

KITZUR HALACHOS

SHABBOS IN HOTELS-RENTALS-HOSPITALS

R' TZVI YAAKOV STEIN

ELECTRIC DOORS ETC.

- Going through electric doors on Shabbos is not allowed.¹
- Wait until a non Jew goes through the doors and then follow right behind.²
- In desperate circumstances, some allow walking through the doors backwards (this is a shinui on a melacha that is from the Rabanan).
- Motion sensor hallway lights that turn on when there's movement are problematic. In this scenario, you should preferably not leave the room.³
- If there's light in the hallways and the sensor just illuminates it better, it's allowed.
- Another option is to plug in a nightlight that will always stay on into an outlet in the hallway.
- Outside lights that work with a motion sensor: if it'll be dark without the lights, you can't walk there. If there is light there but the motion sensor light just illuminates the area, you can walk there.
- Security cameras are not a problem because you're not interested in being recorded.⁴
- Bathrooms with electronic sensors shouldn't be used. If you have no choice then it's allowed but try and cover the sensor with a tissue etc.⁵
- Food shouldn't be taken from the wet bar in the room if it's electronic. If it's not electronic, the food can be taken on Shabbos.

ELECTRIC ISSUES IN A HOTEL ROOM

- Planning to ask a non Jew to open hotel room doors is not allowed.⁶
- Tape should be placed over the lock or the door should be wedged open with something (put valuables into a safe).
- If the above isn't possible, put something in the room to give to the non Jews when they open the door (like a beer or candy etc) and you tell them that they can help themselves to them, they can open the door for you because they're really doing it for themselves.⁷

- If after doing this the door gets locked, then a goy can be asked to open it.
- If the heat/air conditioner/fan is on a sensor and it goes on automatically when you enter the room, then you have a problem⁸. Covering the sensors or buying an oscillating fan that constantly moves may alleviate this problem.
- No opening the porch door if it will shut the heat/air conditioner/fan.⁹

ELEVATORS

- One is not allowed to use an elevator on Shabbos.¹⁰
- This applies even if a non Jew VOLUNTARILY presses the buttons for you.¹¹
- If the non Jew is going to a certain floor for himself, there's halachic basis to allow "hitching a ride".¹²
- Shabbos elevators should only be used by the elderly or infirm (late stages of pregnancy).¹³
- Going down in a Shabbos elevator is more problematic than going up.¹⁴
- An escalator that doesn't beep etc. can be used¹⁵, however some don't like it because it's not in the spirit of Shabbos.

ERUV

- The only way to carry outside of a hotel/home on Shabbos is if the property is completely surrounded by fences/walls etc.
- If there's even one opening that's bigger than sixteen feet it will ruin the Eruv.
- A security gate/pole that allows people to enter and leave is not considered a fence.¹⁶
- It's very rare/difficult for a beach to be inside an Eruv so be careful to check pockets before walking there.
- When staying in a remote location, there's a possibility that one may end up walking outside of the techum.
- The distance for walking outside of the techum is a little more than half a mile past the last building.

WATER

- Swimming on Shabbos is not allowed for many reasons.¹⁷
- Going into water, even without swimming is also not allowed.¹⁸
- Just dipping feet in water is allowed.

SUNTAN

- There's a disagreement if suntanning is allowed on Shabbos. Most are lenient.¹⁹
- Sitting outside without the express intent to get a tan is allowed according to all opinions.²⁰
- Dressing respectfully in honor of Shabbos while sitting outside should be considered.
- Suntan lotion that's thick and doesn't pour very easily can't be used.²¹
- Spray that makes a liquid can be used and can also be rubbed into the skin.²²

MUKTZA

- Drawers etc. that will be used on Shabbos should have the muktza removed before Shabbos.²³
- Same goes for suitcases that will be moved on Shabbos.
- Passports are muktza.²⁴
- There's a disagreement if snow is muktza.²⁵
- Making snowballs is definitely not allowed.²⁶

SHABBOS CANDLES

- Where to light Shabbos candles depends on the policy of the hotel.
- Candles should be lit in the room if allowed.²⁷
- If not, light candles where you're eating the meals.²⁸
- If they make you light candles in a hallway or lobby, turn on a lamp or bathroom light in the room and then without talking go to the lobby etc. and light the candles with a bracha.²⁹
- If not, light battery powered electric candles or flashlights in the room. Many say that a bracha can be made.³⁰

MELACHA DONE BY NON JEWS

- If a non Jew does melacha for a yid on Shabbos, even voluntarily, the yid can't benefit from it on Shabbos.³¹
- It goes without saying that even if the non Jew is hinted to do melacha, a yid can't benefit from it on Shabbos.
- There are scenarios where hinting helps but it's complicated.
- There are many scenarios where a non Jew can be asked directly to do melacha for a yid. Especially if the melacha is from the Rabanan. Ask a shaila.
- Even if a non Jew made coffee/hot water for themselves or the hotel guests, a yid can't partake in it unless there are very few yidden in the hotel.

17.	שו"ת מהרי"ל (סימן קלט)	1.	שולחן שלמה (סימן שכח אות ח,ז)
18.	משנה ברורה (סימן שכו סעיף קטן כא)	2.	שולחן שלמה (סימן שכח אות ח,ז)
19.	שו"ת נשמת שבת (חלק ה סימן רטו)	3.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק כג אות טה)
20.	אז נדברו (חלק ב סימן ל)	4.	אורחות שבת (פרק טו הערה נה)
21.	שו"ת חלקת יעקב (אורח חיים סימן קנב)	5.	נשמת שבת (חלק ו סימן עד)
22.	שו"ת נשמת שבת (חלק ה סימן ריד)	6.	נשמת שבת (חלק ו סימן עג)
23.	משנה ברורה (סימן שי סעיף קטן לא)	7.	נשמת שבת (חלק ו סימן עג)
24.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק כח אות ט)	8.	אורחות שבת (פרק כו אות מט)
25.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק טז הערה קיח)	9.	אורחות שבת (פרק כו אות מט)
26.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק טז אות מה)	10.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק כג אות נח)
27.	משנה ברורה (סימן רסג סעיף קטן לח)	11.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק ל אות סד)
28.	רמ"א (אורח חיים סימן רסג סעיף ח)	12.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק כג אות נט)
29.	שו"ת אז נדברו (חלק ח סימן ב)	13.	קובץ הלכות (פרק ב אות י)
30.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק מג הערה כב)	14.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק כג אות נט)
31.	שולחן ערוך (אורח חיים סימן רעו סעיף א)	15.	שמירת שבת כהלכתה (פרק כג אות סא)
		16.	שו"ת מנחת יצחק (חלק ה סימן קכח)