

## Tefillin Halacha

### Halacha Torah

And it shall be for a sign for you upon your hand, and for a memorial between your eyes, that the law of the LORD may be in your mouth; for with a strong hand did the LORD bring you out of Egypt...And it shall be for a sign upon your hand, and as totafot between your eyes; for with a mighty hand did the LORD bring us forth out of Egypt.

(Exodus 13:9; 13:16)

And you shall bind them as a sign upon your arm, and they shall be as totafot between your eyes. (Deuteronomy 6:8)

You shall put these words of mine on your heart and on your soul; and you shall tie them for a sign upon your arm, and they shall be as totafot between your eyes.

(Deuteronomy 11:18)

Note: “totafot” can mean unmovable object, jewel, symbol, amulet. Often translated as “frontlet”. The origin of the word tefillin as a Hebrew word is unknown.

### Halacha Talmud (paraphrased)

Brachot 6a, 14b: the rabbis discuss God's wearing of tefillin; The importance of wearing tefillin for the recitation of Shema and who is exempt from the practice

Menachot 34b, 35b, 37a: The order of the parshiot in the head tefillin; The wording of the blessings for tefillin and the required frequency of reciting them (note there is a difference between Sephard and Ashkenazi Jews on this); Where the tefillin are placed on the body. Placed on the non-dominate arm (typically left by default) and on the hairline (not the forehead as many accidentally do)

Shabbat 108a, 130a: The type of hides that may be used for the parchment includes halachically clean animals; Elisha's sacrifice for wearing tefillin and the miraculous dove wings that appeared