

JEWISH FESTIVALS: MAIL AND PERIODICALS

Jewish Festivals: Bringing Mail inside House

Do not bring mail inside the house on Jewish festivals, unless it was delivered:

- Open

REASON Most mail is muktza on Jewish festivals since it cannot be opened or used without doing melacha, AND

- From within techum Shabbat, AND
- By a non-Jew.

Jewish Festivals: Bringing Newspaper inside House

You may bring a newspaper, magazine, or other reading material inside the house on Jewish festivals and read it, UNLESS it was:

- Printed on Shabbat or a Jewish festival, OR
- Brought from outside the techum Shabbat, OR
- Delivered by a Jew.

If any of these conditions apply, you may not move it or use it in any way during the Jewish festival, even if all of the other conditions permit its use. You may use it once the Jewish festival is over.

NOTE As a policy, you may want to tell delivery services (newspapers, post office, etc.) that you do not need to have the item delivered until after dark.

REASON If delivered on the Jewish festival day, it will not be done at your request and, if it is reading material, you may read the material as long as the other conditions permit it--see above.

NOTE If you do not know where the reading material came from, you may not use it on the Jewish festival.

NOTE Although taking possession of the newspaper, magazine, or other reading material is “acquisition” (kinyan), you may do so since you will use it on the Jewish festival.