# Sukka: Schach: Materials

## Non-Kli

You may not use a kli for sukka schach.

A *kli* is any item created with the intention of being used as a tool or utensil to make an activity easier.

#### **EXAMPLES**

- Bamboo if it had been used for any other purpose.
- · Wooden ladder.
- · Walking stick.

#### Non-Edible

A <u>sukka</u>'s covering (<u>schach</u>) must consist of non-edible branches, leaves, or other materials of plant origin such as boards. You may use wooden boards (such as 2" x 4"s) to hold up <u>schach</u>, even though lumber is intended to be used for construction.

## Size

Boards or tree trunks—whether used as <u>schach</u> or used to hold up <u>schach</u>-must be not more than 15 inches (38 cm) wide. A board--whether used as <u>schach</u> or used to hold up <u>schach</u>-more than 15 inches wide invalidates the area below it and you would have to sit under <u>kosher schach</u> in order to fulfill the <u>mitzva</u>. In the case of a board more than 15 inches wide: If the <u>sukka</u> has only three walls, the board may invalidate the <u>sukka</u>. Consult a <u>rabbi</u>.

#### **Fresh**

You may not use branches whose leaves will dry up in less than 8 days, intending to replace the branches with fresh ones during <u>chol ha'moed</u>; the custom is to use evergreen leaves only if you want to use leaves as <u>schach</u>.

### **Fasteners**

Schach on the sukka must stay by itself without fasteners or connectors, even in a place with normally high wind. Any man-made fasteners--such as plastic, metal, or even hemp cord or rope--will invalidate the schach. If the schach will stay without them, then you may use fasteners or connectors as reinforcements.

## **Year-Round Structures**

You may use a pergola, gazebo, or other type of awning frame or roof structure that exists year-round for a *sukka* as long as the other conditions (size, slope, materials, timing, etc.) are *kosher*. You must first remove any permanent roof coverings before putting on the *schach*.

NOTE The slope of the sukka roof must be less than 45 degrees from horizontal.