

The 39 Prohibited Categories of Creative Labor

Class 2

וְהַקוֹצֵר - Reaping

What:

Cutting off any living vegetation, whole or part, from its source of growth.

Do:

Pour alcohol on a plant that will damage, i.e. inhibit its growth, but not kill it

Turn off a manual sprinkler

Close the shades in front of a plant

Lifting potatoes even if budding but not rooted up off a damp floor

Pick grapes off a piece of vine in a bowl

Walk on grass

Use the side of a side of something attached to a tree, ie. removing a hanging basket from a peg in a tree.

Don't:

Pick a fruit from a tree

Scrape algae off the walls of your pool

Kick over mushrooms

Lifting a potted plant off the ground

Walk on a flour bed or through thistles

Kick a weed to let out pollen or milkweed

Use a tree or anything attached to it

Smell fruits attached to a tree

Handle or eat fruits that fell from a tree on Shabbat

Come down from a tree climbed on purpose on Shabbat

Ride a horse

Pull out a honey comb from the hive

וְהַמְעִיָּר - Binding Sheaves / Gathering

What:

Collecting together scattered items in their original state that grow from the ground where they

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are normally gathered including:

Collecting fruits together near the tree, pressing together dates

Do:

Collect peanuts that fell on your floor

Pick up a fruit in to your hand off the floor to eat or use

Don't:

Raking together leaves

Kick nuts or fruits in to a pile around the tree

Make a bouquet of flowers (even artificial)

String together diamonds

Collect sea salt deposits

הַדָּשׁ - Threshing

Removal of anything grown from the earth from its natural inedible casing including:

Breaking kernels from the stems and chaff, Flax fibers from their husks

Secondary categories:

מַפְרֵק - Extracting even from a casing not using an implement or feet including:

expressing milk, crushing a honeycomb, removing peas from a pod, squeezing fruit

Do:

Peel fruits and vegetables

Open nuts

Eat corn on the cob

Squeeze fruit juice (other than olives and grapes) on to solid food that will absorb the juice

Suck juice from a fruit other than olives and grapes

Squeeze out a latkeh with a napkin

Discard extra pickle juice even by squeezing the pickle

Sop up a spill with paper napkins or rags.

Wash dishes with a stiff brush

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Express milk in to the sink
Put ice cubes in your drink or hot soup
Crush a few ice cubes in to a cup to cool the drink (but not to collect water)
Urinate on snow
Walk on snow
Put salt on an icy patch
Make ice cubes for use on Shabbat
Wrap a towel on to ones wet hair

Don't:

Remove the outer green/yellow husk around a coconut
Peel bark from a reed for basket weaving
Squeeze a glass of Orange Juice
Squeeze lemon in to tea (but you can let a piece float in it)
Cut up grapes or olives unless over a salad (or napkin to give to a child) and in a sawing motion
Drink juice that seeped out of fruit in a bowl
Squeeze out a rag
Use a sponge
Express milk in to bottles
Crush ice
Break up a layer of ice over a pitcher juice
Make a jelled desert
Use canned sprayed whipped toppings
Squeeze out wet hair