

THE THREE WEEKS

RABBI TZVI YAAKOV STEIN

- ✦ All restrictions begin from sunset on the eve of the Seventeenth of Tamuz.¹
- ✦ If necessary, a shailah should be asked regarding being lenient on the night of the Seventeenth of Tammuz.²
- ✦ The following halachos apply only to the Three Weeks. The Nine Days are stricter.
- ✦ Restrictions on swimming are only for the Nine Days and not the Three Weeks.
- ✦ Anything that is allowed during the Nine Days is certainly allowed during the Three Weeks.

HAIRCUTS

- ✦ Haircuts are prohibited.³
- ✦ Shaving and trimming beards are prohibited.⁴
- ✦ Men that have a heter for body hair removal can also remove body hair.⁵
- ✦ It's debatable if women's hair is included in the custom not to cut hair. For tznius purposes it's definitely allowed.⁶
- ✦ Electrolysis, waxing, etc., is permitted.⁷
- ✦ If one is risking financial loss by not appearing groomed properly, he may shave or take a haircut.⁸
- ✦ Mustache hairs that create difficulty in eating, etc. may be cut.⁹
- ✦ Based on this, cutting hair because it's embarrassing/annoying/Shalom Bayis allowed.¹⁰
- ✦ Wigs may be cut since they are not one's own hair.¹¹
- ✦ According to basic Halacha, minors can take haircuts but seems like the minhag is not to. If necessary it's certainly allowed.¹²
- ✦ If you think a shidduch won't work because you look bad then you can shave but beware that they may say no to the shidduch because you shaved during the 3 weeks so it's your call.¹³

MUSIC

- ✦ Music¹⁴ and dancing are prohibited even at a seudas mitzvah.¹⁵ Singing is allowed.¹⁶
- ✦ No music or dancing for a Siyum, vort or bar mitzva.¹⁷
- ✦ Recorded music is prohibited.¹⁸
- ✦ Music lessons are permitted.¹⁹
- ✦ If necessary (e.g. sadness, depression, etc.), slow inspirational or classical music is permitted.²⁰
- ✦ Music while exercising is permitted.²¹
- ✦ Music to stay awake while driving is permitted.²²

- ✦ Accapela is not recommended, but is permitted.²³
- ✦ Any music is better than listening to the radio.
- ✦ Children below the age of seven can listen to music²⁴ and there's no problem for adults to hear it (playgroups, driving etc.)
- ✦ Music while studying and working is allowed if it will help concentration, however, slow or classical is preferred.²⁵
- ✦ Music while flying on a plane or to calm one's nerves, etc. is allowed. Slow or classical is preferred.²⁶

SHEHECHE'YANU (CLOTHING)

- ✦ The brachah of Shehecheyanu should not be recited at all.²⁷
- ✦ Consequently, one should not eat a new fruit during this period.²⁸
- ✦ It is permitted to recite Shehecheyanu on Shabbos.²⁹
- ✦ Since most don't recite Shehecheyanu today upon new clothing, a shailah should be asked before purchasing or wearing new, expensive clothing.
- ✦ Inexpensive clothing may be purchased and worn.³⁰
- ✦ The definition of expensive is relative to one's means.
- ✦ Clothing may be purchased to be worn after the Three Weeks.³¹
- ✦ Large purchases are permitted, but if they bring happiness they should be avoided.³²

CONSTRUCTION

- ✦ Construction shouldn't be done during the Nine Days,³³ and preferably the entire Three Weeks. If it was begun before the Three Weeks, it may be continued.³⁴ If necessary, a shailah should be asked.
- ✦ One may not move into a new house, unless they have nowhere else to live.³⁵ One may move into a rental.³⁶
- ✦ One may sign a contract on the sale of a house.³⁷

DANGER

- ✦ Swimming is allowed up until the Nine Days.
- ✦ Some say to be extra careful not to swim in dangerous areas. The custom has become not to do anything that's overly dangerous.³⁸
- ✦ All forms of traveling are allowed, even during the Nine Days.³⁹
- ✦ Medical procedures, even optional ones, are allowed.⁴⁰
- ✦ Activities considered 'out-of-the-ordinary' should be avoided due to reasons of danger.

1. קובץ הלכות (פרק ד אות ב)	15. משנה ברורה (סימן תצג סעיף קטן ג)	28. משנה ברורה (סימן תקנא סעיף קטן צט)
2. אגרות משה (אור החיים חלק א סימן קסח)	16. הליכות שלמה (פרק יא סעיף יד)	29. משנה ברורה (סימן תקנא סעיף קטן צח)
3. שולחן ערוך (סימן תצג סעיף ב)	17. שיעורי הלכה (פרק יב סעיף ז)	30. משנה ברורה (סימן תקנא סעיף קטן מה)
4. שולחן ערוך (סימן תקנא סעיף יב)	18. שו"ת אגרות משה (אורח חיים חלק א סימן קסו)	31. הליכות שלמה (פרק יד סעיף א)
5. הליכות שלמה פרק י"ד ס"ק ט'	19. שו"ת זכר שמחה (סימן סז)	32. אליה רבה (סימן תקנא סעיף קטן יז)
6. שיעורי הלכה (פרק יא סעיף ד)	20. כתר שלמה (עמוד רנז) שו"ת שבט הלוי (חלק ח סימן קכז אות ב)	33. שולחן ערוך (סימן תקנא סעיף ב)
7. שיעורי הלכה (פרק יא סעיף ג)	21. קובץ הלכות (פרק ט סעיף יג)	34. אליה רבה (סימן תקנא סעיף קטן ד)
8. קובץ הלכות (פרק י סעיף ד)	22. קובץ הלכות (פרק ט סעיף יד)	35. שו"ת לבושי מרדכי (חלק א סימן קא)
9. שולחן ערוך (סימן תקנא סעיף	23. אגרות משה (אורח חיים חלק א סימן קסו)	36. קובץ הלכות (פרק ב אות יז)
10. קובץ הלכות (פרק י הערה ד)	24. קובץ הלכות (פרק ט סעיף כ)	37. נטעי גבריאלי (פרק כח אות יא)
11. שיעורי הלכה (פרק יא סעיף ג)	25. משנה ברורה (סימן תקס סעיף קטן יג)	38. מועדי ישורון (עמ' 821)
12. שיעורי הלכה (פרק יא סעיף ד)	26. הליכות שלמה מועדים פרק ב' ס"ק י"ד	39. קובץ הלכות (פרק ז אות ג)
13. מסורת משה (חלק ג עמוד קמב)	27. שולחן ערוך (סימן תקנא סעיף יז)	40. שמענתא דמושה (סימן תקנא סעיף קטן מב)
14. ערוך השלחן (סימן תצג סעיף ב)		