

A sheet spread under the סכך is כשר provided that it is within four טפחים (32 centimeters לחומרא; in which case it is בטול to the סכך), and it is there for decorative purposes. If it is not within four טפחים, then it is אסור (even though there are those who are מיקל provided that the sheet does not give off more shade than sunlight, nonetheless, the משנה ברורה writes that we should be מחמיר).

Decorations that hang down from the סכך within four טפחים are מותר מעיקר הדין if they are not 4x4 טפחים (in which case it is אסור to sit under them), but the רמ"א writes בשם the מהרי"ל that we should not hang decorations within four טפחים (the משנה ברורה writes that a lamp may hang down more than four טפחים away from the סכך). Regarding mosquito netting hung under the סכך, being as how it is אסור to hang a sheet to protect from the sun, to protect from mosquitos would be אסור as well.

Food or drink that is hung in the סוכה as a decoration is מוקצה the whole סוכות, even if it falls down. If it fell on שבת or טוב טעם, it is מוקצה ממש and may not be moved; if it fell during the week, it may be hung up on the wall again, but not used in any way. If a תנאי is made before סוכות saying: איני בודל מהן כל בין השמשות, they may be used throughout סוכות. The רמ"א says בשם the מהרי"ל that today we do not make such a תנאי regarding decorations hanging from the סכך, however, regarding decorations hanging on the wall, since there is a יש אומרים that there is no איסור of מוקצה on the walls themselves, we may

remove decorations if we are worried about the rain (though the רמ"א does note that we should make a תנאי regarding decorations on the wall). The הלכה ביאור brings down a תשובה from the חתם סופר regarding a case where a person had hung an אתרוג in his סוכה as a decoration, and someone came to him without an אתרוג, the חתם סופר wrote that granted the אתרוג is אסור on יום טוב because it is מוקצה, on חול המועד it is permitted, as although this אתרוג was אסור בהנאה, it is מותר to be moved and since מצות ניתנו לאו להינות ניתנו, it may be used.

If a סוכה is exactly  $7 \times 7$  טפחים, and a decoration is hung on the wall that makes the space smaller than  $7 \times 7$ , the סוכה is פסול.

It is מותר to sleep in the סוכה under a bed with a canopy, or under the table, provided that the canopy/table is not ten טפחים.