

Kilayim (Diverse Kinds) of Materials – Shatnez

Ref: Sefer Zeraim, Hilchot Shatnez, Chapter 10


 | Not to wear diverse kinds (materials).⁵

This applies particularly to wool (sheep's wool) and linen, but *Derabanan* extends also to silk and *kelech* (grows on rocks in the sea) due to their strong resemblance to linen and wool respectfully.


 | Other wools are forbidden *Derabanan*.

Factors

- Punishment if liable is *malkot* (as with other negative commands).
- Forbidden if connected in any manner.

 | • Permitted if to do a *mitzvah* e.g. *tzitzit Mipi Hashmuah* – *tzitzit* were positioned next to *kilayim* solely to teach us that *kilayim* are permitted in *tzitzit*.

- Measure disallowed is even the smallest thread.
- One can make mixed fabrics for selling i.e. can benefit.
- The main prohibition is not to wear *shatnez*.

 | • *Derabanan*, forbidden to sit on soft *shatnez* materials for fear that some of the material might wrap over his body.

- Towels, cloths and Torah covers forbidden because they warm the hands.
- Permitted to use *shatnez* for the deceased because deceased are not obligated to keep *mitzvot*.
- If one purchases woollen garments from gentiles, one should have them carefully checked at a *shatnez* laboratory.