

# WHEN TO PRAY: SHACHARIT: SHEMA

## SHACHARIT: SHEMA: WHEN TO SAY SHEMA

### Earliest Time for Shema (and Amida)

Earliest time to say shema and amida is 72 minutes before sunrise, b'di'avad, since the guideline is *halachic* “day.”

**NOTE** L'chatchila, you should say shema anytime from 3 minutes before sunrise until the end of the third *halachic* hour of the day.

### Latest time To Say Shema

Shema may be said anytime during the day. But to fulfill the *halachic* requirement of saying shema in the morning, shema must be said by the end of the first quarter of the daylight hours, known as the “third hour” of the day. To derive this time, divide the time from sunrise to sunset by 4 and add that to the time for sunrise.

### Late Shema: L'Olam Yehei Adam by Third Hour

#### SITUATION

You will not have time to say the morning shema by the end of the third hour of the day, but you will say l'olam yehei adam by then.

#### WHAT TO DO

Instead of saying the first line of shema, say:

- El melech ne'eman.
- Entire shema. Then
- Paragraph that ends in mekadeish et shimcha b'rabim.

### Saying Shema after Proper Time

Even if you have not said the morning shema by the latest proper time (no later than the end of the first quarter of the daylight hours), say it as soon as you can.

## SHACHARIT: SHEMA: WHEN TO SAY SHEMA BLESSINGS

### When To Say Shema Blessings

Neither men nor women may say the blessings that precede and follow the shema after the fourth *halachic* hour of the day. In extreme circumstances (if compelled or forced), men (but not women) may still say the shema blessings until *halachic* midday.

### Shacharit: Shema: El Melech Ne'eman

#### SITUATION

You are not with a minyan. You begin saying the shema and you realize you had forgotten to say El melech ne'eman before beginning the shema.

#### WHAT TO DO

Finish the shema; do not go back to say El melech ne'eman (and your saying the shema is still valid).