



# FOOD & DRINK

Q & A





## What is the Islamic ruling on using medicines containing alcohol?

It is permissible to use medicines containing alcohol if the alcohol has been transformed and has no intoxicating effect. If the medicine contains a large percentage of alcohol or a potent small percentage, it should only be used in cases of necessity, when no permissible alternative is available, and it is prescribed by a qualified doctor.





## **Under what conditions can alcohol be used in medicines according to the Islamic Fiqh Council?**



The Islamic Fiqh Council permits the use of medicines containing alcohol in small quantities essential for the pharmacological industry, provided that such medicines are prescribed by a competent doctor. Additionally, alcohol can be used externally on wounds as a cleansing agent and in creams and ointments.



## **What are the recommended actions for pharmaceutical companies regarding alcohol in medicines?**

Pharmaceutical companies in Muslim countries are urged to minimize the use of alcohol in medicines to the absolute minimum and use substitutes wherever possible. Doctors are also encouraged to prescribe alcohol-containing medicines only when absolutely necessary.





## What is the Islamic ruling on using yeast and gelatine extracted from pigs?

It is not permissible for Muslims to use yeast and gelatine extracted from pigs in the preparation of food. There are permissible substitutes from vegetarian sources and animals slaughtered according to Islamic law.





## Why is it forbidden to use yeast and gelatine from pigs in food preparation?

The Qur'an and Sunnah, along with the consensus of Muslim scholars, clearly forbid the consumption of pork and its by-products. This prohibition extends to yeast and gelatine extracted from pigs, making their use in food preparation impermissible.



## Is it permissible for Muslims to eat in restaurants that serve pork and alcohol?

Muslims should avoid eating in restaurants that serve forbidden foodstuff like pork and alcohol when alternatives are available. However, if it is not easy to eat elsewhere, it is acceptable to eat in such restaurants as long as one avoids consuming forbidden items.





## **What evidence supports the ruling on eating in restaurants that serve forbidden foodstuff?**

The ruling is based on the prohibition of aiding in furthering evil and aggression, as stated in the Qur'an (5:2). However, necessity can relax prohibitions, as Islam aims to remove hardship and stress from its followers.







## **What should a Muslim do if invited to an event where alcohol is served?**

A Muslim should make clear their disapproval of alcohol consumption. If the disapproval is not accepted, they should leave. However, if attending the event could provide an opportunity for dawah (inviting others to Islam) or avoid adverse reactions, it may be permissible to attend.



## **What is the Islamic ruling on eating food mixed with traces of pork?**

If it is certain that the food has been contaminated with pork, it is not permissible to eat unless it is thoroughly washed. If there is doubt about the contamination, the food is permissible to eat based on the principle of original purity.



## **What justifies the permissibility of consuming foods with small quantities of forbidden substances?**

The permissibility is justified by the principle of transformation, where an impure substance loses its original properties and becomes permissible. This applies to cases where the forbidden substance undergoes a chemical reaction, changing its nature and not existing on its own in the final product.



**Thank you**