

Hilchos Krias Shema 85 (page 232)
מתחילת סימן פה עד אמצע סעיף ב ואם נזדמן

All forms of Torah are forbidden in places where Torah thoughts are not permitted. For example, it is forbidden to think about Hebrew grammar in the bathroom, since the rules are based on words as they appear in Tanach. Considering a grammar issue can easily lead to thinking about the relevant *pesukim*. In places where they could

(סעיף ב' וס"ק ה-ו; ביאורים ומוספים דרשו, 4, עם הרחבת המקור)



Torah discussions in unclean places are forbidden in any language. It is permissible to speak *Lashon Hakodesh* in an unclean place, but it is praiseworthy to avoid doing so. (It is possible to be lenient in countries where the primary spoken language is Hebrew.) It is forbidden to mention the sacred names of Hashem (e.g. *Havayah*, *E-lokim*) in unclean places, whether this is done in *Lashon Hakodesh* or any other language. This is also the case with words that are sometimes used to refer to Hashem (e.g.

Shalom, or Rachmana in Aramaic).

(סעיף ב' וס"ק ט"י; ביאורים ומוספים דרשו, 8-10)



Entering a bathroom in the midst of learning Torah

Ideally, one should not go from Torah straight into *tefilla* because the Torah thoughts might occupy his mind during the *davening*. Forcing his mind to focus on the *davening* will likely further distract him from *tefilla*. In contrast, one may enter a bathroom just after studying Torah, because even if he becomes preoccupied with forcing himself not think about Torah, this will keep his mind from Torah. In

the event that he is unsuccessful in avoiding Torah thoughts, he is considered an *ones* and is not held culpable. Another reason that one can go directly into a bathroom right after learning is that simply being in a bathroom helps remind a person to refrain from Torah.

(ס"ק ח; ביאורים ומוספים דרשו, 7)

Yesterday's HIGHLIGHTS

- It is forbidden to think Torah thoughts in the innermost chamber of [an ancient] bathhouse where [almost] everyone is usually undressed, even if everyone is dressed and the room is clean.
- It is permissible to think Torah thoughts in a shower room that is clean. *Hirhur* is permitted even while bathing because it is permissible to think about Torah when the body is undressed.
- *Shalom* is one of Hashem's names (see Shoftim 6:24) and may not be pronounced in a bathroom or any place where *divrei kedusha* are forbidden.

Tomorrow's TOPICS

- An exception to the prohibition against studying Torah in a foul area
- Which odors require distance?
- Keeping a distance from sewer pipes

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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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