

PRECEDENCE: RIGHT SIDE

When Right Side Takes Precedence

In general, the right side is given priority in our actions. This is considered to be proper behavior and not just good advice; however, it is a custom, not a halacha.

EXAMPLES

- A talmid chacham walks on the right of another person. (If there are two or more other people, the talmid chacham walks in the middle of the others);
- Put on your right shirtsleeve, sock, or shoe first (but tie your left shoe before your right shoe);
- Hold the lulav in your right hand;
- Wash your right hand first.

NOTE In all cases, if you reversed these, or if it your custom to reverse them, there is no problem.

NOTE Left-handed men must put tefilin on their right arm. For other practices, left-handed people should consult a rabbi.