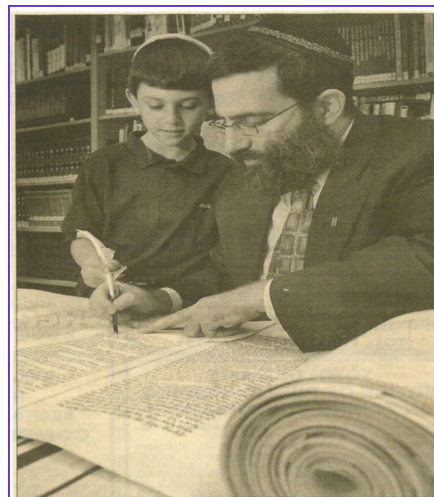


Guidelines For Purchasing a New Torah

Pointers for securing a successful commissioning of a new Sefer Torah

All the below should be stipulated and signed in a legal document.

- Choose your Sofer according to the comfort and ease to chant his script. Involve the Rabbi, Cantor and all other who regularly chant from the Torah.
- Obtain a sample of one standard section (yeriah) of the actual Parchment to be used for your Sefer Torah with your chosen Sofer's script on this section.
- Stipulate:
 - ⇒ the number of "fill-in letters" for Hatchalat and Siyum HaTorah, etc.
 - ⇒ the exact height of the klaf to be used in your Sefer.
 - ⇒ the maximum weight for your Sefer Torah, i.e. a 17 3/4 inch klaf, should weigh less than ten pounds for the entire Sefer Torah (you can obtain the weight of your Sefer Torah by multiplying by 62 the weight of the one sample section in your possession).
- The Sefer Torah should be sent to you as each of the five books are completed.
- When each book is received, it should come with the computer "read-out" for that book—meaning each book has been computer checked and corrected. Then you check the columns and lines of the mistakes caught by the computer to see that they have actually been corrected.
- Payments should be approximately one-sixth up front and one - sixth after receiving each book - or a similar variation.
- Confirm that the date the Torah will be completed is approximately one month before the siyum Sefer Torah ceremony.
- Stipulate that if, G-d forbid, the original Sofer cannot complete the Sefer Torah, you must be able to confirm/choose the replacement Sofer.
- Know the name, address & phone number of the actual Sofer who writes your Sefer Torah. Visit him at work in Israel or America.



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