

Bris Setup Instructions Your Checklist

Preparing the baby

- Feed the baby about an hour before the bris (if he is hungry just before the bris, feed him a small amount)
- Dress the baby in an easy to open outfit
- Wipe off any creams from the area of the bris

To purchase or provide

- All gauzes, creams, etc. will be provided by the mohel.
- One bottle of OU certified grape wine (preferably sweet variety).
- Sturdy table (covered) and two chairs
- A sleeping pillow
- Kippot/Yarmulkahs
- A *Talis* (prayer shawl)
- One male newborn
- At least one calm parent
- Candles (optional)

Preparing the room

- Clear the room to allow enough standing room
- Arrange for a sufficient amount of light
- Set up the table, chairs, and all items
- If using candles, place them in a separate area.

Preparing the participants

Decide who will receive which honors and fill in script sheet (see related entry). Make sure to explain to the participants their role.

Disconnect the telephone. Place *CEREMONY IN PROGRESS/PLEASE ENTER QUIETLY* sign on front door.

Assign a photographer and supply him/her with extra film. There should be no flash photography during the actual circumcision. If you are videoing the occasion, keep in mind that you (and probably your newborn) may not want a close up of the circumcision.

After-care instructions

The aftercare of a circumcision is relatively simple. At every diaper change, apply the ointments to a gauze pad, remove the old gauze, and put the new one in place as per the mohel's instructions. Continue with this procedure for a minimum of four days. After that it is advisable to apply Vaseline or A&D ointment directly on the diaper for another several days.

24 hours after the bris, water should be lightly poured over the area and then dried with a clean gauze pad. This procedure should be continued once a day until you are able to immerse him in a bath and wash the area more thoroughly. The redness and swelling will usually subside within a few days and new skin tissue will begin to form. It is common for this tissue to have a white or yellow appearance.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the after care, do not hesitate to call Rabbi Asa.