

# Edited Version Of Guidelines (For Clarity And Logic)

Edited: 08/08/24

Author: Daniel Rosehill

For the original, unedited version of these guidelines you can refer to the [Original\\_Guidelines\\_0808](#) folder

## Choosing Between 'First Priority' Spaces

If your choice is between a *mamad*, *mamak*, shelter, stairwell or an inner room, then your choice should be determined by the time available to reach shelter, the level of protection it offers, and your ability to reach it in time.

If you receive an alert, enter the protected space and wait inside for 10 minutes.

## The General Order Of Priority

1. The **first priority** shelters are: a *mamad* (protected room in an apartment) or a *mamak* (protected space for a building).
2. The **second priority** shelters are:
  1. An apartment building's shelter
  2. A public shelter (*miklat*)
3. The **third priority** sheltering space is an internal stairwell that has no windows, openings, or external walls.

The following guidelines pertain to this space:

1. **In a building with more than three floors**, which has no residential protected rooms, floor protected spaces or a public shelter – stay in a stairwell with at least two floors above it. Do not stay on the ground floor. In buildings with more than three floors, the stairwells of each floor, other than the top two floors and the ground floor, are protected.
2. **In a building with exactly three floors** and with no residential protected rooms, floor protected spaces or a public shelter – stay in a stairwell of the middle floor. In such a building, the most protected floor is the middle (second) floor.
4. The **fourth priority** shelter is an inner room and the following guidelines pertain to it:
  1. If there are no residential protected rooms, floor protected spaces, a public shelter, or an internal stairwell, choose an inner room with as few external walls, windows, and openings as possible. Do not choose kitchens, bathrooms, or toilets and keep away from ceramics, porcelain, and glass that

might shatter. When receiving an alert, sit in an inner corner, below the window line and not facing the door.

5. The **last resort** is to lie on the ground and adopt a protective posture according to the official guidelines.

## **Not Considered 'Safe' Spaces For The Purpose Of These Guidelines**

- Kitchens
- Toilets
- Bathrooms

These are the additional guidelines for sheltering indoors:

- Stay away from ceramics, porcelains, and glass that may shatter.

# **Guidelines For Specific Circumstances**

## **Alert Sounds While In A Prefabricated Structure**

If an alert is received while you are inside a prefabricated structure, leave the building and go into the protected space in the time available to reach shelter.

## **Last Resort / No Shelter Available**

If entering a protected space within the time available to reach shelter is not possible, leave the building, lie on the ground and protect your head with your hands.

# **Additional Guidelines**

## **Avoid Building Entrances**

Stay away from the building entrance area.

This space is potentially susceptible to rocket fragments and blast waves due to impacts on nearby buildings.

## **Keep Building Doors Open**

The entrance doors to buildings should be kept open for the benefit of those who may find themselves outside when the alert sounds [and need to shelter inside the building]

## **Places Chairs In The Stairwell**

For a significant portion of Israel's population, the stairwell is the most protected space available.

Please consider placing chairs in it for the benefit of elderly residents.

# **Maintaining the integrity of the protected space**

For the protected space to fill its role in an emergency, it must be regularly maintained.

These are additional recommendations:

- Plan your route to the protected space in advance, make sure it is cleared of obstacles and obstructing items to prevent possible falls and injuries. Ensure that all passageways and stairwells are not blocked.
  - If your protected space is the residential protected room you are obliged to maintain its integrity and refrain from making changes unauthorized changes [to the space]

- The Home Front Command maintains guidelines regarding legally prohibited uses for the protected room (*mamad*) and maintains guidelines for its maintenance.
- If your protected space is the common building shelter, you are obligated to maintain its integrity and must refrain from making unauthorised changes to it.

## **General Preparedness Recommendations**

- It is recommended to maintain emergency supplies in your household
- You should also maintain contact information for your family members which may be useful for emergency services
- In the event of an emergency the outer steel window and inner glass window (of the *mamad*) must be closed and locked at the beginning of the emergency and until it is declared formally over.
- If a double-wing glass window is installed, it must be removed and placed outside of the building protected room.

# Context-Based Instructions: Indoors

If you are able to enter one of the following spaces within the time available to you, you should do so according to the following order of preference:

## Priority 1: Mamad, Mamak Or Public Shelter (Miklat)

As a first priority proceed to whichever of these is accessible to you and closest:

- Your *mamad* (apartment's designated protected space)
- A *mamak* or *mamam* which you can access (a *mamak* is a protected space for the floor and a *mamam* is translated by Pikud Haoref as an "institutional" safe space)
- A public shelter (*miklat tzi'buri*)

If you can access one of these spaces, upon doing so, follow these instructions:

- Close the door by turning the handle 90 degrees
- Ensure that the steel window and inner glass window are both closed

## Priority 2: Inner Stairwell

If none of the first priority sheltering spaces are available to you within the time of the alert, then choose an *inner stairwell*\*

The guidelines are that this space should (ideally) have:

- No windows
- No openings
- No external walls

An "external wall" is a wall in the building that is exposed to the outdoors.

When you reach the stairwell you should sit on the stairs and not in the floor space.

### Additional Instructions For Choosing A Stairwell

- **If the building is more than three floors high**, you should remain on a stairwell **with at least two floors above it.**
- **If the building is less than three floors high** you should remain on the middle floor  
In a building with less than three floors – stay in the middle floor.

## Priority 3: Non-Protected Room In Your Home

The last priority if you are indoors is to choose a regular room in your home (ie, not a *mamad* / protected space). Choose this option only if there are no options from the above two priorities available to you.

These are the ideal considerations that you should look for in a last resort inner room:

- The room should have as few outside walls as possible, ideally none
- It should have as few openings as possible

When inside you should:

- Sit in an inner corner below the window line and not facing the door.

Also note:

- Kitchens, bathrooms, toilets cannot be used as an inner room.

# Context-Based Guidelines: Public Transport

If you are taking public transport when a rocket siren goes off, the appropriate response depends upon the type of public transport you are taking:

## Intercity buses, student transportation:

The driver should:

- Stop the vehicle at the side of the road and open the doors.
- Passengers must bend beneath the window line and protect their heads with their hands.

## City buses

The driver must:

- Stop on the side of the road
- Open the doors for passengers to disembark

Passengers should:

- Enter a nearby building

If it is not possible to reach a building within the time available to reach shelter, bend below the window line and protect your head with your hands.

## Train

If you are travelling on a train when a rocket siren goes off:

The driver must:

- Slow down to a speed of 30KM/H for 10 minutes

Passengers must:

- Bend below the window line in the carriages and protect their heads with their hands.

# Context-Based Instructions: Outdoors

If you are outdoors when a rocket siren goes off, choose your shelter according to your context.

## In A Built Up Area

If you find yourself outdoors in a built up area when a siren goes off (like a town/city) then you should:

- Enter a shelter or a stairwell in a nearby building.
- You should stay away from building entrances.

## In An Open Area

If you find yourself outdoors and in an open area when a siren goes off, then you should:

- Lie on the ground adopting the appropriate safe posture (protecting your heads with your hands)
- In the event of a rocket impact, the blast wave from the explosion can generate dangerous fragments which are capable of injuring anybody who is standing or sitting



# Context-Based Instructions: Using Private Transport

If you find yourself in a private vehicle when the siren goes off then you should:

- **Stop by the side of the road**, exit the vehicle, and enter a shelter or a stairwell of a nearby building.  
If you are unable to reach a building within the time available to reach shelter then you should:
  - Exit the vehicle and move away from it by the side of the road or the separation fence, lie on the ground, and protect your head with your hands.
- If you are not able to leave the vehicle at all (and only then) you should:
  - Stop at the the side of the road and bend beneath the window line.

# Original (Unmodified) Text From Website: 08/08/24

[Source URL](#)

## Choosing a Protected Space

A residential protected room (MAMAD), communal protected space (MAMAK), shelter, stairwell, or an inner room – choose the protected space according to the time available to reach shelter, available protection, and your ability to reach it in time.

Upon receiving an alert for a rocket and missile attack, enter the protected space according to the time available to you to reach shelter, and wait inside for 10 minutes. This can prevent injuries resulting from rocket or missile impact, and may even save your life.

## For behavior guidelines when receiving an alert

It is essential to choose “the most protected space possible”, based on the protection available and the ability to reach it in time. To check the time to reach a shelter in your area, click [here](#) and type in the name of your location.

## The order of priority for choosing a protected space:

1. The residential protected room (MAMAD) or communal protected space (MAMAK) are the preferred option.
2. **Shelters:**
  - An apartment building shelter – provided it can be reached within the time to reach shelter and in addition, if it can be reached by an internal stairway.
  - A public shelter (miklat) – provided that it can be reached within the time available to reach shelter.
3. **An internal stairwell - with no windows, openings, and external wall:**
  - In a building with more than three floors, which has no residential protected rooms, floor protected spaces or a public shelter – stay in a stairwell with at least two floors above it. Do not stay on the ground floor. In buildings with more than three floors, the stairwells of each floor, other than the top two floors and the ground floor, are protected.
  - In a three-story building with no residential protected rooms, floor protected spaces or a public shelter – stay in a stairwell of the middle floor. In such a building, the most protected floor is the middle (second) floor.
4. **An inner room** - if there are no residential protected rooms, floor protected spaces, a public shelter, or an internal stairwell, choose an inner room with as few external walls, windows, and openings as possible. Do not choose kitchens, bathrooms, or toilets and keep away from ceramics, porcelain, and glass that might shatter. When

receiving an alert, sit in an inner corner, below the window line and not facing the door.

## The following cannot be used as protected spaces

Kitchens, toilets, and bathrooms cannot be used as protected spaces; stay away from ceramics, porcelains, and glass that may shatter.

## Important Highlights

- If there is no access to a protected room, an internal stairwell, or an inner room, lie on the ground and protect your head with your hands.
- If an alert is received while you are inside a prefabricated structure, leave the building and go into the protected space in the time available to reach shelter. If entering a protected space within the time available to reach shelter is not possible, leave the building, lie on the ground and protect your head with your hands. Read [here](#) why it is important to lie on the ground.
- Stay away from the building entrance area because of the danger of rocket fragments and blast waves due to impact near buildings.
- Building doors should be kept open, for those who are outdoors when the alert sounds.
- For a large portion of the population, the stairwell is the most protected space available. If possible, place chairs for elderly persons.

**Remember:** Choosing a protected space according to these guidelines significantly reduces the risk of injury from rockets and fragments, and can save lives.

## Maintaining the integrity of the protected space

For the protected space to fill its role in an emergency, it must be regularly maintained and the routes leading to it must be clear, in accordance with the following highlights:

- Plan your route to the protected space in advance, make sure it is cleared of obstacles and obstructing items to prevent possible falls and injuries. Ensure that all passageways and stairwells are not blocked.
- If our protected space is the residential protected room – you must maintain its integrity and refrain from making changes that are not authorized. Read about the permitted and prohibited uses of the protected room (MAMAD), including which changes may not be made to it, and how to maintain it regularly.
- If our protected space is the common shelter - you must maintain its integrity and refrain from making changes that are not authorized. Read about how to maintain the integrity of the common shelter.
- It is advised to prepare emergency supplies and a list of contact information for emergency services, family members, and neighbors, and keep it in the protected space.

- In an emergency situation - the outer steel window and the inner glass window must be closed and locked at the beginning of the emergency situation until it ends. If a double-wing glass window is installed, it must be removed and placed outside the residential protected room.

## Indoors

Enter a protected space that can be reached within the time available to you and the protection around you, based on the following priorities:

- **MAMAD (residential protected room), MAMAK (communal protected space), MAMAM (institutional protected space), or a shelter** – Close the door by turning the handle 90 degrees, and ensure the external steel window and the inner glass window are closed.
- **Inner stairwell** – With no windows, openings, or external walls. Sit on the stairs, not in the floor space. In a building with more than three floors, stay on the stairwell with at least two floors above it. In a building with less than three floors, stay on the middle floor.
- **Inner room** – With as few outside walls, windows, and openings as possible. Sit in an inner corner below the window line and not facing the door. Kitchens, bathrooms, or toilets cannot be used as an inner room.

## Outdoors

- **In a built-up area** – Enter a shelter or a stairwell in a nearby building. Stay away from the entrance area.
- **In an open area** – Lie on the ground and protect your head with your hands. When a rocket hits the ground, the explosion blast wave generates fragments that can injure anyone standing up or sitting down.

## Private Transportation

- **Stop by the side of the road**, exit the vehicle, and enter a shelter or a stairwell of a nearby building.
- If you are unable to reach a building within the time available to reach shelter – exit the vehicle and move away from it by the side of the road or the separation fence, lie on the ground, and protect your head with your hands.
- Only if you are unable to leave the vehicle, stop at the side of the road and bend below the window line.

## Public Transport

- **On an intercity bus and student transportation** - The driver should stop the vehicle at the side of the road and open the doors. Passengers must bend below the window line and protect their heads with their hands.

- **On a city bus** - The driver must stop on the side of the road and open the doors for passengers to get off and enter a nearby building. If it is not possible to reach a building within the time available to reach shelter, bend below the window line and protect your head with your hands.
- **When traveling by train** - The driver must slow down to a speed of 30 km/h for 10 minutes. Passengers must bend below the window line in the carriages and protect their heads with their hands.