

# Seder Plate Page 1

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Source: 30 Minute Haggadah

## The Seder

### Opening Prayer

May all who are enslaved throughout the world, come to know freedom. May all who are free, appreciate the blessings of abundance. And may all of us dwell in the house of God and give thanks for our good fortune as we celebrate these rituals of Passover.

### The Seder Plate

The Seder plate contains the main symbols that help us tell the story of Passover.



**Matzah** – There are 3 whole matzot placed one on top of the other, separated and covered by a cloth or napkin. Many matzah covers are available for purchase, and in some homes, the children make the covers. Since you'll be eating matzah many times throughout the Seder, make sure that there's enough for everyone to have an adequate portion.



**Maror and Chazeret** – These are the bitter herbs symbolizing the bitter life the Jews led while they were slaves in Egypt, which are eaten twice during the Seder, once by themselves and another time with matzah. You can use several different vegetables that qualify as maror, two of which are put on your Seder plate in the spaces marked maror and chazeret. Red or white horseradish is often used for maror and romaine lettuce for chazeret.



**Charoset** – Charoset should be made to look like mortar because it is symbolic of the bricks and mortar the slaves used in making the Egyptian buildings. One traditional recipe calls for a mixture of grated apples, nuts, and cinnamon mixed with a little red wine.



**Zeroa** – A roasted bone (often a lamb shank or chicken bone) is placed on the Seder plate. The bone serves as a symbol of God's mighty arm that convinced the Egyptians to free the slaves. It also represents the Paschal lamb that was used as a special sacrifice in the days of the ancient Temple in Jerusalem.