BLESSINGS: STORMS

Blessings: Thunder

Say the blessing *she'kocho u'gvurato malei olam* if you hear thunder**.** (See Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: Which First)

Blessings: Lightning

Start saying the blessing *oseh ma'aseh v'reishit* within 2 ½ seconds of seeing a lightning flash; otherwise, do not say the blessing at all.

NOTE You do not need to see the actual lightning bolt--you must just see the light from lightning, even if reflected from something.

NOTE The lightning must be from a rainstorm, but you may say the blessing on lightning even if it is not raining where you are, as long as you can hear thunder first. (See Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: Which First and Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: How Often)

Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: Which First

Always say *she'kocho u'gvurato malei olam* (on thunder) before *oseh ma'aseh v'reishit (*on lightning.)
If you see lighting but don't hear thunder, do not say *oseh ma'aseh v'reishit* at all.

Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: How Often

Say *she'kocho u'gvurato malei olam* (on thunder) and *oseh ma'aseh v'reishit* (on lightning) only once per storm. If you hear thunder over telephone or microphone, you may not say kocho u'gvurato.

NOTE If the storm clouds clear and another storm comes along, you may say blessings again, even on the same day.

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