

Parshat Kedoshim

51 Mitzvot in 51 Minutes



Beit Midrash Morasha
@ Arthur's Road
בית מדרש מורשה

Torah Tidbits: Kedoshim with 51 mitzvot is in 5th place on the Mitzvot per Sedra Chart. But if we look at Mitzva Density, a statistic that takes into account the size of a sedra in addition to its mitzva-count, K'doshim takes first place. Let's define mitzva density (MD) as the number of mitzvot per 100 p'sukim. The overall MD of the Torah is 613 divided by 5846 times 100, which comes to about 10.5 - that's about ten and a half mitzvot for every 100 p'sukim. Ki Teitzei, with 74 mitzvot in 110 p'sukim has an MD of 67.3. K'doshim has 51 mitzvot in only 64 p'sukim for an MD of 79.7

Source	Mitzva (Seifer HaChinnuch)	Notes and Explanations (mostly from Sefer Chareidim)
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1.	Vayikra 19:3	Revere your father and mother View your father and mother as a King and Queen; view their instructions accordingly and fulfil them. Don't sit or stand in their special place; don't contradict them even if they are clearly wrong; don't even adjudicate an argument to say "My father is right". Chazal call this "The most serious of the serious Mitzvot in the Torah". The only time you don't have to listen to them is if they tell you to go against a law of the Torah or of the Rabbis. If you are busy serving them, and a positive Mitzva presents itself, you are exempt from it. If the Mitzva presented itself first, try to get someone else to do it. If you can't, serve your parents and then do the Mitzva.
2.	Vayikra 19:4	Do not turn astray after idol-worship in thought or word Do not entertain the idea that there might be truth in the worship of idols.
3.	Vayikra 19:4	Do not make an idol, for yourself or for anyone else
4.	Vayikra 19:6-8	Do not eat meat of sacrifices after their time has elapsed
5.	Vayikra 19:9	Do not harvest the edge of your field Our Sages specified that these corners must constitute 1/60 of the area of your field.
6.	Vayikra 19:10	Leave an edge of your field for the poor
7.	Vayikra 19:10	Leave the gleanings of the harvest for the poor This Mitzva is called <i>leket</i> and it refers to the ears of grain that fell from the reaper's hand or the sickle while the grain is being gathered during the harvest
8.	Vayikra 19:9	Do not gather stalks of grain that fell away during the harvest
9.	Vayikra 19:10	Leave a part of your vineyard for the poor
10.	Vayikra 19:10	Do not reap all of the fruits of your vineyard
11.	Vayikra 19:10	Leave fallen grapes in your vineyard for the poor
12.	Vayikra 19:10	Do not gather fallen grapes in your vineyard
13.	Vayikra 19:11	Do not steal anything of value You may not even steal back your property from a thief - this is a branch of theft because, in doing this, you taste the taste of theft. Rather confront the thief with your claim. Do not borrow something without permission Do not lend out an item that you are borrowing. Do not deceive people - This includes misrepresenting your products and inviting someone to a <i>Simcha</i> because you know that they will be unable to attend, but will be grateful to you.
14.	Vayikra 19:11	Do not deny it when something of value that belongs to another is in your possession Someone who does this will be disqualified from giving testimony in the future.
15.	Vayikra 19:11	Do not swear falsely in denial about something of value
16.	Vayikra 19:12	Do not swear falsely

17.	Vayikra 19:13	Do not withhold another's property wrongly	
18.	Vayikra 19:13	Do not rob	This means don't take money or possessions from someone by force.
19.	Vayikra 19:13	Do not delay payment of a hired worker	You must pay him/her during the day/night period immediately following the conclusion of their labour.
20.	Vayikra 19:14	Do not curse any Jew	
21.	Vayikra 19:14	Do not make a trusting person stumble through misleading advice	
22.	Vayikra 19:15	Do not pervert justice in a civil judgement	
23.	Vayikra 19:15	Do not honour an eminent person at a trial	
24.	Vayikra 19:15	As a judge, render judgement with righteousness	
25.	Vayikra 19:16	Do not gossip slanderously	This is the primary prohibition against Lashon Hara and spreading inflammatory information.
26.	Vayikra 19:16	Do not stand idly by when someone's blood is shed	
27.	Vayikra 19:17	Do not hate your brother	Hatred of others causes many other terrible <i>aveirot</i> , such as <i>Lashon Hara</i> , <i>Rechilus</i> , seeking out the negative points of others, rejoicing at their downfall, and causing them damage. You are considered to be hating someone if you don't speak to them for 3 days.
28.	Vayikra 19:17	Rebuke a fellow Jew for improper behaviour	If someone does you, or your relative, a bad turn, or spoke badly about you (whether you were there or not), rebuke them about it. Perhaps they will admit fault, or they may explain to you that no wrong was done. Don't ignore the issue and retain the bad feelings. If you see someone sinning, or going on a path that is not good (whether this is between man and man or man and Hashem), it is a Mitzva to bring him back to good.
29.	Vayikra 19:17	Do not shame a Jew	This applies even when you are rebuking them for their own good. However, if you rebuked him many times and he was unwilling to listen, you should rebuke him publically.
30.	Vayikra 19:18	Do not take revenge	This applies even to refusing to help someone because they didn't help you. The punishment is not for the action itself, but for guarding the revenge in your heart.
31.	Vayikra 19:18	Do not bear a grudge	This applies even when you help someone who didn't help you, but remind them of the fact that they weren't willing to help you.
32.	Vayikra 19:18	Love a fellow Jew	Speak in his praise; take care of his money as you would your own; desire honour for him as you do for yourself, love and be compassionate towards him the way you love and are compassionate towards yourself; desire his benefit; rejoice when things are good for him, feel pain when they are hard; always speak to him calmly, lovingly and with honour.
33.	Vayikra 19:19	Do not mate two animals of different species	
34.	Vayikra 19:19	Do not sow different kinds of seed together in the land of Israel	Just as the prohibition against interbreeding animals applies even outside of Israel, so too the prohibition against mixing seeds applies even outside of Israel. You may not even tell someone who isn't Jewish to do this.
35.	Vayikra 19:23	Do not eat the first three years' produce of a tree	You not even derive benefit from this fruit or its peels. You may, however, derive benefit from the leave and branches. <i>Orlah</i> applies even outside of Israel from the Torah, based on a <i>Halacha Lmoshe Minsai</i> . Included in this tradition, however, is that if there is a doubt as to whether this is <i>Orlah</i> , outside of Israel it is permitted.
36.	Vayikra 19:23-24	Treat the fourth years' produce of a tree as sacred	
37.	Vayikra 19:26	Do not eat or drink in the manner of a glutton or drunkard	

38.	Vayikra 19:26	Do not practice divination	
39.	Vayikra 19:26	Do not practice conjuring	
40.	Vayikra 19:27	Do not round off the temples of your head	This means that you're not allowed to shave your <i>payot</i> , even if you shave your entire head. This is prohibited not only if you use a razor, but even if you use scissors to cut to the skin.
41.	Vayikra 19:27	Do not destroy the edges of your beard	This means that you can't use a razor to cut the 5 areas of your beard that are classified as "the corners". You may use other means (such as scissors) to cut your beard to the skin. There are differences of opinions amongst our Rabbis as to what areas these corners are, therefore if you who fear Hashem, you should avoid putting a blade to you beard at all. You should not even shave your neck with a blade, because you may end up shaving one of the corners. Women are exempt from this Mitzva and may shave their faces with a blade. You may not shave the face of a fellow Jew, even a minor. Even a woman may not shave a child's face.
42.	Vayikra 19:28	Do not inscribe a tattoo in your flesh	
43.	Vayikra 19:30	Revere the sanctuary	This also applies to a Shul and a Beit Midrash You may not act light headedly – joking around, empty talk etc. This applies even when the community is not engaged in prayer.
44.	Vayikra 19:31	Do not act as a medium (Ov)	
45.	Vayikra 19:31	Do not act as a wizard (Yidoni)	
46.	Vayikra 19:32	Honour wise scholars	Speak to him in a way that shows honour, deference and humility.
47.	Vayikra 19:35	Do not cheat with any kind of measure	The punishment for dishonest weights is more severe than that for the forbidden relationships.
48.	Vayikra 19:36	Ensure that your scales, weights and measures are correct	
49.	Vayikra 20:9	Do not curse your father or mother	This is punishable by death
50.	Vayikra 20:14	As a Beth Din, execute a person sentenced to death by burning, by burning	
51.	Vayikra 20:23	Do not follow the customs and ways of the Amorites	This means that we may not follow their ways in dress, in behaviour or in speech. Rather, the Jewish people should be distinct.

Kedoshim: Written and performed by Elana Jagoda

In the chapters of Leviticus
 These sacred words you shall not miss
 Holy actions are the theme
 In Parshat Kedoshim
 Commandments you shall know indeed:
 Leave some harvest for those in need
 Idols should be far away
 Be sure you keep the Sabbath day
 Always welcome in the stranger
 Take action if someone's in danger
 Take care not to impede the blind
 Do not wear cloth of threads combined
 It does no good to bear a grudge
 Your duty to be a fair judge
 Don't mix species of two kinds
 Do pay workers in good time
 Don't sleep with the bride chosen for
 another man
 Or you must offer up a ram
 Please do not falsely swear

Follow the rules when you trim your hair
 Don't subject your daughter to prostitution
 Don't solve disputes through retribution
 Forbidden is a new tree's fruit
 Don't go after your neighbour's loot
 Don't insult the deaf although they cannot
 hear
 Your mother and father you shall revere
 Help another if you are able
 No meat with blood at your table
 God's sanctuary you shall venerate
 With ghosts do not communicate
 In ways of magic do not prophesize
 Before your elders you must rise
 On your skin, no tattoos
 And love the body Hashem gave you
 Some may say above all else
 Love your neighbor as yourself
 In the chapters of Leviticus
 These sacred words you shall not miss
 Holy actions are the theme
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