

39 MELACHOS TABLE

Ch חורש Choresch Plowing	Zo זורע Zoreah Sowing	Ko קוצר Kotzair Reaping	Mm מעמר M'amair Gathering	Du דש Dush Threshing	Zr זורח Zoreh Winnowing	Mv מבעיר Ma'avir Kindling	Mc מכבה Mechabeh Extinguishing
Bo בורר Borer Sorting	To טוחן Tochain Grinding	Mi מרקד Miraked Sifting	Lu לש Lush Kneading	Of אופה Ofeh Baking		Kt כותב Kotav Writing two letters	Mk מוחק Mochaik Erasing two letters
Go גוזז Gozez Shaving	Me מלבן Melabain Whitening	Mn מנפץ Menafetz Disentangling	Tz צובע Tzovayah Dyeing	Tv טווה Toveh Spinning	Ma מס Maisach Mounting warp	OB עשיית כתי נירין Oseh Beit Batal Neirin Preparing to Weave	Ha הוצא Hotza'ah Carrying
Or אורג Oraig Weaving	Po פוצע Potzai'ah Separating threads	Ko קושר Koshair Tying a knot	Mr מתיר Matir Untying a knot	Mt מחתך Mechateich Cutting	Tf תופר Tofair Sewing	Kr קורע Ko'reah Tearing	MP מכה בפטיש Makeh B'Patish Striking the final blow
Td צד Tzud Trapping	Sc שוחט Shochet Slaughtering	Mf מפשט Mafshit Skinning	Mb מעבד M'abaid Salting	Mi ממחק Memacheik Smoothing	Mh משרטט Mesharteit Tracing lines	Bn בונה Boneh Building	So סותר Soiser Demolishing

The Torah never defines specifically what, *melakha*, labor, on Shabbat entails, but the Mishnah already has an exact list of 39 categories of labor prohibited on Shabbat.

- The Mishnah is the first major written collection of Jewish oral traditions, known as the Oral Torah.

The 39 Melachot are thirty-nine primary categories of creative, purposeful labor prohibited on Shabbat and major Jewish holidays according to Jewish law.

These categories are traditionally derived from the types of work required to build and set up the Mishkan (*the Tabernacle*) in the desert.

- "Work" (*melachah*) on Shabbat does not mean ordinary physical exertion or sweating, but rather intentional acts of creation, mastery over nature, or altering the physical world.
- For a detailed description of each of these categories, examine this link:

https://www.ou.org/holidays/the_thirty_nine_categories_of_sabbath_work_prohibited_by_law/

	Melacha	Application in the Mishkan	Real-Life Example
Steps to make bread			
1	Choresch (Plowing)	Improving the soil to make it better for planting	Digging a hole in garden soil to plant flowers
2	Zoraya (Sowing)	Planting or helping a plant grow	Watering houseplants or planting seeds in a garden
3	Kotzair (Reaping)	Disconnecting a plant from its source of growth	Breaking a branch off a tree or pulling up grass from the lawn
4	M'amer (Gathering)	Gathering fruit or produce outside in an orchard	Collecting fallen apples in the garden 
5	Dosh (Threshing)	Separating or detaching something from its natural cover	Squeezing oranges for juice or milking a cow
6	Zoreh (Winnowing)	Using wind to scatter or sort things	Blowing crumbs off a tablecloth outdoors where wind carries them
7	Borer (Sorting)	Sorting or removing unwanted items from a mixture	Removing bones from fish or picking out what you don't like
8	Tochain (Grinding)	Breaking something down into smaller pieces for a new purpose	 Grinding coffee beans
9	Merakaid (Sifting)	Separating fine/coarse particles	Using a sieve to remove lumps
10	Losh (Kneading)	Using water to bind particles	Making dough or mixing cement
11	Ofeh/Bishul (Baking/Cooking)	Heating up or cooking food to make it edible	Using an oven, microwave, or stovetop to cook or heat food
Steps to make clothing			
12	Gozez (Shearing)	Detaching something from a living creature	Cutting fingernails, tweezing eyebrows, or shaving
13	Melabain (Cleaning/Whitening)	Cleaning an absorbent material from an embedded stain	Removing a stain from a shirt
14	Menapeitz (Combing)	Combing raw fibers to prepare for spinning	Combing the faux fur collar of a coat (according to some opinions)
15	Tzovaya (Dyeing)	Changing the color of a surface to enhance its looks	Applying nail polish or adding adding food coloring to icing
16	Toveh (Spinning)	Twisting fibers together for thread	Spinning wool into yarn 
17	Maisach (Setting up warp)	Spreading out the vertical/length threads for weaving	Setting up a loom for a craft project
18	Oseh Botel Nirin (Making heddles)	Creating heddles to lift warp threads for weaving	Setting up thread separators on a weaving loom

	Melocha	Application in the Mishkan	Real-Life Example
19	Oraig (Weaving)	Interlacing threads to make fabric	Knitting, crocheting, or braiding hair on a wig
20	Potzaya (Unravelling)	Separating threads that were woven together	Unraveling a sweater
21	Koshair (Tying)	Creating a skilled or lasting knot	Making a secure knot in a rope
22	Matir (Untying)	Undoing a skilled or lasting knot	Untying a package
23	Tofair (Sewing)	Attaching two items permanently	Sewing a garment
24	Koraya (Tearing)	Tearing something that was attached	Tearing open an envelope
Steps of writing			
25	Tzod (Trapping)	Confining a living creature	Catching a fly or frog in a cup or closing a door to trap a bird in a room
26	Shochait (Slaughtering)	Ending the life of a living creature or causing bleeding	Killing an insect or getting a blood test (permitted in certain cases)
27	Mafshit (Skinning)	Removing the hide from an animal	Removing skin from raw chicken (doesn't apply to cooked chicken)
28	M'abaid (Tanning)	Processing raw hides to make leather	Pickling vegetables
29	Memachaik (Smoothing)	Smoothing rough surfaces	Applying lotion, smoothing out candle wax
30	Mesartait (Scoring)	Marking where to cut the hides	Drawing cutting lines in wood
31	Mechataich (Measured cutting)	Cutting to a specific measurement or shape	Cutting paper to a specific size for a project
32	Kosaiv (Writing)	Creating symbols that convey meaning	Writing, drawing, typing on a keyboard
33	Mochaik (Erasing)	Removing writing or symbols	Erasing pencil marks, deleting text, or cleaning a whiteboard
Steps of writing			
34	Boneh (Building)	Constructing or adding to a structure	Assembling furniture, putting up a tent
35	Sossair (Dismantling)	Taking apart a structure	Dismantling furniture or taking down a sukkah
36	Makeh B'Patish (Finishing touch)	Completing an object or putting finishing touches on work	Installing the final piece of an item or making final adjustments
37	Mavier (Lighting fire)	Creating or fueling a flame	Striking a match, turning on an electric stove, or driving a car
38	Mechabeh (Extinguishing)	Putting out a flame	Turning off lights, extinguishing a candle
39	Hotzoa (Carrying)	Transferring objects between different domains	Carrying outside without an eruv