

Requirements to make a loaf of bread large enough for 2 meals:

Assumptions of the Mishna (and translation of the words)

A loaf that can feed 1 person for 2 meals, costs 1 *pundyon* , or in the words of the Mishna:

Such a loaf is made of $\frac{1}{4}$ *kav* of wheat flour, which starts as $\frac{1}{2}$ a *kav* of wheat kernels before it is processed

A volume of 4 *se'ah* of wheat flour costs 1 *sela* , or in the words of the Mishna:

כיכר בפונדיון

ארבע סאין בסלע

Units of Volume in Mishna

1 *se'ah* = 6 *kav* (A *se'ah* is about the volume of a six-pack of 2-liter bottles; a *kav* is about one 2-liter bottle)

4 *se'ah* = 24 *kav* (4 *se'ah* is about 4 six-packs or about 24 two-liter bottles)

Units of Currency in Mishna

1 *sela* = 4 *dinar* (yes, I said shekel in the recording--ignore that)

1 *dinar* = 6 *ma'ah* (so 1 *sela* = 24 *ma'ah*)

1 *ma'ah* = 2 *pundyon* (so 1 *sela* = 48 *pundyon*)

Conversions to bring it all together

Assuming a volume of 4 *se'ah* of wheat flour costs 1 *sela*...

...then 4 *se'ah* of wheat flour also costs 48 *pundyon*, and ...

...24 *kav* of wheat flour, also costs 48 *pundyon*. *This is the same as saying ...*

...1 *kav* of flour costs 2 *pundyon* ; and a $\frac{1}{2}$ *kav* costs 1 *pundyon* ; and $\frac{1}{4}$ *kav* costs $\frac{1}{2}$ *pundyon*

Although the requisite $\frac{1}{4}$ *kav* of flour only costs $\frac{1}{2}$ *pundyon* , the baker charges $\frac{1}{2}$ *pundyon* for his labor

Costs to produce a loaf of bread to feed one person for two meals

$\frac{1}{2}$ *kav* of wheat kernels to be milled into $\frac{1}{4}$ *kav* of wheat flour:

Labor to mill the wheat and make the bread:

Cost (in *pundyon*)

$\frac{1}{2}$ *pundyon*

$\frac{1}{2}$ *pundyon*

Total cost of 1 loaf of bread to feed one person for two meals:

1 *pundyon*