

- Love being with family who gathers for holiday
- Love it This year really is different from the rest.
- Love pesach preparation. One of the few things secular people do to make them feel they are actively participating in the religion.
- Made pesach for many years, now going to children as we are not capable to do all the prep.
- Make life easier by creating menus, sticking to them for shopping, and not worrying about spring cleaning
- More exciting as a kid. No so after so many years
- Much of pre-Pesach anxiety is caused by a fundamental misconception, namely that (any and all) crumbs are chometz. This is simply inaccurate, as crumbs are actually too small to be a shiur chometz. If only people would know...
- My family goes away for pesach so I don't do any cooking or cleaning, but the prep does fall on me (packing, stocking clothing essentials, making sure we have the right toiletries)
- My family usually frequents a small Pesach program. The program is usually just our extended family. So while preparation is certainly necessary (ordering food,logistics,etc), it is not the typical type of preparations (cleaning,cooking).
- my husband does all of the food shopping. but its the house cleaning and "turning the kitchen over" that is the hardest and most time consuming...and that falls to me (the wife)
- My husband fully participates in preparations for Pesach.
- My wife does all the shopping, cleaning and cooking - so my responses above reflect that.
- My wife works like a slave to get the house clean for both Pesach and Spring Cleaning. I helps as much as I can
- My wife's answers might be very different!!
- Need help with cleaning
- Never have enough time! Somehow with kids, chametz is always found
- No mater how muuch I do, I don't think it is enough. And everything costs a fortune of money.
- No reason to clean so much
- Often the spirit is lost for the stringency.
- once a year yipee!!!
- Once you develop a system and routine, preparing for Pesach is still hard but less stressful
- Once you have done this for so many years you know the drill. Everything breaks down to either: A-It must be done B-It would be better if we did this C-Lets hope we can get this done on time
- One needs lots of money to do it right and in an expansive manner
- Only relatively stress free because as I have gotten older I am more religiously 'relaxed' and cheerfully ignore the crazy halachic extremism of our generation. The "rabbis" have priced yiddishkeit out of the market for the average person - both spiritually and financially.
- Our community has taken pesach prep to a crazy level that is far beyond what we need to do. We're driving ourselves crazy and we don't need to, but everyone feels the need to keep up
- People could relax more if we did a better job of chinuch on what is required vs what is folklore masquerading as pious chumra
- People do way too much cleaning. It's a mitzva to do more, but I think people take on too much unnecessary stress with the cleaning.
- People have added way too many chumrahs and it's ridiculous.
- People make themselves more stressed then need to be
- People need to stretch the preparations out more to reduce stress.
- Pesach is a truly wonderful and amazing yom tov, and is another example of our special connection and relationship with hashem. It also gives us a reminder how fortunate we are that hashem chose us as his Nation.
- Pesach is a Yom Tov we should be looking forward to. People take it out of hand
- Pesach is hard
- Pesach is my favorite Holiday and I have learned over the years to prepare with out stress. We host every year over 27 people for each Seder and it is very doable.
- Pesach is my least favorite holiday because I dread all the preparation, the money it costs, and all the PTO I need to take from work.
- Pesach is truly a holiday I do NOT look forward to. I look forward to it being over before it's even started. This is in large part because my dear wife makes the holiday and the prep for the holiday much more intense and stressful than it needs to be. And she won't listen to anybody who tells her you really don't need to go so crazy cleaning areas that food never comes into contact with.
- Pesach prep is extremely expensive and tiresome because there's a stress to make sure you're doing it "the right way"
- Pesach preparation is difficult. I lost my job in 3/2020 and am still unemployed, with no

prospects. My husband's office was closed for a long period and although it has reopened, it is still struggling. We need food boxes continually.

- Pesach preparation is not difficult as long as you are organized and pace yourself. I often buy meat and chicken without KfP certification and freeze it. I also don't go "overboard" planning elaborate seder and Yom tov meals. You don't need 3 proteins and 7 salads (though I do like salad). I also take read my Rabbi's Pesach handbook carefully to understand what items don't need KfP certification (e.g. Olive oil) why pay twice as much for the KfP olive oil when you can buy the much cheaper store brand without KfP certification? I answered agree to the clothing shopping question not because I specifically buy new clothes for Pesach but I dislike clothing shopping in general.
- Pessach is a wonderful chore. Others call it 'spring cleaning' to which we add many festive meals that include lots of preparation with valuable family time, joyous singing and commemorating the holiday
- Planning to do lists [with time tables] Makes it easier
- Preparing by learning Torah and halakha energizes me and gets me excited for the chag.
- Prices are thru the roof ffor no logical reason
- Really someone finds prepping the house fun?!!!
- Shmura matza prices border on extortion
- Single dad
- So much of what is considered part of Pesach preparation is really Spring cleaning and that takes up precious time.
- So much time is spent on cleaning and cooking, that find there is little time to prepare things to say at the Seder itself
- Some of difficulty with Pesach prep has to do with some past marital issues that only partially have to do with Pesach.
- Something can be hard and joyous at the same time. I can worry about the preparations and whether I'll have time and money for everything but still look forward to Pesach and rejoice.
- Sometimes it seems performative, is there really a differebcw between this weeks ground beef and the stuff I bought two weeks ago.. unlikely but let's pay 3\$ more per lb anyway
- Sometimes it's fun and creative!
- Start early
- still stressful since the exodus
- Still upset about my younger days when the Blumenkrantz book made Pesach preparation hell.

I spent an enormous amount of time and effort needlessly. The OU and others are more lenient.

- Stores have stopped stocking gerbrochts around here, which makes things very hard.
- Stressful. Try to find shortcuts, without compromising kashrut ie keep meal preparation simple, while also try to control the expense.
- Thank goodness for friends who buy my chometz and for my Sefardi ancestors
- Thanks for your work
- The answers to the questions are more dependent of the individual person than the nature of the preparations . Clothing and food shopping aren't unique to Pesach
- The cost of Passover food is through the roof
- The cost of Pesach food is simply out of control.
- The COST!! That's what stresses me out! Prices are raised and even with shopping the sales 8 days cost more than my normal food bill for 1-2 months.
- The costs of Pesach food are beyond ridiculous
- The earlier you start, less stress. And the more comfortable you are financially the less stress
- The expense is the greatest burden. I am lucky my husband does most of the work
- The first time I told someone "I hate Pesach," she quickly said that no, Pesach was a wonderful holiday. Years later she confessed that she hated it, too.
- The food costs are astronomical!
- The hashgachos should push the companies to not STEAL from us. That is also Halacha
- The level of cleaning seemed to be required is the most intensive and challenging part of pesach. It causes distress and takes away from the joy of the holiday. This applies to work on yom tov to make and serve sederim. Countless times women are in the kitchen and catching up with the Seder.
- The majority of the stress for me comes from family drama, differences in values (middot), and observance levels. I always feel like have to cater to the anxieties of others, and so don't really enjoy the holiday. We also always have to give up hosting to my sister in law, and I don't find the holiday at all joyful or meaningful by her.
- The most disturbing thing about Pesach Prep is the ever increasing prices!! We are a captive audience and DO feel taken advantage of for a single week of the year!
- The older I am, the harder it is, but I'm lucky to have a spouse who pitches in with the hardest

work (oven, refrigerator, and kashering the counters).

- The restrictions and chumras are insane and drive up costs of an already expensive holiday
- The stress for food shopping comes when the products are not in the stores, or sell out very quickly and will not be replenished. Prices always stressful, but availability of goods the most stressful.
- The stringencies seem to increase every year. Also not everyone has a high end kitchen.
- The work is hard but the house is so clean and looks great when it's done.
- The worst times for Passover prep is when you have moved into a new house and have to figure out some aspects all over again.
- there are fewer choices for kp prepared meals andeldely.peolpe need more choices because we can prepare less. the two major prep food places in town have too much salt, too much sugar and for me too many spices.plus I cantvaskbtontas5eva frozen product. Costco stopped carrying mealmart prepared foods and I had to order everything from amazon
- There can be conflicts between spouses ("That's not how my mother did it.) over Pesach prep.
- There is a spiritual Avoda behind it, but it can be forgotten. We are also very strict and do not sell Chometz.
- There's this fear of what am I forgetting in advance of chag even though you can get most things on chag.
- This will be our first year making Pesach so we're not sure exactly what to expect but we have a small apartment and we broke everything that needs to get done into smaller steps so we're hoping for the best. It was my husband's request that we make Pesach instead of going to family so he is very much onboard for doing the cleaning and preparing together, and not leaving it all on me. Growing up, my father always did the cleaning with my mother.
- Though it's difficult, we love it.
- time is the enemy
- Too expensive
- Too many of the Pesach rules seem to be man-made and not from Hashem.
- Too many recent stringencies created that have become mainstream
- too much needs to be done last minute
- tremendous financial worries
- Very time consuming

- We finally started attending my sister's for the entire holiday, which removes most of the stress for us. Hopefully she will fill out the survey too.
- We go to a hotel for Pesach so most of these question are not relevant.
- We make lists and schedules
- We move into my parents' house for the week, so Pesach preparation is time consuming and tiring for my mother, but less so for me
- we plan a lot in advance so the work doesn't pile up, which is why I don't find it so difficult, but I do find it time consuming. We don't do the whole "buy new matching outfits for everyone" so the clothing shopping is not stressful. I do a ton of cleaning, but no food shopping or cooking.
- We recently moved and our local rabbi takes a very practical and generally more lenient view (still 100% halachic) of Pesach prep and it's made an enormous difference in terms of time, expense, and anxiety.
- We try to keep it as simple as possible
- We typically go to Israel for Pesach
- We usually go away to family for the duration of the holiday, so I actually. do very little prep work.
- We usually go away to parents, which makes it easier
- We usually go to my parents' house where we do not have to do as thorough cleaning and therefore our preparation is a bit easier than it would be if we were staying home for the week and making seders here.
- We visit our daughter and her family and much of the early prep falls on them
- We've got a system, it's not that big a deal.
- While my personal preparation is minimal as I am gluten free and have no chometz in the home, listening to everyone panicking around me makes me stressed that I'm missing something.
- Who has time for clothes shopping?!
- you should add 2 questions: 1) are you making pesach in your house or are you going away for y"t (to family or vacation program) 2) a question about if you have a regular plan/routine/schedule that works for you year after year in regards to pre pesach cleaning/shopping/kashering/cokking/etc.....

Would you care to share some of the different approaches you have taken at the seder?

- Add comments from all participants

- As vegetarians, we don't have a zeroa on the seder plate. We do have an orange, however. We also have a karpas course that usually involves dipping fruit in chocolate sauce.
- Everyone chooses a different haggadah, we add in Ladino, changes depending on who attends.
- I bought an annotated Hagadah and going through all the commentary is a big learning experience.
- I have to eat earlier. I sometimes don't bother with a seder plate. can't make a shankbone on an induction cooktop, don't have pesach pots that will work on new cooktop. I will probably just eat pesach food and remember when iPad family
- Lots of odd add ins
- Lots of singing, lots of divrei Torah, lots of conversation... just a lot.
- Mix of Sephardic and Ashkenazi customs. Give out stickers chocolate to engage kids, read from a feminist haggadah to personally see another angle, make a big deal about afikomen
- My father creates a different genius game every year that includes all the children no matter their age and keeps them very engaged throughout the Seder. Additionally there are costumes available, and activities involving food as well such as sticky red or white candies for boils that the kids put on their face and arms.
- My parents come from "frum Conservative" backgrounds, so we do all of the parts of the seder, but there are lots of more minute discourses that we leave out (what my dad calls the "multiplication tables at the Red Sea," for example. Additionally, my mom's side of the family is Sefaradic, so we add in some traditions from the heritage, including singing Chad Gadya in Ladino
- My Seder incorporates multiple Sephardic traditions and four kinds of Sephardic haroset.
- New knowledge and fun
- One night is for young kids with lots of hands on shtick, toys and treats
- 2nd usually has better participation because naps are easier to get on 1st day of YT as opposed to Erev YT
- a prime difficulty with Seder for EVERYONE is the lateness of the time we need to start if we're following the "rules'.....
- About half of the family members attending are not into the spirit of the Chag which makes the Sederim seem too long. They lose interest after the meal and Afikomen. Family participation in the second Seder is more difficult than the first partly because we must start an hour later.
- Adults don't need to have fun by the seder
- Always ends around midnight...both nights
- always starts too late, always too long, wish we didn't have second seder, but we wouldn't skip it because rabbinically required
- As a guest I'm subject to the hosts time/length. First seder is when tired. 2nd seder starts much later after a long day... even if rested, it's hard to be excited...
- As long as matzos and the story are there it's halachically complete
- As the leader, I try to balance my enthusiasm and the abilities of the group at the table to stay with me.
- automatically late , second night worse we don't do a 6 hour litvish seder---the [adult unmarried] kids are all girls. no need for a 3 hr maggid . follow the hagada and one small comment each paragraph
- basically same as the 1st seder
- Because of the clock change the Seder starts very late. It's hard to stay awake and be 'fun' as the night moves on.
- Because the 2nd seder starts so much later, we try to 'move the process along' more quickly the 2nd night.
- By our ages we have acclimated to the late starts and have learned to both manage the length well and allow people to step away and rest if they need to
- By the time we get to the sederim, the adults are so totally exhausted, I try really hard to rush through as quickly as possible. Sad but true.
- Can't stay awake
- Creating an environment and decorating to re live the event
- Definitely difficult to do a full Seder on the second night when it starts sooo late. In recent years we have abbreviated the second Seder for this reason.

Any thoughts on the seder starting time or length; or thoughts relating to the second seder?

- It takes so long to get started, there is always "one more thing" to prepare. 2. Kids love to see how late their Seder ended (many adults love it too!)

- Depending on where we are, it can feel endless.
- Depends which kid comes. Each approaches it slightly differently and I just go with the flow. Happy to end at midnight or let them go til 3 am
- Don't schlep with all sorts of gematrias and pshatim, the mitzvah of the night is to say over the sippur of yetzias mitzrayim. Say the midrashim of all the nissim HKBH did
- Each year has been different. Certain years we worked at a program, others we hosted others, we also went to our children's home one year. This year we are going to a very low key program so we don't have much preparation at all.
- every year we are invited to our Rabbi's house for the second seder
- Everyone loves the second Seder. We tend to discuss even more Divrei Torah
- fighting tiredness from preparation
- Follow children's schedule
- Follow the Haggadah
- For children, doing some of the songs and activities prior to kiddush can be a good way to spend time until halachically permissible start time.
- For decades we celebrated the second seder with family, cousins, who mean so much to both my husband and me; however, this year they will be out of town. Since it's late, and my husband strongly dislikes late meals, I think we probably will be at home by ourselves, so I'm planning ahead and looking for meaningful d'vrei Torah that will be spiritually meaningful and uplifting to me. (He can listen if he wants, but I always try to add my own personal kavannah wherever I am at a seder.)
- For for the first & second nights: Start promptly at nightfall. If I had my way (which I don't), I would go through the whole Haggadah; don't skip anything; sing, but don't drag it out; don't spend a lot of time explaining things.
- four hours in duration Second seder is open to many guests and first is with extended family.
- Generally starts WAY TOO LATE.
- Going to Israel- no 2nd seder- a wonderful idea!
- Hakachic times a little late for children
- hard to integrate non-religious family members and various political/religious leanings
- Hard to know what to focus on for what seder! Ours ends at 2am every year!
- Hard when Seder starts so late IE after clock has changed
- Hi, we do not have help at the Seder. I don't enjoy being watched by non Jews as we move through the Seder and the meal part is very very late. But we most certainly have and need hired help to prepare for (weeks before) and clean up after the Seder and prepare for lunch the next day. All of this is of course easier in Israel with only one day Chag
- I am a fan of long seders, but with small children this can be really difficult.
- I am more than ready to give up having a second seder. They're stressful because of the preparation and having to sit through it again. The knowledge that we have to have two ruins the whole holiday for me. We've tried changing things a little, starting early with discussions or other readings in the living room, fiddling with the order, but I think the only good solution is to have just one. There's absolutely no reason we can't do what Israel does. I'm just waiting for my husband to come around to agreeing.
- I am not in control, we are at parents' house. I would run the seder very differently...
- I can't imagine families living in Eretz Yisroel only doing one Seder.
- I do hate to start after dark - but there are those who like to go to Shul...
- I don't enjoy a lengthy seder. Since Covid, my husband and I enjoy each other's company and we share the haggadah commentary as we go along
- I don't feel the need to say every word of the haggadah. I say what makes sense for the audience of participants.
- I don't find any one holiday the highlight of my year. It is the cycle of holidays, each with its own meaning and rituals that is meaningful for me. On the first seder, we pretty much follow the hagaddah, the second seder we use the hagaddah as a basic framework, but we diverge and get into different kinds of conversation.
- I don't mind the length of the seder, but I know that for the people with ADHD at my seder it is very stressful, which creates stress for the rest of us.
- I don't understand why this is still necessary when we can tell time properly. I'd rather be able to focus on my energy on one event.
- I feel like it has become some sort of superficial contest between who has the longest seder

- I find that I can't stay awake for the end of the seder and am stressed about cleaning up afterwards.
- I generally stay home. it's a long drive for me
- I give everyone assignments of things to think about and a theme for the seder. this year, i'm thinking of "use the tools of your profession to analyze something in the seder". they tend to be wildly different every year. by encouraging preparation, it prevents the seder from being stale and assures that everyone has something interesting (at least, to them) to talk about. it makes the sedarim long, but that's not the worst thing
- I hate daylight savings time
- I hate that some of the people we invite want the Seder to start late. It makes people want to rush through the Seder, and who wants to eat a big meal at 10:30? I have long thought about addressing this by doing most of maggid before shkiah, making sure to do kiddush, Rabban Gamliel, matza, etc. after shkiah, but was never brave enough to do it. I also find the second Seder is usually very anticlimactic/boring unless done with an entirely new set of people (which is not possible when hosting relatives). Even though I keep the second day of yom tov, I feel in my heart that a second Seder is not necessary. We tend to fly through it just to meet the halachic requirements, which ends up feeling shallow.
- I let my kids stay up as late as they want to, even when little. I don't like interrupting the flow or missing things to put them to bed and it would be a huge struggle to pull them away. It's a special occasion, I'd rather focus on that than obsess over routines.
- I like second seder. I'm less tired and can prepare a little from the hagada
- I often celebrate the holiday at seders with others in the community. Some put a premium as extending the Seder far into the wee hours of the morning, while others make a special point of ending the seder at the earliest halachic time which is permitted to finish the seder. I prefer early to late. :)
- I prefer being in Israel so as to have only 1 day of Yom Tov and 1 seder
- I prefer the second Seder because I'm less stressed and exhausted
- I start early to accomodate my less observant family and, depending on who is present, do more or less things
- I think part of what can make Seders draining is some people's inability to get started Start the Seder
- I think the length doesn't matter if everyone is having fun. The second Seder (and the next morning) is the only night of the year I regret moving from Israel to chutz la'arezt.
- I try to have everything prepared before Yom Tov so we can get the second seder going quickly. It takes the same amount of time as the first seder.
- I wish it was earlier, but somehow we're always rushing to finish on time.
- I wish that daylight savings time didn't start until after the sedarim.
- I wish that it wasn't going to be so late this year. It's going to make things very difficult with the kids, particularly the older ones, who need to stay up (almost 12 year old girl and almost 14 year old boys) but find it difficult to do so.
- I wish we only had one seder.
- I would prefer to start the seder much earlier so the seder meal is not consumed so late. Eating late is not very healthy, especially with Passover foods being so heavy
- I'd love to discuss things about the hagadda but it is late and everyone is so tired that they are not interested.
- I'm concerned about how late the seder will start (and end) because of our already being on daylight saving time. I think we would enjoy it more if it started earlier. (Older people seem to tire more quickly)
- I'm not a fan of the second seder. We tend to go through the Haggadah because we have to but the discussion is not as lively. We just want to get through with it. While I understand the halacha for why we start the seder when we do. I do wish we could start earlier, similar to how we can start Shabbat earlier.
- I'm okay with the length of it, would've loved if it's possible to start earlier... (Chassidish Zman and all, makes it impossible though. 2nd seder, I find a bit repetitive...
- Important to start the seder asap after getting home. Everything should be set in advance.
- In my ideal world everything would be ready ahead of time (including weighing out all the shiurim for matzo and maror) and the men go to an early minyan. Practically that never works out so I find it better to accept the way the evening flows rather than get uptight about not starting "on time"

- It ends really late. Starts late too
- It is challenging to wait until so late at night to start the second seder.
- It is difficult that the seder is late in the evening, so we try to keep things moving without rushing through. We do the whole haggadah, but don't do a lot of extra divrei Torah, though everyone (especially kids) is encouraged to share their thoughts/insights.
- it is incredible and we finish around 3:30am!
- It is long, but no way around that.
- It is possible to indeed finish the entire seder by chatzos, simply by being organized and not wasting any time
- It is really hard when you have young children and it starts SO LATE. My 6 year old is going to be very disappointed and upset this year.
- It is so important to pay particular attention keep the starting time and length - focusing on the needs of the guests/children at your seder. While some of my friends would be fine with one seder, I love the idea of having two sedorim.
- It really depends year to year. Sometimes we have a shorter seder, sometimes spend more time singing, others more time having conversations.
- it will be much adjusted
- It would be nice not to have to do a repeat performance, especially since it starts so late!
- It's a drag. The second day isn't "real" and yet we play act the same thing from the first night. It's a complete joke.
- It's always long, but that's fun! I'll be in Israel this year so possibly no second Seder
- It's far too late at night to keep everyone's attention.
- It's hard when you can't start second Seder until much later on second night. I get annoyed if it goes slowly because I just want to go to bed. I feel guilty about that but it's hard to focus on connecting spiritually and having kavana when I'm so tired.
- It's late
- It's late
- It's late, it's long, I wish we didn't have a 2nd Seder. My husband loves 2nd Seder.
- It's long and most leave after the meal. I hold off on inspiring thoughts until dinner is served. We make Seder as fun as possible.
- It's stressful since no preparation can be done in advance
- It's terrible that Daylight Savings has started so early in recent years. As an early riser I hate being up late. There is no problem at my son's house. At our daughters' the Seders run so late my wife and I have to hurry through on our own after birkas hamazon.
- It's too long because it starts so late!
- It's tough - I want to go through all the content and have it be a standard order; but I also want more meaning. Starting the seder late is annoying and hampers experience for kids
- It's very challenging with the young kids. By the time we've done a Seder for them, feed them, put them to sleep, and then have to come to the grown up Seder, I'm exhausted and have zero interest. The fact that you can't start until so late only makes it even harder
- It's very difficult to start early enough so that a four-hour seder can end at a reasonable time (i.e., before midnight).
- It's very hard for children because it's so long, and entertaining them primarily falls on me because my husband semi-leads the seder
- It's very hard when the seder starts so late, especially for children, but also for adults.
- Kids act out makkos
- Kids should be able to be awake for the whole thing. Don't waste time which will kick kids out
- Last year I spent sederim at a Yeshivish family who went through every dot in the Hagaddah and it was excruciating. Will definitely not be doing that again this year
- Last year we started early with the kids and did a mini seder for them and then put them to bed. All the kids/cousins were under 3yo. We are debating what to do this year, it was half successful as we could enjoy the seder more, and also hard because the adult seder was very late.
- later seder is definitely harder
- Length of our 2nd Seder is shorter. Do not spend as much time reading and explaining the Haggadah.
- Long ago, the family members who want to move quickly won the battle against people like me who want to discuss the holiday until dawn. But I love spending time with family and reading and singing the familiar words. (It helps that the adults get kind of silly too.) Enough so that I enjoy the second seder as well.
- Love seders
- Might be more enjoyable if we could begin earlier.
- Most of the participants are not religious and begrudgingly come even though it starts later and goes way longer than they would prefer.

- Much of the spirit of Pesach depends upon who is present & the location
- My brother generally does the short version; it sufficient but not remotely inspiring (through no fault of his own). This year we won't be starting until super late and the thought of eating dinner at almost midnight is less than appealing.
- my family ends very late (2-3 am), but my in-laws end around chatzos. very different
- My husband prepares well and has a relevant theme that he strings through the seder. very engaging and well done. Needs time and forethought...
- My immediate family prefers less singing. Every year, we get into issues with our relatives when my father leads on the second night and leads a no-frills Hallel without the Carlebach tunes.
- My Rav advised that one need only delay the mitzvot until after sundown. We start maggid a bit early and start with kiddish and motzi at the proper halachic time.
- No but happy to take any tips for making it fresh
- No choice. It's too late 2nd seder often better than first since we can rest prior
- Not sure how you define different...we often have people read in English,,,we may skip the multiplication tables and try and have lots of discussion - not sure if that qualifies as "pretty much" ...as for time i wish the poskim would rely and encourage the 1st seder to begin at skiah (or at most 14 minutes later) davindg marariv near tzeit wihe hallel etc means close to a 9:00pm start - just way too late. I also thing the second seder should earlier and we we should use some kulot to ensure that,... Most people have a end time they more or less need to meet so a late start means less time to focus on the seder.... I also answered above re adults what i think but i know not all who attend the seder would agree...
- Not sure why everyone asks and judges about end time. Stop rushing. Take your time and make it inspiring. If exciting and inclusive of all attending, never feel rushed. Usually end around 2am both nights.
- Nothing other than that the second seder...like second day of chag...should be abolished 🙄
- Now that we have young grandchildren we work around their schedule. We start early and finish quickly according to what they can tolerate. Then we continue the adult Seder after they leave.
- Our second seder is usually much more kid oriented and kid participatory. We do not start either seder at the correct time because it is too late for both the children and the older adults.
- Our seders are long enough without being insanely long, and the second seder is pretty similar to the first.
- Our Seders start on time and run a long time. Between the Haggadah, the conversations, the food, it runs late.
- Parents are more traditional
- Second day starts too late
- Second day yomtov altogether is a burden
- Second is anti-climactic. Already did it last night and everyone is too tired
- Second Sedar is better.. more rested!
- Second seder timing is always brutal with small children. I want them to be engaged and take part as much as possible, which is next to impossible when we can't get Kadish going until 8:15. This year will be even worse with how late it is.
- second seder always feels like a chore since it starts later and isn't "new" this year
- Second seder comes in handy for splitting up divrei Torah. Yes, of course it begins late. The pace of the seder is not about starting it before tzais or quick or slow. It's a matter of making things efficient. Don't choose the minyan that's 25 minutes away and then spend 15 min working out seating arrangements at the table, and then ban all divrei Torah and songs "because of the time".
- Second seder is almost always faster with more parts of the haggadah just read to yourself, less singing.
- Second Seder is always a slog and hard to be inspiring. We do try to plan some variations for that night and try to keep it shorter.
- Second seder is always harder for kids, as it begins an hour later (and ends later!). We always try to have afikomen before midnight, but we also sing every song, including Hallel, so we go late.
- Second Seder is bullshit. Abolish it.
- Second seder is more relaxed and more fun as everyone is well rested.
- Second seder is not enjoyable
- Second seder is often more lively because people are less tired
- Second seder is really difficult because now that we have done one, it doesn't feel new or fresh. We tend to rush it a little bit.
- second seder is shorter
- Second seder is superfluous

- Second seder is the best, allowing for the people tired from yom tov prep during 1st seder to be better rested. It would be a lot better if seders were before the clocks changed, though.
- Second Seder is too late. Read the entire Haggadah
- Second Seder is too much.
- Second seder is totally superfluous.
- Second seder starting late and people usually being tired means second seder is never as impactful or exciting
- Second Seder the person (woman) who did all the work and preparation is more rested. Also an opportunity to correct / fill in things that weren't shared etc in the first one.
- Second Seder usually feels a little much since we just did it the night before.
- Second seders are a waste of time
- Seder always starts too late. Second Seder is anti climatic
- Seder goes about 3-4 hours at most
- Seder is between 4 and 5 hours
- Seder should be about 2 or 2 1/2 hrs max longer may cause me to have a diabetic coma ahaha from the fake sugar in Al the fake sweets we eat
- Seder starting times isn't the issue - its being unable to prepare for the second one
- Seder starts too late, but we try to get fun stuff done before the official start time
- seder starts too late.....everyone is hungry.....
- Seder usually takes about 4 hours, second seder is the same length.
- Seder would be better if it started earlier.
- seders I've enjoyed most included a variety of haggadot (participants may choose and enjoy different readings/supplements) and lots of singing.
- Seders start far too late, but that's what halakha requires.
- seders start too late especially 2 nd seder - can't eat so late - wish I had help to clean up afterwards
- shorter is better
- Should start on time, because it starts quite late.
- Since it take a long time, it is important to start when Yom Tov begins so that you will not be up all night. Same thing for the 2nd Seder which doesn't begin until approximately an hour later.
- Since my Grandfather has dementia and insists on leading the seder, it sometimes doesn't always follow exactly the hagaddah. But to honor him, we don't usually say anything. Any Halachacally required bits that he skips we just say to ourselves.
- Since we always change the clocks before pesach, the late nights are hard for me. I am a morning person
- Singing!
- Start as early as you can and don't run too long
- start at tzes,second seder is about the same length just different leaders
- Start earlier than supposed to
- Start earlier to accommodate guests who are elderly, young or have long travel distances. Skip sections of the Haggadah that do not seem relevant.
- Start right at sundown. Get through maggid quickly
- Starting after Maariv until we finish the Haggada. Second night we repeat the first night.
- Starting at tzeis and having little kids stay awake to make it to eating matza is tough. Means we're often moving quickly, which precludes having a particularly meaningful seder
- starting late for Daylight savings is a drag. we often start and then say kiddush at the appropriate time. Having a second seder is an opportunity to shake things up but doing it once (we were in Israel last year) is also nice and kind of takes the pressure off. it's just one night. and not as big a thing
- Starting late makes it hard for children.
- Starting time is a big issue that causes family disagreements - most want to start early!! (for both nights)
- Starting time is too late. Overall seder feels too long.
- Starting time of Seder is the absolute worst piece -- and the second night is just awful. So late that you may have already lost some of the kids and people just want to hurry through. It does feel that if the Rabbis really wanted, they could come up with a way to improve the timing!
- Starts late
- Starts so late, which makes it hard for the children.
- Starts too late at night, hard to manage with young kids and work schedules etc etc
- Starts too late for young children
- Starts too late to enjoy. Would be much more enjoyable if started earlier
- Starts too late, too long and would love to only have one Seder!

- Starts waaay too late for optimal involvement of little ones. And our personal way of doing it makes it way too long.
- Starts way too late mainly due to ridiculous daylight saving time.
- Starts way too late, but apparently that's halacha.
- Stop complaining how late it is. Just enjoy it, its once a year and it's beautiful
- That whomever is conducting the seder should spend time and effort into creating an engaging, fun leaning seder based on what the crowd who we be there would enjoy and appreciate.
- The late start makes it less enjoyable. Hard to do two and 2nd one is often enhanced if you have new/different guests.
- The older I get the more difficult completing the entire seder becomes.
- The only way to do it is to have a mini-seder for all the young children who will not be able to stay awake for the real seder.
- The second Seder is a very frustrating experience. I look forward to returning to Israel where the norm is to have only one. I think the rationale for 2 Seders outside of Israel really needs work.
- The second seder is a waste of time. one is enough. I wish i could only do one
- The second Seder is always the better of the two!
- The second Seder really feels extra. Makes me wish we lived in Israel
- The second seder starts late, but there's no getting around it. Because it starts late, it ends late. Nonetheless, we always have at least as much fun the second night as the first night.
- The Seder starting so late is really challenging on the first night of Pesach. Even though I try to finish Seder prep earlier in the day, it's all just exhausting trying to do all the last minute things and it's hard to nap before the first night of yontif.
- the seder starts very late and everyone is exhausted before we even get going
- The sederr is not a classroom,one may add a tad bit not go overboard.
- The seders are my favorite nights of the year. My family has really fun traditions and we all have a blast. I do wish it could start earlier in the day so that my kids could stay up for the whole seder. It is ironic that so much of the seder is geared towards children but the seder starts after bedtime.
- The shuls are causing major problems the first night by delaying Maariv. There's no reason not to start Maariv early and allow people to go home with the understanding not to make kiddish until night.
- The start time is difficult for elderly relatives. Some leniency is needed.
- The starting time is a problem because our daughter, the mother of young children, wants it much earlier.
- The timing is what it is. We don't start until after candle lighting time, we've never started early for the kids. They've all enjoyed and survived the late start times, thankfully, across the age spectrum.
- the way the clock works, the seder starts very late for our family
- There are some personal complicated circumstances.
- There should not be a second day chag.
- There was always a battle to start the Seder early because my dad insisted and I resisted. We also tended to end early -- something I prefer, after all that preparation!
- There's a push to de-emphasize or limit the second seder -- especially with the presence of lots of little kids.
- Think second Seder should be discontinued since we have a calendar and know the dates.
- This has become a fraught issue in recent years, with parents on young children upset about seder start times being so late (they would prefer ~5pm, and are also not ok doing a model seder with their kids and then a real one at the appropriate time)
- Too late too long. So late that exhausted next day.
- Too late. If the seder began ealier, we could include the chidren. Also, being old, it is very hard for me to stay up and just about impossible to eat at the late hour.
- Too long, starts too late at night, and we shouldn't have two. Takes any enjoyment out of the holiday.
- Try to get quickly to the meal. Same for second seder
- try to start ontime ASAP!!!!!!!
- Usually finish around 1am
- usually we start after dark - those who like to go long, go long - whoever wants to eat quickly can go ahead
- Veggie trays after Karpas are helpful
- Waiting up for the kids is very hard when it's starts so late like this year. To wait to eat for an hour and half is also hard
- We actually start it earlier than they say since it's way too late for everyone

- We add a lot of time for discussion and encourage each guest to participate..
- We add every language we can for the Ma Nishtana. One year we had 9 people recite in their different languages.
- We adjust based on who is present.
- We always eat in the afternoon so that we are not starving for the seder -- pretty much doing the opposite of what the Mishna says to do.
- We always say we will do an earlier seder just for the kids and a later one for the adults but that never seems to happen. The second seder is usually faster even though it starts later. Less extrapolation of the texts.
- We do a full seder and begin at the appropriate time - which sometimes leads to timing issues and drop-outs. We also do a children's seder.
- We do games at the second seder to try and change things up.
- We eat Karpas the whole time and keep the kids involved, our shul has co-sponsored a Seder surprise workshop for last Dec aid which makes the Seder both halachik but also fun
- We enjoy long, elaborate Seders
- We focus our seder entirely on our children and if need be do a rushed one for adults after they go to bed
- We follow the order, but try to make as interesting as possible without drawing out.
- We generally move it along at a steady, relatively quick pace. The second Seder is a bit more enjoyable.
- We generally start the Seders ASAP because our kids are little but we only let them stay up for the first one. I wish we could start the second Seder earlier
- We go around the table and let each participant read from the Hagaddah in their choice of language. We use bananas for Ha'Adamah
- we go late, really late. But it's worth it.
- We go to our parents most of the time and attempt to create an inspiring and child friendly experience, but we can create that experience much better at home. However, our children still insist on going to their grandparents which goes to show that the being with grandparents and family is inherently meaningful to children.
- We got the graphic novel Haggadah for my daughter who doesn't know how to read and it helped her be able to be part of the Seder
- We have family with diverse religious expectations which makes the pacing hard sometimes. Depending who is there second seder can either feel like a repeat or a chance to do it better without negative relatives. We start at the halachic time and despite whining it's fine.
- We hold zmamin so it's a late start. We encourage people to nap if possible
- We keep it relatively short to keep kids involved.
- We keep our kids up for the 1st Seder and have a kid geared Seder. We give them a mock Seder the 2nd evening and get them to bed more on time and have an adult seder the 2nd night.
- We love the Seder with the family sitting around the table. Adding comments. Following the traditions of our parents.
- We move
- We need serious options for what we can do before tzeit to engage kids and what the bare minimum version of the seder is post-tzeis.
- We observe Passover in Israel, without a second seder.
- We often spend a bit too long on Magid, making our meal start quite late. We are usually more rested and a bit faster the 2nd night. My kids have always said that Pesach and the Sedaris are the highlight of the year for them.
- We start before dark on both nights because we want our kids to go to sleep at a normal time.
- We start early and end early to accommodate young children
- We start early in line with a ruling from Salonika.
- We start Halakhically on time but it's late and that is challenging of course with a little kid
- We start pretty much right away and end at chatzos or so. We do not make unnecessary delays, as people will later be tired and impatient. This is for both seders.
- We start rather soon after davening and keep a pace to within 4-5 hours at a maximum. We try to add excitement with drama but focused on the actual hagadda flow and not get off tangent
- we start the seder on time for the first night but earlier on the second night
- We try to balance discussion and divrei torah with finishing by 11:30 PM, which keeps everyone fresh. (We don't always hit the 11:30 mark, but we're usually within 10 - 20 minutes.) The second seder can be rote, or you can skip things you want to talk about on the first night for time, and do/say them at the do-over seder.
- We try to have a relaxed seder for the children to speak and sing what they learned

- We try to have discussions about the contents of the Haggadah while being mindful of those who are tired from having prepared Pesach (or other reasons)
- We try to keep it a healthy balance so that it is not too dragged out and then becomes boring or makes ppl to exhausted. Also ppl need to eat within a reasonable time Everything must be prepared ahead of Pesach for the start time on the second Night to go well
- We try to move things along so the kids are awake. Different than the sedarim till 1-2am that I grew up with
- We try to start as soon as possible and eat Afikomen by Chatzos
- We try to start as soon as we can and typically finish between 1-2am. The second always one starts later but we end approximately the same time as the first night
- We used to not allow any additions to the hagadah, and consistently finished around 3, but now we add in more, and finish around 1:30-2:30. The second seder always starts a little later, but somehow doesn't usually run much later than the first.
- We usually do the full seder up to the meal portion and than move quickly through the rest.
- we usually finish on the quicker side with going thru the whole hagaddah. 2nd seder is somewhat boring as it feels like a repeat performance
- We're usually done by midnight. This year probably later
- When going through the commentary in my Haggadah, it is best to spread it over the two seders, otherwise the "disciples" will have to come and say "it is time for the morning shema!"
- While we do embellish we also go at a good pace as little kids are present (and prefer not to make a pre-Seder)
- Wish there was only 1 Seder as in Israel
- Wish we could start earlier
- Wish we could start earlier. It's soooo late. It's super hard cleaning up afterward too. The most difficult part of him tov are actually the lunches.
- With little children, it is difficult to engage them in a seder that is halachic and at the correct time. I don't mind the length. I just have a kids seder before the main one
- Would love to start the 2nd night sooner
- Yes the starting time is the real problem. It starts so late that I am so tired and it's hard to stay awake. I'd get more out of it if we could start it

earlier. As it is, we rush through maggid, and the kids don't last much beyond ma nishtana, if they're even awake for that at all.

- You can make the seder as long or as short as you like. Second seder is nicer because we're less tired since we got some rest after the first seder.
- You didn't give the choice but we are Mizrahi which is not the same as Sephardi. My parents were born in Lebanon and Egypt and we have local customs that we do with our family and guests
- You have to deal with the hotel staff regarding start time, etc. and it negatively effects the seder.
- You just gotta buckle up and be ready for the longest supper of the year. Mentally prepare for it. The second seder typically goes slightly faster, but again, you need to mentally prepare for it. The second seder is more exciting when there are multiple kids who want to participate and you could split the sedarim by having some child(ren) participate on the first night and some child(ren) participate the second night

Is there anything else you would like to add regarding any aspect of Pesach?

- The combination of Passover and being gluten-free for medical reasons is complicated. Matzo crumbs go everywhere in the food. In my first year of marriage, we had seder with my husband's entire family including our many nieces and nephews. It was really nice, but I got sick and it wasn't really preventable to keep matzo crumbs out of the food with so many people and so many kids. After my first year of marriage, we didn't spend Pesach with my in-laws, and I feel bad that I caused my husband to lose this time with his family even though he says it is fine. 2. My husband's family is in general stricter in kashrut than we are, and some of his family also distrusts our kashrut level even not on Pesach. The first year of our marriage we were going to host my husband's charedi brother and sister in law from out of town, and we had the table all set with kosher sushi delivery and we waited and waited, and they never arrived. Maybe it really was traffic and travel delays that were why th
- 8 days is too long.
- a few years ago I made my own translation of the haggadah because I wasn't happy with any of the standard ones - our seders have been a bit more meaningful and fun since then

- Again, it depends so much on what type of experience we have. Whether we are with family or not or on our own.
- Again, there are some peculiar complexities.
- Again, working full time in the secular world and having full responsibility for everything for Pesach is far too burdensome.
- all the rules and regulations should be made easier.
- Although I was raised in an atmosphere where Pesach was a despised chore, I have come to love Pesach and embrace the preparations; I have learned to rely on myself each year as I have for some previous 40 years and experienced that I can get it all done and that once they arrive, my adult children will help. I wish I didn't also have to go to work the week before Pesach and on hol hamoed—but I take a very spiritual approach and try not to let a little tiredness interfere with my joy!
- Always a time to remember my past seder experiences with different relatives, many of whom have passed away
- As a single person whose family members are not observant, I feel very left out of anything involving family around Pesach. It is very isolating.
- As far as the food being unhealthy, I think that is the case when I eat at other people's houses. But at our home we tend to focus a lot on eating eggs, meat, veggies, fruit... since we don't actually have a kosher market nearby, we rely a lot on veggies which seems pretty healthy. And as for digestive upset, I have found that taking the supplement form Maxi Health really helps a lot for digesting matza!
- As our kids left the house, they made an effort to make it to FL for the whole holiday to spend the time with their cousins. I know Pesach for many families is fraught. I feel blessed that it isn't for me, and I THINK most of my family likes the holiday. I'm not sure what we did right.
- Ask about sefardi matzah
- Attitude is everything, expectations (especially unrealistic) can ruin even the best of experiences. Reframe for the positive!
- Been searching for a hagas day we connect to. We have mixed traditions ashkenazi and Sephardi AND we have college kids who are active female participants and want to know about women during that time. We like to read around the table from the same hagaddah. This year we bought the Jewish journey haggadah by rabbanit

berkowitz. My daughter and friends will enjoy some of the insights she has on women and the pesach story however it is very Ashkenazi. The binding also isn't great so we don't want to buy it for the whole table. We just can't seem to find anything just right. Also- you ask some things about enjoying and stress of pesach. It is just the non stop. Turning over the kitchen. Cooking. The Sederim go very late and then there is shul early the next morning and lunch afterwards followed by another Seder. It is exhausting especially for those of us who work on chol hamoed (but have kids off of school too!).

- commercial seforim should include accommodations for DEAF participants.
- Connects me to my familial past and my ethnic past
- Depends on who we are with- different children or lately, away, but not on programs
- Every year the experience is different. Some years better than others. I have special childhood memories of peach which are the foundation for my positive attitude of pesach till today. On a different note, I am very health conscious and so I cook with a lot of veggies all year round and minimal white flour and such, which is why my peach meals are quite similar to my regular meals and why we don't feel particularly sick or unwell during pesach.
- Everyone can contribute to the holiday' if not physically helping, at least adding to the spirit & entertaining the children .
- Expensive. Takes a lot of time preparing shopping
- Hard when family is spread out - miss the older generation at the seder table.
- Hashgachos need to drop chumras on chumras and permit the mutar. Be at least 5% as particular on price gouging as kitniyos oil
- I always enjoy the day after very much
- I always miss Pesach the way my grandparents used to host it - with love, welcoming, and community.
- I am going to a hotel this year, with friends, but have spent the previous several years with family who are more observant than I. Therefore, I could not respond accurately to all the questions
- I become even more grateful 😊
- I both dread and love Pesach but I don't feel I would want it any other way.
- I don't understand these questions as they are irrelevant to Pesach and are more general mental

health questions. You are taking a religious holiday and demeaning it

- I feel like we have too much stuff and the community has a lot of misunderstanding about what halacha is and what prep is halachic
- I find the Seder a very personal experience and have trouble in group settings (especially where I am expected to lead it); I want to stop to reflect at certain points, but others get impatient (which is understandable).
- I go to a community seder. Having a knowledgeable rabbi running things is very beneficial.
- I have some GI issues and Pesach is very hard. Similarly, my son is allergic to dairy...so pesach is matza and meat for him, which isn't great either. So we manage but usually someone doesn't feel well by the end.
- I just guessed at price of schmura matza
- I look forward to it, even with all the stress. Then I miss it when it's over.
- I love everything about Pesach itself and I can't stand anything about the month leading up to Pesach.
- I love it
- I love pesach The severe is my personal most sublime religious moment of the year
- I love Pesach. I would appreciate help and financial assistance. It has become very difficult due to my age and monetary issues.
- I love the traditions and feel it is worth all the effort and work that goes in to making it as close as I possibly can to what I know of our family history.
- I make Pesach for my home as well as my parents' as they are less and less able to manage. However, all of the attitudes expressed in this survey predated that situation. I also had ADHD which exacerbates the pressure.
- I remember buying handmade matzo for \$3.75 a pound. The prices are out of hand.
- I strongly prefer being in Israel for Pesach when possible where we observe only one day of chag and dati communities writ large are less stringent on kitniyot.
- I think if I could drive over for a meal it would be easier than sleeping over for the entire 2 or 3 day yom tov. I have stayed local and gone to people but that means walking home late at night. Not ideal. Would love to go to hotel but my friends go to family. None of the options are doable or ideal when one is not married. Having said that I do

enjoy being with my nieces and nephews but some their parents are stressful to be with for long periods of time.

- I think that schools need to emphasize the positive aspects of Pesach (although maybe they do nowadays) and not that we have to remove every last crumb.
- I think the prohibition against kitniot also needs rethinking as there really isn't any good reason for it anymore. I think it's divisive. I no longer hold by avoiding kitniot which appalls Ashkenazi friends but I really don't care: they can just avoid my house on Pesach! I look forward to returning to live in Israel where the majority of Jews do eat kitniot on Pesach. Plus one Seder and one day Yom Tovim.
- I try not to eat much matza because of the gastrointestinal impact. I am strongly considering introducing more items containing kitniyot that are glute free like Corn Chex as my husband has intestinal disorder and has trouble finding foods that he tolerates.
- I try to prepare and eat as much unprocessed food as I can. I keep a list of what we CAN eat and prepare dishes from that. I don't look at what I can't eat.
- I try to turn the prep work into a fun family affair with the extended family peeling, cooking and getting under foot. It's less efficient that way, but it makes for great memories in the long run.
- I wish more people would focus on the parts of Pesach that make them happy rather than the negative/stressful parts of Pesach.
- I wish there were less Pesach products and more of a trend to enjoy fruits and vegetables.
- I'll share that I'm not a fan of the Pesach Program. I feel like it detracts from the holiday. There is way too much food, you have to be dressed to the nines. The few times I've been on programs, I did not enjoy them. I prefer celebrating the chag at home with my family. If we want to wear sweatpants to the second seder, fine. We don't starve and it's a much more relaxed atmosphere.
- I'm a very peaceful moderate, middle of the road person. I do not believe in extremes. Chag Samayach, ah kusherin Pesach:)
- If we got rid of kitniyos, I'd stop feeling so sick all of Pesach from the food.
- If you don't have a immediate family it's meaningless
- im happy when we get to spend quality time together as a family

- In my experience, and from what I hear from friends, hand-made shmura matzah in my neighborhood tends to be at least 80% broken.
- It exacerbates any difficulty or lack one deals with in life-people who are not well, live alone for any reason, don't live the Hamodia world of fantasy, have financial struggles, etc have to manage this amidst the grueling slog of Pesach preparation. Yet how dare anyone complain these days, considering what people are dealing with in Israel?
- It is different when you are single and eat out. It is different when as a family you have a minhag to be with specific friends. It is different when you are the only observant person within your birth family. It is different when you have to travel and find a place to sleep and know you will be walking alone everywhere. It is different when don't know or feel connected to anyone else at the seder
- It is the most "othering" of holidays, requiring not only time off from work but much tighter food restrictions for the whole week incl chol hamoad while at work
- It is truly a paradox: it is hard, stressful and tiring, but at the same time, joy-giving, energizing and wonderful!
- It makes me think of making aliyah because I really don't want two seders.....
- It will be stressful this year; worrying about family & friends in Israel including those deployed & also civilians. I will try to appreciate the holiday, but it will be difficult. Last year, I displayed a photo of the journalist Evan Gershkovich; sadly he is still being held in Russia & I will display his photo again. Despite all this, I am hopeful for the future.
- It would be nice not to be gouged buying Pesach products that are exactly the same as year-round ones.
- It's a pain in the ass.
- It's a tone of work but I love the holiday and love celebrating at home with family
- It's all too much. We have adult sons lead Seder these days. Watching the little kids during the fun and action portions still heartwarming. There's something wrong with a holiday which would need so much involvement from paid sources (cleaning, cooking, prepared food, Seder evening help) in order for hosts/celebrants not to feel totally wiped out. At my age, which isn't even that old, even the help of the adult kids isn't enough to offset the level of fatigue.
- It's nice to be together with family. But the amount of time, effort, and work that goes into it is enormous. Plus I work like a slave throughout the whole holiday. Everyone else has a great time other than me.
- It's our favorite holiday
- It's the time of redemption -- I look forward to our all being redeemed!
- its a beautiful holiday!
- Its EXPENSIVE unnecessarily - we must be getting ripped off!
- Let's finally agree to eat kitniyot.
- living in a different community from family makes it more difficult
- masghiach in kitchen cooking for pesach
- Most stress and exhaustion as well as frustration comes from prices. It is getting worse and worse. Stores take full advantage. Tremendous pressure financially and we stay home and cook everything. Wife feels bad every year that so many attend programs and for us it can't even be considered.
- My husband likes only hand-made shmura matzah, and he only buys Lubavitch, so we pay whatever the price is, and I economize in many other aspects of the Pesach meals, including buying non-perishables for the next year in the after Pesach sales.
- My wife passed away 13 years ago, and since then I have usually celebrated the seders with others in the community. But when she was alive, we usually celebrated the seders at home with family and friends.
- Not the easiest holiday but every holiday we have is nice and provides meaning and time with family.
- Once the house is turned over, prep for the holiday is no more complicated than any other.
- Others in my family are much more religiously inspired. I start my cleaning early so I am less stressed. This year I will be in Israel! No cleaning or cooking for me.
- People are afraid of making the Seder at home by themselves. We have an image of what the Seder ought to look like, and are afraid of not measuring up. I say, try it once. While it may be different in some aspects, it can be meaningful in ways you haven't imagined. There's no ideal Seder, and there's no falling short. You do you, and you will find it so worthwhile.
- People should look for ways to make Pesach enjoyable rather than a torture (as some people seem to do)

- Perhaps I should not have done this survey. My age and substantial health problems as well as my restrictive diet make Pesach much more difficult for me.
- Pesach can be hard but I find it rewarding. I like having certain things that we look forward to all year, even with the tough parts. Even just foods like jelly slices or matzah balls are things that make it feel worthwhile.
- Pesach food can be amazing if one focuses on all the things that are permitted, rather than those that are assur (admittedly, harder if someone is vegan). Also, I have no idea what percent of the shmura matza is broken already, since I haven't opened the boxes yet!
- Pesach food manufacturers insist on making foods with cottonseed oil and other unhealthy ingredients. I do not buy anything that contains these.
- Pesach is difficult for our family due to the loss of employment and monetary issues. We depend on food boxes to get us through the financial issues but they don't cover everything we need. Preparing for the holiday is very stressful.
- Pesach is extremely important for Jewish continuitybut this year we're so stressed by the war and the horrific events in and out of Israel. So perhaps this year's survey may be distorted.
- Pesach programs are too commercial and display the wrong values.
- Pesach reminds us where we came from and why we should continue our connection to each other as a family.
- Pesach should be enjoyable, not a drag. Too many Seders are long, boring, and painful. That is why ours is fun.
- Pesach is part of a bigger picture for me. I am connected to the Jewish community, my ancestors and Jewish history all year. Pesach is part of that, and highlights certain aspects of all these things.
- Regarding healthy I try to make as much regular fruits, vegetables and salads and fish and meat as normal.
- Regarding the previous question on strict observance of shiurim: I follow the rationalist view that a kezayit means a contemporary olive-bulk, which is very easy to observe.
- Seders are the least enjoyable part of going away for Pesach which I (otherwise) enjoy very much.
- Seders can be difficult when you have to host unobservant and disinterested relatives.
- someone needs to do something about the cost of Pesach food.
- Spending Pesach with family is key. I wish my daughter & her family would join us, but they won't take the time off from work. However, our son & my brother & his family always celebrate Pesach with us. That's why we go away for Pesach when we can. Since that makes the Chag quite expensive, we are very grateful we have the capacity to do so. If we don't go away, then my husband & I host everyone which is a lot more work, but less expensive.
- The amount of random food that can be made pasadic is very interesting (I understand it's a newer phenomenon). I also find it how funny it is to "cheat" by pretty much using matzoh meal as flour.
- The explosion of Pesach programs speaks volumes about today's O community, as does their content. Not all of it negative. But again - moves observance to the affluent, and leaves those left at home in an uncomfortable place.
- The holiday instills faith and belief in G-d and in our people the Jewish nation!
- The last 6 days are honestly just a pain in the butt for me because of the food restrictions - the first two days are at least religiously inspired.
- The need to "keep up with the Schwartzes" on Pesach is really rough. Putting aside the folks who go to resorts (and it seems like more and more do that), the needs of what you are expected to have in your house at all time, for kids, for guests, for anyone is just crazy. It gets worse and worse every year. Things that were OK 10 years ago are now looked at as Chas V'Shalom an Issur D'Orayta. People need to remember the point of the yiddishkeit in general isn't to show everyone how frum you are.
- The preparation is part of the observance. While it is tiring and can be stressful, the payoff is very worthwhile. I have a strong feeling of accomplishment when we sit down to eat at the seder.
- The question about eating the matzah in the correct amount of time doesn't do justice to the zeal with which I cram it all in and chew furiously to consume the largest size shiur in the shortest amount of time. It is one of my highlights of Pesach! (My wife takes the smallest shiur and takes her time)
- The seders are very stressful and unenjoyable.

- The work is hard but it's the best holiday. So nice to spend with family and friends. After all the work, the holiday is 8 days to enjoy it all.
- There have been years in which we don't get invited to even one meal even in our large community even though we hosted often. Families with special needs children or shy parents, no local extended family or non-frum family who is local but doesn't care about yom to can be very lonely. And older singles! While Pesach is very special, it can also be very lonely.
- this is the first year going to a hotel, after 38 years of making pesach for myself and my family. it has been very stressful and exhausting for me (and my husband, who does some preparation). we enjoy being with our children and grandchildren but we are hoping that going to a hotel will make it more enjoyable. it is very expensive, so unless everyone enjoys, it may be the last time we go.
- This survey is a lot longer than 10 minutes.
- This year especially, we can relate to the words of v'hi she'amdoh...that not only one nation wanted to destroy us, but in every generation and in every time - we are faced with enemies seeking annihilation, but, we have Hashem's protection, and his miraculous salvation to ensure our survival.
- Too expensive
- Using the new Zionist chinitz Haggadah
- very strong connection to ancestors. I find great meaning in using China dishes at the seder that were inherited from a grandmother.
- Want to clarify that we are planning to go to Israel this year for Pesach, not on a Pesach program. We have a child studying in a gap year.
- We are going away this year for Pesach. Last year we stayed at home due to an illness. Prior to last year, I have made Pesach at home for over 45 years. I am getting to old to prepare, cook and clean for yom tov!
- We are Sephardi and use kitniyot. That has helped us a lot. Also I am always looking out for regular recipes that I can use on Passover. That helps with the health aspect of the food.
- We have a custom to ask all our seder guests to bring something for the seder, not food but some learning that enlightens some part of the haggadah. Also, as to your question about the matza, I make much of our matza myself, just as people did for years before machine matza.
- We have an open house. Anyone who needs a Seder is welcome. That means flexibility. We might have 15 people or 25. It's really fun. We do not buy Pesach junk so that saves a lot of money.
- We need to find a way to make it more spiritual, less stressful and more inclusive for all members of the Jewish community.
- We really only eat matza during Seders and for hamotzi. Most of the 8 days we eat chicken, fish, vegetables, fruit. We feel it doesn't have to be as complicated as so many people make it.
- We've never considered a pesach program and don't think we ever would, given the exorbitant cost and its focus on food. That would be an interesting survey :-)
- While Sukklot is our favorite holiday, Pesach, which is filled with shared family memories, comes in a close second. Yes, it is a lot of stressful preparation, but the rewards are so worth it!
- wish there was financial help for the middle class people who are not eligible for programs or distributions
- yes - people clean way too much and thus often "dread" pesach. that is terrible, it is meant to be enjoyed. Way too many chumrot re kashrut which are kulot re the mitzva of simcha
- Yes, we get into the trenches. My husband bakes matza with a chaburah. the spirit in the house is joyous. we have matching aprons for the kitchen. Also, as far the shiurim my husband is a respected posek and he uses small shiurim for the wine and the matza. I encourage ppl who are challenged in this area to get a psak from a respected posek, it will be less than the "printed" ones. Also, we always reflect after yom tov on how to improve for the next year.