TUM'A: NAIL CLIPPING: DISPOSAL

Tum'a: Putting Nail Clippings Down Toilet or Drain

Nail clippings, even from children and non-Jews, have *ru'ach ra'a* and need to be disposed of. The simplest way is to flush them down a toilet or wash them down a drain (but don't put them into the garbage).

NOTE Hair may be disposed of by throwing it into a garbage can.

Tum'a: Burning Nail Clippings

Burning nail clippings is OK (but it has *kabbalistic* complications and is bad for the person from whom the nails were clipped).

Tum'a: Burying Nail Clippings

Burying nail clippings is OK but only if they will not become uncovered later. Clippings are particularly bad for pregnant women to step on or over.

Tum'a: Nail Clipping: Washing Afterward

Wash your hands using the *One-Time Method* after cutting (or having someone cut) your nails (or hair).

© Copyright 2026 Richard B. Aiken | www.practicalhalacha.com