

The Shatnez Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

Teves 5766/Jan 2006

Tie Update

Silk ties made in China do not require shatnez testing

Even though silk ties made in China contain a reprocessed lining composed mostly of raw silk and some fibers of wool and linen, Horav Ha'gaon R' Yechazkel Roth *shlita*, *paskened* that they are *muter l'chatchila*.

Shatnez Findings - Winter 05/06

This list contains the brands recently found to contain shatnez, followed by the country of origin.

Ladies Sweaters

Tricot Gladius -Italy
Keren Line -China
Lauren
Ralph Lauren -China
Caroll Reed- China

Skirts

Kate Hill-China
Miz Wear -U.S.A
Paniz -U.S.A
Valerie Stevens- Philippines
Fisser City Sport -Holland

Ladies & Girls Coats

Michael Kors-Belarus
Collection By Gallery -Belarus
Burberry -England
Erich Fend -Slowakei
Anne Klein- Belarus
Banana Republic - Thailand
Rabe- China
Varci- Italy
Daniela D'Petit- Italy

Boys Suits

Gyvanchi - Canada
Spangly - Canada
Bergamo Uomo
Milano
Baggio -Italy

Men's Suits

Altieri Studio - Italy
Andre Lanzino
Banana Republic - Turkey
Birkdale - Korea
C&A - Germany
Calvin - China
Cantarelli - Italy
Chereskin - F.Y.R Macedonia
Claibourne Premium -Turkey
Collezione Talia - Italy
E.Braun & Co.- Italy
Feremani- Italy
Gianfranco Ferre
Giorgio Valentini - Italy
Halston - Italy
Kingfield - Switzerland
Leopard - Italy
Manzini Uomo -Italy
Odermark-Germany
Pal Zileri - Italy
Pantofino - Canada
Princeton - Italy
Studio Milano - Italy
Trabaldo Togre - France
Villa Monti - Italy

Men's Coats

Banana Republic -Philippines, Thailand
Giorgio Puglieri - Italy
Mario Valente - Italy

Ladies Suits

Barons
Gerard Pasquier -France
Kristen-Moldova
Lauren
Ralph Lauren-China
Liz Claibourne-India
Loredana-Italy
Rochas- France
Susan Bristol-China
Terry -France

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Shidduchim

It was at the end of a shatnez presentation in St. Louis (spring '05) when Rabbi Sayagh was approached by a Rebbe who had a personal shatnez story he wanted to share.

The story starts when the Rebbe, a new *baal teshuva*, was learning in Yeshivas Ohr Somayach. At that point in time this Rebbe who we will call Avraham didn't care to pay attention to how he dressed. It happened one day that Avrohom's friend who had just gotten engaged asked him to speak by his vort. Avrohom thought to himself, "how could I deliver *divrei berochoa* while wearing a suit that was not checked for shatnez?" He sent his only suit to be tested for shatnez and borrowed his friend's suit.

Avrohom came to the vort looking very well dressed in a borrowed, brand name suit. At the vort someone made a suggestion for him. The girl, present at the vort, was also a *balas Teshuva*, herself from a family in the business of designer clothing. The girl, seeing that he was a well-dressed young man, agreed to go out with Avraham, and soon they got engaged. Avraham realized that it all came to be because of the suit that he sent to be checked for shatnez. And the suit that was being checked, was shatnez indeed.

Birth

The following incident happened to a kollel man in Gateshead. When in London to raise funds for the kollel in which he learns, he periodically visited a traditionally Orthodox couple. Over the years he became very friendly with them. This couple always kept shabbos, *taharas hamishpacha*, and kashrus to the best of their ability. As time passed they learned more and more about other mitzvos.

They had been married for six and a half years and had no children although they were very eager to have a family. They sought the best medical advice available but to no avail. The young woman poured out her heart to the kollel man, weeping bitterly that they seemed to be destined to have no children. The kollel man was very moved and, on his return to Gateshead, discussed the matter with a good friend.

After some thought, the latter recommended that the couple be encouraged to undertake an additional mitzvah that they had presumably hitherto not kept, in the merit of which they might be blessed with a child. The Kollel man felt that it was a good idea and, after some consideration, decided to suggest

the mitzvah of shatnez. The husband's immediate reaction was that he knew all about shatnez. He had even had his suits and coats tested for shatnez and they were perfectly kosher. He was then asked if his wife's outfits and coats were tested. The husband reacted in surprise. They had been under the impression that this mitzvah was only for men and did not apply to women.

On realizing their error, they took the wife's clothes to be tested. On inspection her coat was found to be full of shatnez. The shatnez was promptly removed and the garment rendered kosher. This incident happened in mid-Elul 5753. In Tammuz 5754, just nine months later, she gave birth to a healthy baby boy. The delight of the couple was indescribable and they are eternally grateful to Hashem Yisborach for having answered their tefillos.

ABOUT THE LAKEWOOD SHATNEZ LABORATORY

The Lakewood Shaatnez Laboratory is dedicated to promoting the observance of the mitzvah of shatnez and operates the International Association of Professional Shaatnez Laboratories (NCSTAR) a network of over 100 testers in more than 70 cities worldwide.

HOURS

SUNDAY - THURSDAY
2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

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