



Chicago Rabbinical Council  
2701 W Howard, Chicago IL 60645  
773-465-3900

## cRc Guidelines to Buying Food Before and After Passover

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The purchase of food items for Passover that do not bear special Passover certification is not permissible, even for products that have year-round kosher supervision (this does not apply to foods that require no certification during the year, such as fresh fruits and vegetables). Special Passover endorsement is required for all baked and processed goods, candy, soft drinks, wines, liquors, milk and milk products, horseradish, vinegar, and canned goods. Passover foods such as *matzot*, cakes, macaroons, egg noodles, etc., also require reliable rabbinic endorsement. Fresh fruits and vegetables may be purchased without special Passover certification; leafy vegetables must be thoroughly washed and checked for bugs. Jewish grocers, bakers and other food merchants who deal in *chametz* must sell their *chametz* before Passover. **If they fail to do so, these *chametz* products are forbidden even after Passover.** In such an event, purchases of *chametz* goods should not be made for the period of time it normally takes for complete replenishment of such stock. It is therefore preferable when purchasing from a Jewish merchant to deal with a proprietor who is known to have sold his *chametz* before Passover, and who sells no *chametz* during the holiday.

The prohibition against *chametz* applies to all products prepared or baked during Passover. ***This means that you may not purchase bread on the evening following the last day of Passover, April 27, 2008, if baked by a Jewish-owned firm during Passover. Please check with your Rabbi when you may resume purchasing products from that establishment.*** All kosher certified bakeries cease their operations on Friday, April 18, 2008, and do not begin baking until after the conclusion of the entire holiday. cRc-certified bakeries will be open for business on Monday, April 28, 2008.

