

## Laws of Brachos – Review Sheet #11:

### Two Foods with the Same Brocha:

1. When eating two foods that have the same bracha, e.g. an apple and a pear that both require Ha'aitz, one bracha covers both foods. So in determining which food to actually say the bracha over (and consequently which food to eat first), the principle is: **Say the bracha over the more important of the two foods, thereby expressing more honor for the bracha.** "Importance" is determined based on the following factors:
  2. If **one** of the foods is of the seven species in praise of the Land of Israel (wheat, barley, olives, dates, grapes, figs, pomegranates) , the bracha should be recited over that food. So when faced with a bowl of grapes and cherries, say Ha'aitz on the grapes since they are of the seven species.
  3. If **both** foods are of the seven species, the bracha should be said based on the following order of priority: wheat, barley, olives, dates, grapes, figs, pomegranates. So when it comes to grapes and olives, say the bracha on the olives, because they are mentioned closer to "land" than grapes.
  4. When the seven species is not a factor (if neither fruit is from the seven species or both fruits are the same specie), If one of the foods is **"Shalem"** - **complete** (i.e. whole and unbroken), and the other is not, the bracha should be recited on the one that is complete. So if you open a package of cookies and find that some are broken, make sure to say a bracha on one that is whole. Similarly, if there is an orange which is quartered and a whole apple, you should say a bracha on the apple.
  5. If the seven species is not an issue, and *shalem* is also not an issue (either because **both** foods are complete, or **neither** is complete), the bracha should be recited on the food that you **generally** prefer (**chaviv**). So if you have a whole apple and a whole peach, say a bracha on whatever is your favorite.
  6. If you generally like both foods equally, the bracha should be said on the food that you **currently** desire more.
  7. If the seven species, *shalem* and *chaviv* are all not factors. For example, you want to eat two apples, and they are **both whole**? Or if you want to eat two **slices** of apples? In that case, you should say the bracha on the larger piece, since that is considered more important.
  8. In Summary, when two foods have the **same bracha**, the order of priority is: 1) seven species, 2) *shalem*, 3) *chaviv*, 4) larger.
  9. *Pas Haba B'Kisnin* is a more important "mezonos" food than *Ma'aseh Kedaira*. For example, if you want to eat both crackers and spaghetti, you would say the bracha Mezonos on the crackers -- even if the crackers are *shalem*, and even if the spaghetti is *chaviv*.
  10. All the above laws of sequence apply only when: **you want to eat both of these different foods now, and in terms of culinary tastes, it doesn't matter to you which food you begin with.** So if you want to start with a fruit, you can go ahead and first say the bracha on the fruit before eating crackers. Or if you are very thirsty, you can say Shehakol on some water before eating salad.

### Two Foods Requiring Different Brachos:

1. When eating two foods that require **different** brachos, the more **specific** bracha is recited first. The order of precedence for brachos is: 1)Hamotzee, 2)Mezonos, 3)Ha'gofen, 4)Ha'aitz/Ha'adama, and 5)Shehakol.
2. The brachos of Ha'aitz and Ha'adama are considered to be equally specific. Therefore, when you have two foods -- Ha'aitz and Ha'adama --the following priority of criteria is used to determine which bracha to say first: 1) *shalem*, 2) *chaviv*, 3) seven species, 4) Ha'aitz.