INTRODUCTION TO SEPARATING CHALLA

Introduction to Separating Challa

Although *challa* refers to the two loaves of bread (or *matza*) over which we say the *ha'motzi* blessing at *Shabbat* and *Jewish festival* meals, *challa* also means the portion of dough or bread that we are obligated to give to the *cohen*/priests during *Temple* times. Today, we burn a token portion ("*challa*") of dough.

NOTE Burning the *challa* is not considered to violate *bal tashchit* (needless destruction), since the *challa* is separated and destroyed to fulfill a *mitzva*.

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