

Summary of *Hilchot Shofar*

Based on the Psakim of Rabbi Eliyahu Ben Haim Shlit"א

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1. Hearing the *Shofar* on *Rosh Hashana* is a **Torah Mitzvah** (מצוה מדאורייתא). Therefore, the *Shofar* Blowers must know the *Halachot* well, and must have *Yirat Shamayim*. (Rabbi Ben Haim)
2. Because the *Gemara* uses the word "פשוטה," ideally, the *Shofar* Blower should **not** go up or down at the end of the blast. He should try and keep each blast one straight pitch. (However, the *Shofar Blowing* is still *Kosher* if one does go up/down at the end of a blast). (Rabbi Ben Haim)
3. Timing of Each Sound (*S"א 590:3; M"ב 590:15*):
 - תקיעה
 - No maximum length.
 - Minimum length must be equal to (or greater than) the time it takes to blow the sounds in the middle.
 - Approximately 5 seconds (based on Rabbi Ben Haim's *Psak*).
 - שברים
 - Must be very careful when blowing שברים (if blown for too long can potentially become a תקיעה according to some opinions).
 - Each שבר is **maximum** 1 second (based on Rabbi Ben Haim's *Psak*).
 - In total, the שברים should ideally total (approximately) 2.5 seconds.
 - תרועה
 - No maximum length.
 - Minimum length is equal to time it takes to blow all 3 שברים.
 - Approximately 2.5 seconds (based on Rabbi Ben Haim's *Psak*)
4. In the first 30 sounds (תקיעות דמיושב – after the *Beracha*), should **not** breathe between שברים-תרועה in תשר"ת. (*S"א 590:4*)
 In the remaining 70 sounds (תקיעות דמעומד – during *Mussaf*), should breathe between שברים-תרועה in תשר"ת. (*S"א 590:4*)