

TEFILAT HADERECH

TEFILAT HADERECH: WHEN TO SAY

Tefilat HaDerech: When To Say: Leaving Your

Say tefilat ha'derech when leaving your “place,” which may be a city, town, village, or even your home if you live in an isolated area. You may only say tefilat ha'derech if you will go at least 2.8 miles outside the inhabited area.

Tefilat HaDerech: When To Say: Starting Journey

If you will certainly leave the city limits at some point in your journey, you may say tefilat ha'derech as soon as you start your journey (when you leave your house or get in your car, etc.).

EXAMPLE You may say tefilat ha'derech when leaving your house for a flight, but the optimal time is when the plane begins to taxi.

Tefilat HaDerech: When To Say: City Limits

City limits for tefilat ha'derech means the last house before a gap of 2.8 miles, measured horizontally but not vertically.

Tefilat HaDerech: Boat

Say tefilat ha'derech in a boat that will be going at least 2.8 miles from shore.

TEFILAT HADERECH: HOW OFTEN

TEFILAT HADERECH: HOW OFTEN: ONCE A DAY/ONCE A TRIP

Tefilat HaDerech: How Often: Once a Day/Once a Trip: Vehicles

When riding in a vehicle on a trip, you should say tefilat ha'derech once each day, as long as:

- You have gone--or will go--at least 2.8 miles past any populated area, and
- You will be breaking your trip at night.

NOTE If you will be living in an RV or other vehicle, only say tefilat ha'derech once for the entire trip.

Tefilat HaDerech: How Often: Once a Day/Once a Trip: Boats

If you take a multi-day boat trip, such as a cruise, say tefilat ha'derech only once during the journey—not each day.

NOTE Any time you stay overnight (on land) along the journey, say tefilat ha'derech again when you resume your travel.

TEFILAT HADERECH: WHAT TO SAY

Tefilat HaDerech: What To Say: Main Blessing

You do not need to say other blessings before tefilat ha'derech. Since tefilat ha'derech begins without a blessing, some people like to say an unrelated blessing before it, but the custom is not to require saying another blessing first.

Tefilat HaDerech: What To Say: For Others

When saying tefilat ha'derech, even if you say it for other people traveling with you, always say “*titmeini*” (in the singular) and not “*titmeinu*” (plural).

NOTE This is different from most blessings, which are in the plural even when said by just one person for him/herself.

Tefilat HaDerech: What To Say: Phrases (Psukim)

After saying the main blessing of tefilat ha'derech, some people have the custom to say these phrases (psukim) three times each:

- L'shuatcha kiviti...
- V'ya'akov halach l'darko...
- Yivarechecha...
- Hinei anochi sholei'ach lifanecha...