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Daf HaYomi B'Halacha

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Today's

LIMUD

Hilchos Tefillin 36 (page 121)

מאמצע הסעיף והסופרים נהגו עד אמצע הסעיף אות א

Today's TOPICS

Are Tefillin Without Tagim Pasul?
Corrections that are Not an Issue of K'sidran
Chok Tochos on a Properly Formed Letter



Are tefillin without tagim pasul?

There is a *machlokes* as to whether the letters *shin*, *ayin*, *tes*, *nun*, *zayin*, *gimel* and *tzadi* are kosher without *tagim*. The Mechaber holds that they are kosher, but many Acharonim hold otherwise. In light of this, missing *tagim* should be added. According to some Rishonim, the rule of *tagim* requires the squaring of the corners – i.e. the leftmost top of the letter should have (at least) three squared corners. If any of these corners is round, the letter is *pasul*. The halacha follows this opinion according to the Mechaber, but there is room to be lenient if there are three *tagim* (as is customary).

(סימן לו, סעיף ג וס"ק טו; ביאורים ומוספים דרשו, 19-20)

Corrections that are not an issue of k'sidron

The writing of *tefillin* and *mezuzos* must be done in the correct sequence, matching the order in which the words appear in the Torah. If a *parsha*, word or even letter is written out of order, the *tefillin* or *mezuzah* is *pasul*. There is no particular sequence involved in the writing of an individual letter, however. A letter that meets the general shape requirements but is missing details necessary for its *kashrus* or *hidur* (e.g. it is touching another letter or missing *tagim*) may be corrected or completed without concern for *k'sidron* since the main form of the letter is already in place.



(משנת סופרים, כללי שלא כסדרן)



Chok tochos on a properly formed letter

Scraping around a letter or using a method other than writing (of at least a portion of the letter) in order to help shape a letter is considered *chok tochos* and is *pasul* for a *Sefer Torah*, *tefillin*, *mezuzah* or *get*. The Torah mandates real 'writing' for all of these. For example, if ink dripped onto a letter and distorted its form, it may not be repaired by scraping away the extra ink.

(משנת סופרים, כללי חק תוכות)

Yesterday's HIGHLIGHTS

- The general shape of each letter is an ancient tradition dating back thousands of years. Any deviation from this form will invalidate the letter.
- All the letters of *stam*, with the exception of *heh* and *kuf*, must be one unit. The left legs of the *heh* and *kuf* cannot connect to the rest of the body. If there is a minor connection, the letter is *pasul*.
- *Tagim* (crowns) are added to the top of the following letters: *shin*, *ayin*, *tes*, *nun*, *zayin*, *gimel* and *tzadi*. Each of these letters has three small, distinct *tagim*. There is no *shiur* for the length of these *tagim*, but there is a custom to make the middle one a drop longer than the others.

Tomorrow's TOPICS

- Writing an *aleph* that looks like an X
- The allusion of the *beis'* two corners
- The components of the *gimel*

לקבלת המייל בלשון קודש, נא ליצור קשר עם דרשו: dirshu@dirshu.co.il

Important Note: The halachic summaries are to assist you with your learning.
Before implementing halacha in practice, please refer directly to the Mishna Brura and Mussaf Dirshu.

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