

SEFIRAT HA OMER

Starting the 2nd night of Pesach until the night before Shavuot, one must count the Omer. The counting should be recited right after dark, and may be recited all evening with a Bracha. If, during the day, one recalls that he had not counted the Omer the previous night-or doubts whether he had-he should recite it the same day without a Bracha & continue counting the next evening with a Bracha. If for an entire day there is an omission, the remainder of the Omer is recited without a Bracha.

Thousands of disciples of the famed Rabbi Akiva died in a terrible plague during this period of time. It is, therefore, a period of somberness, & taking haircuts, celebrating a wedding, attending parties or concerts at which musical instruments are played is forbidden. Some observe this period from the end of Pesach until Lag B'Omer (Sunday, May 13th). Others observe it from Rosh Chodesh Iyar (Thurs. April 20) until the 3rd day of Sivan (Sunday, May 27th) not including Lag B'Omer.

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