

# PASSOVER NIGHT(S)

## PASSOVER NIGHT(S): MA'ARIV

### Timing of Ma'ariv on Seder Night(s)

- Ma'ariv on the first night of *Passover* may begin at sunset. But since the seder may not be started until after dark, the custom is to begin ma'ariv a little before dark.
- The second seder may also not be started until after dark. Ma'ariv on the second night of *Passover* may be said from plag ha'mincha, 1 1/4 hours before sunset.
- Ma'ariv on the seventh and eighth days of *Passover* may be started as early as plag ha'mincha, 1 1/4 hours before sunset.

### Hallel after Ma'ariv

People who have the custom of saying hallel after ma'ariv on the first night of *Passover* also say hallel on the second night (outside of Eretz Yisrael).

### HaMapil on Passover

On the first two nights of *Passover*, before going to sleep, just say shema and the ha'mapil blessing.

**REASON** The first night (two nights outside of Eretz Yisrael) is considered to have special Divine protection, so we omit the extra paragraphs in the final parts of the prayer.

## PASSOVER NIGHT(S): EATING MATZA

### When Eating Matza Is Obligatory

The only time when matza must be eaten to fulfill the commandment of eating matza is on seder night(s). There may be a mitzva to also eat matza on the other days of *Passover* (but there are conflicting opinions about that).

However, men must eat matza in order to fulfill the commandment of eating two meals a day on each of the festival days.