

SHABBAT: CARRYING (HOTZA'A) AND DOMAINS

Transferring Object from Domain to Domain

On Shabbat (or Yom Kippur), you may not transfer an object between and among domains unless there is a city eruv (which allows carrying within the borders of the eruv).

NOTE Domains may be of three types:

- Private Domain (reshut ha'yachid),
- Public Domain (reshut ha'rabim), and
- Carmelit.

Moving Items in Legal Public Area (Reshut HaRabim)

In a halachically public area (reshut ha'rabim) with no eruv, on Shabbat you may move a stationary object up to 4 amot (6'9 1/2", or about 2 meters) from the place where you find it. If you are already transporting the object when you realize it, do whichever one of the following applies:

SITUATION You are walking on Shabbat in a public domain (reshut ha'rabim) that does not have an eruv and find something in your pocket.

WHAT TO DO

- If you were walking and are still walking, go back to the most recent private domain and leave the item there. (If you cannot reasonably get back to where that was, continue to your destination and drop the item inside the first private domain you reach.)
- If you have already stopped walking, drop the item where you are.
- If you had stopped walking and then resumed walking, drop the item where you are.

Carrying in Mouth on Shabbat

You may not carry items in your mouth outside a private domain or an eruv on Shabbat.

EXAMPLES

- Outside a private domain or an eruv, you may not carry food in your mouth that you were eating when you left your house.
- You may not chew gum in a public area without an eruv.

Carrying Children on Shabbat outside Eruv

You may not carry children on Shabbat in a public domain without an eruv.

SITUATION An eruv breaks or is down on Shabbat.

WHAT TO DO Do not tell someone who is carrying a child, pushing a stroller, or in a similar situation that the eruv is down.

NOTE If a person is not carrying a child, pushing a stroller, etc., tell him or her that the eruv is down.

Using Cane, Crutches, Wheelchair outside Eruv

You may use a cane, crutches, or a wheelchair if any of these are needed on Shabbat, even without an eruv.

Carrying Ticket within Eruv

If an eruv includes your house and a sports field, you may carry your ticket to a sporting event on Shabbat, but it is best if you leave the ticket at the entrance with a ticket-taker before Shabbat starts. Such activity is not in the spirit of Shabbat but is not forbidden.

Wearing Watch with No Eruv

You may not wear a non-decorative watch on Shabbat where there is no eruv or if you have the custom of not relying on eruvs. If you would wear your watch as a piece of decorative jewelry even if it did not work, you may wear it on Shabbat even without an eruv.

Wearing Collar Stays with No Eruv

You may wear collar stays on Shabbat even where there is no eruv.

If You Do Not Use the Eruv

If you do not normally carry on Shabbat even in an area with an eruv, you may not ask another Jew to carry something for you. But if the other Jew does carry an item, you may use it.