



The Prohibition of Gathering (continued)

The Sages taught: If one's fruit was scattered in a courtyard on Shabbat, one may collect [each piece] hand to hand and eat them. But one may not collect them into a basket or into a box, so that one will not conduct himself on Shabbat in the manner that he conducts himself during the week (143b).

Rambam: One may not collect the fruit, lest one ultimately press them together and violate the prohibition of Gathering.

Ramban: The fruit is mixed with dirt, and therefore collecting them has the appearance of Selecting.

Rabbeinu Yona: The fruit is spread over a large area, and the prohibition is due to exertion and weekday activities.

Shulhan Arukh: One should take both opinions into account, and therefore one may not collect fruit mixed with dirt or that are scattered over a large area.

One may collect fruit that is scattered in the house, but if it involves great exertion, one should gather the fruit with a broom while cleaning the house and afterward transfer them to a vessel. It is permitted to gather nuts or candies thrown in a synagogue.