

Mezuzah

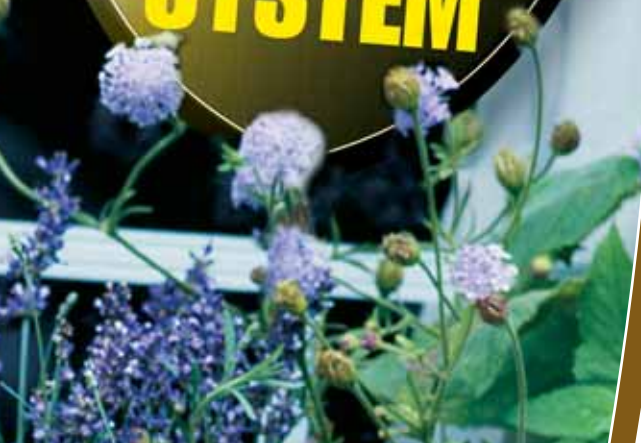
The Ultimate Home Security Device



PROTECTED BY

MEZUZAH

**SECURITY
SYSTEM**



The Ultimate Home Security Device

As every homeowner knows, it's not those little gadgets with the flashing lights that protect your home. It's the police station. You just need to make sure those gadgets are connected.

A mezuzah on your doorpost works the same way—only it's connected to a Higher Protection Agency. Much higher.

In fact, that's how every mitzvah works—Tefillin, Shabbat candles, Torah study, acts of kindness. Think of them as dedicated connections putting you online with the Infinite Server of All Things.

Mezuzahs, however, have a special quality: They connect directly to the protection function provided up there. As the sages of the Talmud taught, put a mezuzah on your door and you're protected in your house and away. Now that's something no earthbound service offers.

That's why, in 1974, when terrorism began to rise, the Rebbe, Rabbi M. M. Schneerson, declared a worldwide mezuzah blitz. Thanks to that campaign, mezuzahs are once again a standard feature on Jewish doorposts everywhere.



How a Mezuzah Works

1. G-d tells Moses, “Roll up a little scroll with the “Hear O Israel, etc.” words and affix it to your doorposts.” (SEE DEUTERONOMY 6:9)
2. A qualified scribe, writes each letter of the “Hear O Israel, etc.” meticulously (in Hebrew, of course) on a leather parchment, according to a precise tradition passed down from Moses.
3. Mezuzah scroll is rolled from left to right and placed right-side-up in a protective case.
4. You say a blessing and affix the mezuzah with nails, thumbtacks or adhesive tape at the bottom of the top third of the doorpost on the right side (as you're entering) of every doorpost in your home and workplace. Tilt the mezuzah (45 degrees, if you can) with the top pointing into the room.
5. Mezuzah dials up and connects, filling your space with wholesome energy and placing all inhabitants in protect mode.



What Could Go Wrong—some of the most common scenarios

Like we said, you've got to make sure your security device stays connected. Here are some common glitches to watch out for:

1. That case on your door might be plain empty.
An empty case is not a mezuzah.
2. Maybe it's not empty, but the scroll inside is a photocopy. Still not a mezuzah.
3. Maybe it was hand-written by a scribe, but not a very careful one. Letters or even words could be missing or incorrectly written. *Unfortunately, this is the case with most mezuzahs today.*
4. Maybe it was written by a super-perfectionist, ultra-religious, very holy scribe, but someone else rolled it up wrong or placed it upside-down.
5. Maybe everything was done perfectly, but since then, humidity or dryness has taken its toll.

All of which explains why mezuzahs should be checked by a trained scribe when purchased and then check again twice every seven years.



Wanna hear a little Kabala?

The Book of Formation, an ancient Kabbalistic text, tells how the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet are actually 22 articulations of Divine energy. The shape of each Hebrew letter reflects the kind of energy that letter carries.



The Kabala explains that the world was created using these 22 articulations. That's why a small flaw in a letter in a crucial location—such as a mezuzah—can interrupt the proper flow of energy. A beautifully written mezuzah, on the other hand, can bring beauty and abundance of life to its owner.



Where Can I Get a Problem-Free Mezuzah?

Any Chabad rabbi will help you purchase certified mezuzahs. And answer your questions about where to put them up and how—free of charge.



www.mitzvahcampaigns.org/mezuzah

How to affix your Mezuzah

Before affixing a mezuzah to a doorpost the following blessing should be recited:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱ-לֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר
קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְקַבֵּעַ מְזוּזָה.

Here's how it sounds:

Baruch Atah Ado-nai E-loheinu Melech
ha'olam, ashair kid'shanoo b'mitzvotav,
v'tzivanoo likboa mezuzah.

Here's what it means:

Blessed are you L-rd our G-d king of the
universe who has sanctified us with his
commandments and commanded us to affix a
mezuzah.

*If more than one mezuzah is being affixed at one time
only one blessing is recited. When affixing a mezuzah to
an archway, no blessing is recited.*

Inspection

Each mezuzah must be examined by a reliable scribe at least twice every seven years. Temperature and weather changes as well as age may cause the ink to fade and crack thereby invalidating the mezuzah. A mezuzah should be checked at the time of purchase.



Just one Mitzvah can change the whole world

10 Mitzvah campaigns

לאבות שמואל הכהן, מנחם מענדל הכהן, ישראל ארי' לייב הכהן,
יוסף יצחק הכהן, שניאור זלמן הכהן, ח'י' מנשקא, אברהם דוד הכהן לערער

© 2004 by The Shulchan Office. Design & Images © 2004 by Spotlight Design