

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 lightning 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.