SHABBAT: MAIL AND PERIODICALS

Shabbat: Bringing Mail inside House

Do not bring mail inside the house on *Shabbat*, unless it was delivered:

- From within *techum Shabbat*, AND
- Within an *eruv*, AND
- By a non-Jew, AND
- Already open.

REASON Most mail is *muktza* since it cannot be opened or used without doing *mĕlăchâ*.

Shabbat: Bringing Newspaper inside House

You may bring a newspaper, magazine, or other reading material inside the house on *Shabbat* and read it if there is an *eruv*, unless it was:

- Brought from outside the *techum Shabbat*, OR
- Printed on *Shabbat*, OR
- Delivered by a Jew.

If any of these conditions apply, you may not use it in any way on *Shabbat*, even if all of the other conditions would have permitted its use. You may use it once *Shabbat* is over.

NOTE As a policy, you may tell delivery services that you do not need to have the item delivered until after dark.

REASON If the item is delivered on *Shabbat*, it is not being done at your request and, if it is reading material, you may read the material as long as the other conditions permit it--see above.

NOTE If you do not know where the reading material came from, you may not use it *Shabbat*.

NOTE Although taking possession of the newspaper, magazine, or other reading material is "acquisition" (*kinyan*), you may do so since you will use it on *Shabbat*.

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