

Level of Care Needed for Lost Property

Ref: *Sefer Nezikin, Hilchot Gezelah Vaaveidah, Chapter 13*

Woollen garment	Shake out every 30 days
Wooden utensils	Use them to prevent rot
Copper utensils	Use for hot substances but not to expose to fire.
Silver utensils	Use only with cold substances
Gold utensils	Not to touch until arrival of <i>Eliyahu</i>
Glass utensils	Not to touch until arrival of <i>Eliyahu</i>
Linen garments	Not to touch until arrival of <i>Eliyahu</i>
Scrolls	Read (or roll) once every 30 days
Cow and other adult animals	Care for it for 12 months . Can hire out to cover ones expenses
Chickens	Care for 12 months . Can sell their eggs to cover their expenses
Calves etc (which cannot work to cover their expenses)	To look after for 3 months
Beasts	Look after for 30 days
Large geese or roosters who usually find their own food	Care for them 30 days
Other living beings which are costly to care for i.e. costs more than income	Care for 3 days
Money earned from use of entity or forced sale (beyond the expenses)	May be used by finder and has the status of a loan, or given to owner
Money found	Not allowed to make use of this

Owner must refund finder for expenses he incurred.

Liability for damages by finder depends if his status is that of a borrower or paid watchman.

Reminder

Key Facts *Sefer Mishpatim*

Definition of Watchmen, Borrowers etc. Ref: *Sefer Mishpatim, Hilchot Sechirut*, Chapter 1 and 2

