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Women wearing socks and stockings

Women wearing socks:[1]

_It is forbidden for men to learn Torah or Daven opposite a woman's legs [literally, Shoka] as the legs are considered an area of privacy by a woman, and is therefore an Erva to be revealed. [It is therefore necessary for women and girls to cover their legs when they are in view of other men.[2]]

<u>Definition of Shoka/legs and what area of the legs must be covered</u>: The term Shoka in modern Hebrew is translated today as the leg, or shinbone, and reaches up until the ankle. However, the Halachic definition of this term is obscure and hence disputed amongst Poskim.[3] Some Poskim[4] learn that the Shoka includes the entire leg, from her thighs all the way down to the toes on her feet, and thus it is forbidden for men to learn and pray in sight of these revealed areas, and consequently women must be modest to cover these areas as well. Other Poskim[5] however learn that the Shoka only includes the legs up until the ankle, while the actual feet are not included, and do not have to be covered. Other Poskim[6] rule that the Shoka only includes the thighs, until the knees, while from the knees and down is not included, and does not need to be covered in areas that are not accustomed to do so. Practically, majority of Poskim[7] negate the latter opinion, and rule that even the feet must be covered in all areas, and so is the implied opinion of Admur[8], and so is the custom amongst all Chareidi Jewry and one may not be lenient in this matter.[9] Furthermore, even according to the lenient opinions, in an area that the custom is to be stringent, they too agree that one must be stringent and abide by these forms of modesty.[10]]

<u>See through socks/stockings:[11]</u> If a woman is wearing sheer clothing [i.e. see-through] and her flesh is visible through it, it is forbidden to learn and Daven in her presence, just like is the law if she was not covering it at all. [See Q&A for how many denier is defined as valid and not see through]

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