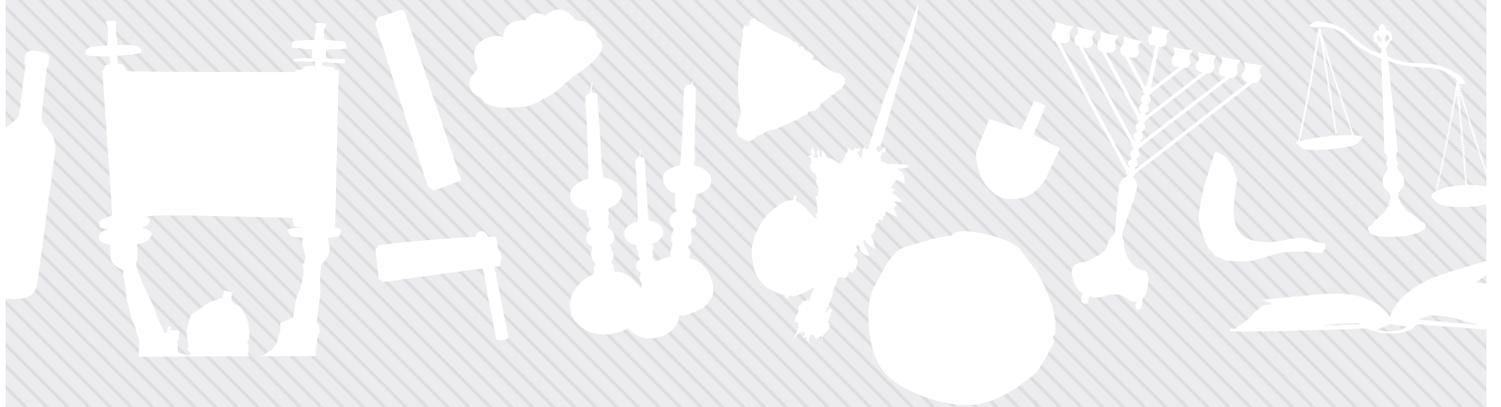


# HALACHOS HATZRICHOS

PACKET #33



# WHAT IS MELACHA?

We are learning now in Rambam about the *Lamed-Tes Melachos*.

Some people think that *melacha* means doing work. But if you think about many of the *Lamed-Tes Melachos*, you will realize that they're not such hard work! Is it work to flip a light switch? Is it work to keep a pack of tissues in your pocket, or chew gum while you're outside? Is it easier to drive to *shul* or walk to *shul*?

Really, the *Chachomim* teach us that *melacha* means not CHANGING something. When we rest on Shabbos, we are leaving Hashem's world the way He made it, and not changing it.

When you flip a light switch, you are building a circuit for the light to go on, and making a new light. When you carry the tissues in your pocket or gum in your mouth, you are bringing them into a different kind of place — from a *Reshus Hayochid* to a *Reshus Horabim*. When you drive to *shul*, you are making the gas burn in the car to bring you to a new place.

During the week it is our job to change all of the things Hashem made into things so we can use them in our *Avodas Hashem*. But on Shabbos, we rest and only serve Hashem the way things are right now!



## AMIRA L'NOCHRI

The *Chachomim* made a *gezeira* that you are not allowed to tell a *goy* to do *melacha* for you on Shabbos. The *Chachomim* were very strict about this, because otherwise people would get used to having *melacha* done, and might end up doing it themselves.

There are many *halachos* about how and when we are allowed to have a *goy* do something for us on Shabbos.

See *Shulchan Aruch Hilchos Shabbos siman Reish-Mem-Gimmel*



# THE FOUR RESHUYOS

There are four *Reshuyos* of Shabbos. They are *Reshus Hayochid*, *Reshus Horabim*, *Karmelis*, and *Mekom Petur*. Knowing these four *reshuyos* helps us understand the *halachos* of carrying on Shabbos!

A *Reshus Hayochid* is a private place. We are allowed to carry things around INSIDE of a *Reshus Hayochid*. A *Reshus Hayochid* is surrounded by four walls or fences at least 10 *tefachim* high. Your house, your backyard (if there's a fence around it), and inside the *shul* are examples of a *Reshus Hayochid*.

A *Reshus Horabim* doesn't have fences or a roof over it, and many people pass through it. According to some opinions it needs to have 600,000 people passing through it (which is very rare), but we are *machmir*. As long as it is 16 *amos* wide, we treat it like a *Reshus Horabim*. An example of this would be your street. We are not even allowed to carry something for four *amos* in a *Reshus Horabim*.

A *Karmelis* is in between the first two *Reshuyos*, like a sidewalk or a small street, or even a big place that many people don't pass through, like a lake or a field. The *Chachomim* treat it like a *Reshus Horabim*, that we don't carry from a *Karmelis* to another *reshus*, or four *amos* inside of it. (Many times a *Karmelis* can be made into a *Reshus Hayochid* by building a proper *Eruv*.)

A *Mekom Petur* is a place that is not considered important enough to be a *reshus* of its own. It is usually something at least 3 *tefachim* high in a *Reshus Horabim*, that is smaller than 4 *tefachim*. For example, a mailbox and a fire hydrant are a *Mekom Petur*. There is no *isur* to take something from a *Mekom Petur* and put it into a *Reshus Horabim*, or from a *Reshus Horabim* into a *Mekom Petur*.



## CHECKING POCKETS

One of the 39 *melachos* is called *Hotza'ah*, carrying on Shabbos. This *melacha* has many details and is very complicated.

One of the very practical things about this *melacha* is what the *Gemara* says in *Mesechta* Shabbos, and is also brought in *halacha*:

In a *beraisa*, R' Chananya says that a person needs to check the pockets of his clothes before Shabbos, to make sure that nothing is inside. This way he won't accidentally walk outside with things in his pockets, which is the *melacha* of *hotza'ah*. R' Yosef says about this, "*Hilchesa Rabsa LeShabbata*," how great is this *halacha*, which keeps a person from doing an *aveira* on Shabbos!

*See Shabbos 12a and the Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch, Hilchos Shabbos 252:20*



## CARRYING AND CLOTHES

If you wear something outside as clothes, it is not called carrying on Shabbos. This is called “*Derech Malbush*.” (This is only if it is something that people wear as clothes, not like wearing a box on your head.)

Still, the *Chachomim* want to make sure that it is something that we will not take off and carry around! Two of these *halachos* are just about kids:

For example, if a kid goes outside in Tatty or Mommy’s shoes, the shoes will probably fall off. Then he will end up carrying them. So going outside in Tatty or Mommy’s shoes on Shabbos is not allowed because of *hotza’ah*!

But a shirt that is too big won’t usually fall off by itself. So even if it looks silly, a kid IS allowed to go out on Shabbos with a shirt that is too big, and it’s not a problem of carrying. We are not worried that it will bring him to carrying outside.

*See the Alter Rebbe’s Shulchan Aruch, 301:3*

