

# 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.