MOTZI/MATZA: BLESSINGS

Why Two Blessings over Matza

We say two blessings over the *matza*: *ha'motzi lechem min ha'aretz* and *al achilat matza.*

REASON The blessing on *motzi* is one of enjoyment (*nehenin*); the blessing on *matza* is a blessing on a commandment (*mitzva*).

How To Do Motzi and Matza

The *seder* leader says the blessing "*ha'motzi*" while holding the three (which are now 2 1/2) *shmura* matzas, drops the bottom one, and says the next blessing, *al achilat matza*. Everyone takes a small piece from the two top matzas and eats it, along with enough additional *shmura matza* to fulfill the minimum requirement.

© Copyright 2026 Richard B. Aiken | www.practicalhalacha.com