

Knocking on the Door on Shabbath and Yom Tov

כל משמיעי קול אסורין בשבת וכו' ר' אילא עני בסדרא. סלק לביתא אשכחון דמיכין רבע ליה על
סולמא בגין דלא מקשה על תרעא בשובתא (ביצה ה:ב כ, ב)

Anything that produces a sound is forbidden on the Sabbath (or Yom Tov) . . . Rabbi Ila delayed in the study hall. When he we came home he found [the family members] sleeping. He lay down on the latter so as not to knock on the gate on Shabbath.

The Mishnah prohibits clapping and dancing on Shabbath/Yom Tov because this may lead one to fix an instrument. The Talmud Yerushalmi extends the prohibition to any kind of knocking, even simply knocking on a door with one's hand.

The Babylonian Rabbis (*Eruvin* 104a) limited the prohibition to knocking to a rhythm, while the Palestinian Amora 'Ulla representing the Law of the Land of Israel prohibited any knocking. Some Rabbis, such as Rabbenu Hananel, drawing support from the Talmud Yerushalmi rule in favor of 'Ulla prohibiting all knocking.

Rel: Bavli 36b, Eruvin 104a