

ATTIRE: MARRIED WOMEN: HEAD COVERING (KISUY ROSH)

Attire: Married Women: Hair-Covering Guidelines

Married women should cover their hair when they leave their “chatzeir,” which may mean house, yard, or domain. Married women should not appear in public without covering their hair.

NOTE It is an act of piety for married women to always cover their hair. (For extenuating circumstances, consult a rabbi for exceptions).

NOTE A married woman may have her hair exposed as long as its area is less than 1 square tefach (3.5” x 3.5”, or about 9 cm x 9 cm). To measure this, add up all exposed hair to get a total area, flattened to two dimensions, as if it were a silhouette. It is an act of piety for married women to completely cover their hair.

To measure braided or bunched-up hair or hair in a pony tail, simply measure the cross-sectional area as it is. You do not need to measure the hair as if it were spread out flat.

When wearing a baseball-type hat, hair may be exposed on all sides, as long as the total exposed hair is less than 3.5” X 3.5.”

To wear a “kipa sheitl,” you may wrap your real hair around the sheitl, but only up to a total of 3.5” x 3.5.”

Attire: Married Women: Hair Cuts

A Jewish woman may have her hair cut by any hairdresser, including men, whether Jewish or not, and there is no problem of his seeing her uncovered hair.

Attire: Married Women: Doctors

A married woman may allow her doctor to see her hair uncovered if necessary for treatment or examination.

Attire: Married Women: Hair Covered during Prayer

A married woman is not required by halacha to have her hair covered when praying alone, but the custom is for her do to so.