

## Carrying on Shabbat – Definition of the 4 Domains

Ref: *Sefer Zemanim Hilchot Shabbat*, Chapter 14

Four *reshuyot* (domains)

To help define carrying (i.e. transferring objects from private domain to public domain and vice versa), the Sages explained 4 domains

*Reshut harabim* (public domain) e.g. the market and its roads.

- *Reshut hayachid* (private domain) e.g. a private house



- *Karmelit* – This is an intermediate zone i.e. it is not a private dwelling and it is not a place traversed by many people. According to Torah this zone would be regarded as *makom patur* (i.e. no liability as far as carrying). However, as a precaution to carrying, the *Rabanim* considered it a *reshut harabim*. An e.g. is fields or the sea.

- *Makom Patur*. One can carry to and from this zone and within it.

	<i>Reshut Harabim</i>	<i>Reshut Hayachid</i>	<i>Karmelit</i>	<i>Makom Patur</i>	Explanation
Minimum size	Maximum height is <b>10 tefach</b> Roads must be minimum <b>16 amah</b>	Minimum area <b>4 × 4 tefach</b> Minimum height <b>10 tefach</b>	Minimum area <b>4 × 4 tefach</b> .	An area less than <b>4 × 4 tefach</b> and sitting at least <b>3 tefach</b> above or below the earth.	<i>Whatever is within 3 tefach</i> from the ground is considered <i>reshut harabim</i>
Walls	Does not have walls or a roof	Has 4 walls or say in a courtyard 3 walls & a pole at 4th side ( <i>lechi</i> )	Height at least 3 but less than 10 tefach	At least 3 tefach	<i>Reshut hayachid</i> relates to a dwelling. But even a box of correct size is defined as <i>reshut hayachid</i>
Space above domain	Space above <b>10 tefach</b> is <i>makom patur</i>	Till the Heavens above belongs to that <i>reshut</i>	Above <b>10 tefach</b> is <i>makom patur</i>		
Carrying within a domain	Only within <b>4 × 4 amot</b>	Permitted throughout	Only within <b>4 × 4 amot</b>	Permitted	

Transferring between 2 domains	If transferred to or from a private domain, one is liable.	If transferred to or from a public domain, one is liable.	If one transferred to or from a private domain, one is not liable.	Permitted	If transfer between 2 domains takes place via a <i>karmelit</i> then not liable
Water fills the <i>reshut</i>	If deeper than <b>10 tefach</b> it becomes <i>karmelit</i>	Water does not alter dimension	E.g. with sea, whole sea regarded as earth and <i>karmelit</i> only starts on surface		
Produce fills <i>reshut</i>		This reduces its dimensions			