



## The Seder Plate

The symbols of the seder are arranged on a plate in the center of the table.

**זְרוּעַ**  
*Zeroa* A roasted bone (usually a roasted shank bone) to remind us of the Pesah offering. Vegetarians sometimes use a beet.

**כַּרְפָּס**  
*Karpas* Usually a green vegetable, like parsley or celery, that reminds us of spring. Those of Eastern European descent sometimes use boiled potatoes.

**חֲרוֹסֶת**  
*Haroset* A mixture of ingredients meant to symbolize mortar, a reminder of the bricks the Israelite slaves were forced to make. It is typically made from apples, chopped nuts, spices, and wine. Other ingredients such as dates, figs, apricots, oranges, and even bananas can also be used.

**מָרֹר**  
*Maror* A bitter herb, usually horseradish, to remind us of the bitterness of slavery.

**בֵּיצָה**  
*Beitzah* A roasted egg, a symbol of new beginnings and of the sacrifices that were offered at the Temple in Jerusalem.

**חֲזֵרֶת**  
*Hazeret* Some people put a second bitter herb on the seder plate, such as romaine lettuce, whose root is bitter.

**מִי מַלַּח**  
*Salt water* Some people put a bowl of salt water on the seder plate. We dip the karpas in salt water to remind us of the tears our ancestors shed in Egypt.



Some families place an orange on the seder plate as a symbol of the fruitfulness for all Jews when we accept and include *all* members of the Jewish community. If you could add a symbolic object to the seder plate, what would it be?

