

SHIV'A (AND SHLOSHIM): TIMING

WHEN SHIV'A (AND SHLOSHIM) STARTS

When Shiv'a (and Shloshim) Starts: Normal Days

Shiv'a (and shloshim) starts for a mourner who:

- Attends funeral: After the burial.
- Will not attend funeral and is a(n):
 - Non-Onen: Immediately upon hearing news of the death.
 - Onen: As soon as the onen has nothing (more) to do with the funeral.

NOTE Family members may observe shiv'a at different starting and ending times.

When Shiv'a (and Shloshim) Starts: Jewish Festivals

For someone who dies during Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, or any of the three Jewish festivals, the mourning period does not start until after the holiday has ended.

HOW LONG SHIV'A (AND SHLOSHIM) LASTS

Duration of Shiv'a (and Shloshim)

Shiv'a lasts seven days. Shloshim lasts 30 days, beginning with Day 1 of shiv'a. There may be some exceptions if shiv'a occurs before or during festivals.

NOTE Any part of the first day is considered to be one full day. On the final day after shacharit, the mourners finish shiv'a, so shiv'a can actually last as little as 5 ½ calendar days.

WHEN SHIV'A RESUMES

When Shiv'a Resumes: Shabbat

Shiv'a that is interrupted by Shabbat resumes Sunday morning.

When Shiv'a Resumes: Jewish Festival

Shiv'a that is interrupted by a Jewish festival does not resume after being interrupted.

When Shiv'a Resumes: Purim

Shiva is interrupted for Purim and resumes (except on shiv'a's 7th day) after Purim (or, in Jerusalem, after Shushan Purim).

When Shiv'a Resumes: Chanuka

Shiva is not interrupted for Chanuka.

When Shiv'a Resumes: Rosh Chodesh

Shiva is not interrupted for Rosh Chodesh.

WHEN SHIV'A ENDS

When Shiv'a Ends: Onen

An onen ends shiv'a (and shloshim) with the household head ("gadol ha'bayit"--whoever controls the money in that household)—even if the household head begins shiv'a before burial and the onen joins the shiv'a house after burial.

When Shiv'a Ends: Non-Onen Who Finds Out Later

If you do not hear about someone's death for 30 days after the person died, observe just one day of shiv'a. If you hear in less than 30 days, observe the regular seven-day shiv'a.