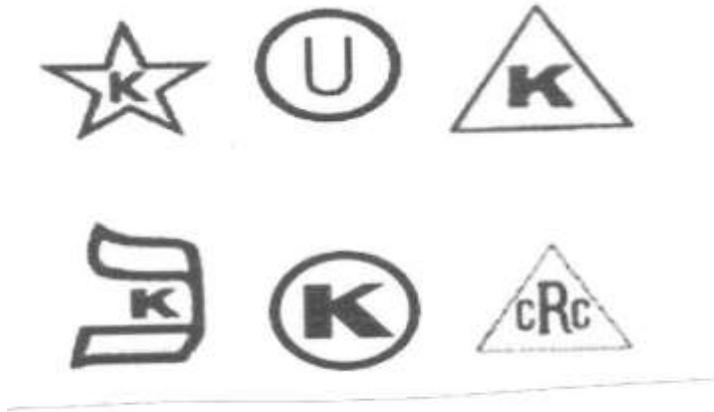


[G-11] Jewish Kosher Symbols in America
{as quoted from About.com}



The OK Kosher Certification (the OK) [center bottom], which was founded in 1935 under the leadership of kosher food pioneer Rabbi Berel Levy, has become one of the world's most respected symbols of kosher approval.

Today Rabbi Don Yoel Levy successfully guides the OK's development in an era of technological advances and soaring demand for kosher food worldwide. The OK has become a leader in cutting edge kosher technology, and it has expanded its operations to six continents.

The OK provides certification for food giants and products such as IFF, Kraft, ConAgra and Tropicana. Supported by more than 350 kosher experts, the OK certifies more than 300,000 products, produced by over 1,500 companies.

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In interpreting ancient dietary laws and adapting them to modern technology, different rabbis have different views about what exactly passes as kosher. The OU symbol [center top], belonging to the Orthodox Union, is one of the strictest kosher standards on the market today.

The OU has been certifying kosher products for over 80 years. Their first kosher certification went to [Heinz](#). In 1923 Heinz Vegetarian Beans became the first American product to display the OU kosher symbol.

In addition, the OU is the world's largest kosher certifying agency. Some of the famous companies that carry the OU symbol include Coca-Cola, General Mills, Heinz, Kraft Foods, [Nabisco](#) Biscuit Co., [Pillsbury](#), Procter & Gamble, and Veryfine Products. The OU certifies over 2300 companies with 4500 plants in 70 countries with a total of over 300,000 labels.

The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations (OU)
11 Broadway, New York, NY 10004
Phone; (212) 613-8241; Fax: (212) 564-9058

Site: www.oukosher.org

cRc [lower right] stands for Chicago Rabbinical Council, the largest regional, not-for-profit, Orthodox organization in North America. Since its humble beginnings in the 1930's, the cRc has developed into a universally accepted agency with a respected kosher certification symbol.

The cRc's Kosher Division works with close to 800 food companies, producing tens of thousands of products across North and South America, Europe and Asia. cRc has gained a reputation for exacting standards, professionalism, personal attention, reasonable pricing and rapid response time.

Over 50 years ago, Jays Potato Chips [Yes—Jays not Lays!] was one of the first companies certified kosher by the cRc.

Chicago Rabbinical Council (cRc)
2701 W. Howard, Chicago, IL. 60645
Phone: (773) 465-3900; Fax: (773) 465-6929
Site: www.crcweb.org

The KOF-K symbol [lower left] is the internationally recognized trademark of KOF-K Kosher Supervision, one of the foremost kosher certification agencies in the United States.

Serving the kosher consumer for almost 40 years, KOF-K was the first agency to introduce computer technology to the complexities of kosher supervision. Computer technology has placed the KOF-K at the cutting edge of kosher supervision today.

Kof-K has earned a reputation for being efficiently organized, professionally staffed and technologically advanced.

Kof-K Kosher Supervision
201 The Plaza, Teaneck, NJ 07666
Phone: (201) 837-0500; Fax: (201) 837-0126
Site: www.kof-k.org

Triangle-K certification [upper right] is awarded by a consortium of Orthodox Jewish rabbis who desire to see as wide a range of food products as possible made available to kosher consumers worldwide.

To this end, Triangle-K and Associates works side by side on an individual basis with each of their clients to create reasonable and cost effective certification and supervision programs.

Examples of Triangle-K certified products are Hebrew National, Valley Fig, Sunmaid, Sunsweet, Diamond Walnut, Hazelnut Growers, Minute Maid Juices, Yoo-Hoo, Sunny Delight, Wonder Bread, Del Monte Fruits and Vegetables, Frito-Lay Corn Chips and Potato Chips, Mogen-David Wine, Bird's Eye Vegetables and Fruits, Ocean Spray Cranberry Drinks, Jellies and Sauces, Hawaiian Punch, Mott's, and Kraft Puddings.

Triangle-K and Associates, Inc.
225 West 86th Street
New York, New York 10024 USA
Phone: (212) 877-1823; Fax: (212) 595-7966
Site: <http://www.trianglek.org/>

Star-K, [upper left] the symbol of the Baltimore-based Star-K Kosher Certification Agency, provides kosher supervision globally. The newest Star-K office opened in Mumbai, India. Star-K's Web site offers helpful information to kosher consumers worldwide.

Of the several hundred kosher agencies in the world, Star-K is the only one that certifies technology. For example, it was Star-K that certified the new kosher consumer-friendly Connect Io™ Refrigerated, Internet-Controlled Electric Double Wall Oven, which includes separate Sabbath and Holiday programmable modes. STAR-K is known as a leader in integrating complex food technology with kosher laws.

The Star-K kosher symbol is regarded as being in the top tier of strictness and quality.

Star-K Kosher Certification
122 Slade Ave. #300, Baltimore, MD 21208
Phone: (410) 484-4110; Fax: (410) 653-9294
Site: www.star-k.org

Often there are letters or words printed next to the kosher [certification](#) symbol on food [packages](#). These are added to inform the consumer of the product's kosher category.

Kosher categories are Meat (*Fleishig* in Yiddish, *Basari* in Hebrew), Dairy (*Milchig* in Yiddish, *Chalavi* in Hebrew) or neither meat or dairy (*Pareve* in Yiddish, *Parve* in Hebrew). According to Jewish Dietary Laws, meat and dairy food must be prepared and consumed separately, and pareve food can be eaten with either meat or dairy dishes.

Meat:

"Meat", "M" or "Glatt" printed near the kosher symbol on the food package indicates the product is kosher and contains some meat or meat derivative.

Dairy:

"Dairy" or "D" printed near the kosher symbol on the food package indicates the product is kosher and contains some milk or milk derivative.

Fish:

"F" printed near the kosher symbol on the food package indicates the product is kosher and contains fish ingredients.

Pareve:

"Pareve", "Parev", or "Parve" printed near the kosher symbol on the food package indicates the item is neither meat or dairy.

Passover: "P" printed near the kosher symbol on the food package does not stand for pareve, but instead it means the product is kosher for Passover and all year round.

Furthermore, D-P means dairy and kosher for Passover and all year round. M-P or Glatt-P means meat and kosher for Passover and all year round. F-P means fish and kosher for Passover and all year round.

Besides these there are dozens of other Kosher symbols that can be found on the internet by searching "kosher symbols"