

DAF YOMI⁴ KIDS

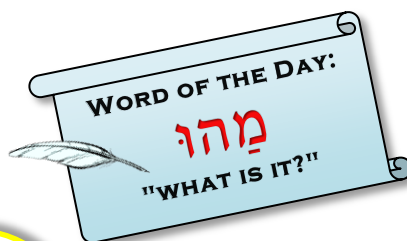
Inside the Daf

The rules for mourning over parents are stricter than those for mourning over other relatives. For example, when a parent dies, the גמרא says we should not rush to bury them. This is so that we have time to say more eulogies for them. When it comes to the death of other relatives, they should be buried as quickly as possible.

For the first seven days of mourning over parents, one is not allowed to do any work. Following the death of other relatives, the mourner can choose whether or not to work.

One may not cut one's hair or shave after a close relative dies. For most relatives, this is forbidden for 30 days. For parents it lasts until a friend criticizes the unkempt appearance of the mourner.

Likewise, one may not enter a house of celebration for 30 days after the death of a close relative. After the death of a parent, one must not enter such a place for 12 months.



OTHER RELATIVES

PARENTS

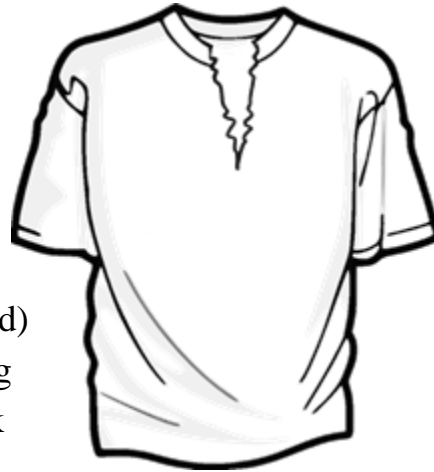


Tearing Clothes

Someone who loses a close relative must tear his clothes. How much must one tear?

The גמרא teaches that one tears an area of a טפח (handbreadth, about 3.5 inches or 8.9 cm) over the death of most close relatives.

רבי אבהו says that we see from דוד המלך (King David) that a טפח is the proper amount to tear. After hearing that many Jewish people had died in battle דוד "took hold" (וַיִּחַזֶּק) of his clothes, and tore them (see שמואל ב' א', II Sam. 1,11). One can only "take hold" of something that is at least a טפח in size. We see then that דוד tore a טפח of clothing over the dead.



One tears an area of a טפח (handbreadth, about 3.5 inches or 8.9 cm) over the death of most close relatives.

Over the loss of a parent, however, a טפח is not enough. One must tear his clothes until the area over his heart is uncovered. Also, even if one is wearing ten shirts, he must tear them all. For the death of other relatives, he must tear only the outer shirt.

A מְדוּת Moment

"Boaz," said his mother, "I need you to help me clean the house on Sunday."

"But my brother is coming home this weekend and he already asked me to help him move furniture!"

"Did you know," asked Boaz' mother, "that you have to be more respectful to your parents than to your other relatives? In fact, even when it comes to mourning, you have to show your parents more respect by observing mourning restrictions for a longer amount of time. It's very nice to help your brother, but I have to say...parents come first!"



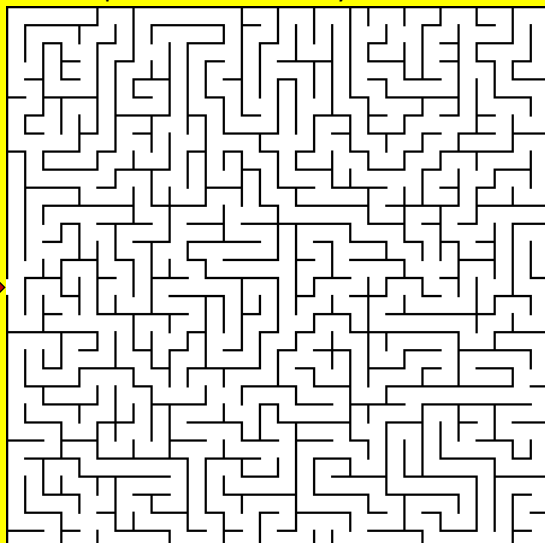
Did You Know...

If a Torah sage dies, those who study under him do not study Torah during the שבעה period (first seven days of mourning).

Games

A-M-A-Z-E-I-N-G

Help the mourners bury their relative



Review Questions – מועד קטן דף כ"ב

1. Name a difference between mourning over a parent and over another close relative.

2. How much clothing must one tear over the death of a parent?

3. If a Torah sage dies, for how long do his students stop their studies?