# **SHEMA: WHAT TO SAY**

## Men and Shema in Shacharit

Men must say shema in shacharit and the blessings before and after.

#### Women and Shema in Shacharit

Women are not required to say the full *shema* or the blessings before it. Even if women do not say the whole *shema*, it is proper for them to say the first line of the *shema* and *baruch shem kevod malchuto l'olam va'ed*.

NOTE If women say entire *shema*, even though they are not required to do so, it is a *mitzva*.

### **Amen before Shema**

Some say the pre-*shema* blessing in *shacharit* or *ma'ariv* with the leader. Best is to finish the blessing before the leader does and then reply *amen* when he finishes saying the blessing.

### **Baruch Hu before Shema**

Don't say *baruch hu u'varuch shemo* in response to a prayer leader saying the two pre-shema blessings.

## **Starting Shema before Prayer Leader Says**

If you are late to *shacharit* or *ma'ariv minyan* and start the *shema* before the prayer leader has finished saying "*emet*" at the end of the *shema*, do not say <u>El melech ne'eman</u>.

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