

Purity & Ablution

الطَّهَارَةُ

No prayer is accepted without purity. The rulings of all four madhāhib, side by side.

- 2 · Wuḍū — the obligatory acts
- 3 · What breaks wuḍū
- 4 · Ghusl — the full washing
- 5 · Tayammum — dry purification
- 6 · Wiping over khuffayn
- 7 · Najāsah — impurity & its removal
- 8 · Ḥayḍ, nifās & istiḥāḍah

H = Hanafī · M = Mālikī · S = Shāfi‘ī · Hb = Hanbalī. Gradings per al-Albānī unless stated.

02 Wuḍū — the obligations

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ

Begin with *Bismillāh*, then the sequence below three times each unless noted.

- 1 Hands to the wrists
- 2 Rinse the mouth · 3 Rinse the nose
- 4 The face — hairline to chin, ear to ear
- 5 Right arm to the elbow, then left
- 6 Wipe the head — once
- 7 Wipe the ears — inner and outer
- 8 Right foot to the ankle, then left

Bukhārī, Muslim — the wuḍū of ‘Uthmān ^ṣ · ṣaḥīḥ

HOW MANY ACTS ARE FARḌ

- H · **four** — face, arms, wipe ¼ of the head, feet.
- M · **seven** — adds niyyah, wiping the *whole* head, rubbing (daik) and continuity (muwālāt).
- S · **six** — adds niyyah and order (tartīb); part of the head suffices.
- Hb · **six** — whole head with the ears, tartīb, muwālāt.

Washing a limb once fulfils the obligation; three is the sunnah. Never exceed three.

03 What breaks wuḍū

AGREED UPON

- Anything exiting the front or back passage.
- Deep sleep in which awareness is lost.
- Loss of consciousness — fainting, intoxication, insanity.
- Whatever obliges ghusl also nullifies wuḍū.

DISPUTED

Touching the private part — breaks per M, S, Hb; does not per H.

Skin contact with the opposite sex — breaks per S outright; per M and Hb only with desire; does not per H.

Flowing blood, pus or vomit — breaks per H; does not per M, S, Hb.

Camel meat — breaks per Hb; does not per the other three.

Touching a woman’s hand in ṭawāf — follows the ruling above.

Camel meat: Muslim · ṣaḥīḥ. Touching: Q 5:6 — *aw lāmastum*, read literally by S.

THE RULE FOR DOUBT

الْيَقِينُ لَا يَزُولُ بِالشَّكِّ

Certainty is not removed by doubt. If you are sure you had wuḍū and unsure you broke it, you still have it.

Muslim · ṣaḥīḥ — “until he hears a sound or finds a scent.”

04 Ghusl

WHEN IT IS OBLIGATORY

- Ejaculation with desire, waking or asleep.
- Intercourse — whether or not ejaculation occurs.
- The ending of ḥayḍ and of nifās.
- Death — performed by the living upon the deceased.
- Entering Islam — obligatory per Hb, recommended per others.

Bukhārī, Muslim · ṣaḥīḥ — “When the two circumcised parts meet, ghusl is obligatory.”

THE MANNER

- 1 Intention, then wash the hands.
- 2 Wash away any impurity from the body.
- 3 Perform a complete wuḍū.
- 4 Pour water over the head three times, working it to the roots.
- 5 Pour over the right side, then the left, until all skin is wetted.

Bukhārī, Muslim — the ghusl of Maymūnah and of ‘A’ishah ^ṣ · ṣaḥīḥ

Farḍ acts: H counts three — rinsing the mouth, the nose, and wetting the whole body. M, S and Hb require intention and the whole body; M adds rubbing and continuity. A woman need not undo her braids for janābah, only for ḥayḍ.

Muslim · ṣaḥīḥ — the ḥadīth of Umm Salamah ^ṣ

05 Tayammum فَلَمْ تَجِدُوا مَاءً فَتَيَمَّمُوا صَعِيدًا طَيِّبًا "And you find no water, then take clean earth." Q 5:6 WHEN IT IS PERMITTED Water is absent, or too little for both drinking and purifying. Illness or a wound that water would worsen or delay healing. Severe cold with no means to warm the water. Water is present but unreachable without real danger. THE MANNER Intend, strike clean earth with both palms, blow off the excess, wipe the face, then the hands. Ḥ, S · two strikes — face first, then the arms to the elbows. M, Ḥb · one strike — face and hands to the wrists. Bukhārī, Muslim — the ḥadīth of ‘Ammār ^Ṣ · ṣaḥīḥ It is nullified by whatever nullifies wuḍū, and by water becoming available. It substitutes for both wuḍū and ghusl. One tayammum per prayer per S; it lasts until nullified per Ḥ, M and Ḥb.	06 Wiping over khuffayn In place of washing the feet, one may wipe over leather socks or footwear that covers the ankles. CONDITIONS Put on while in a state of complete purity. Covering the ankles, and firm enough to walk in. Free of tears large enough to expose the foot. Only for minor impurity — never in place of ghusl. DURATION Resident — one day and night, 24 hours. Traveller — three days and nights, 72 hours. Counted from the first wipe after breaking wuḍū, not from putting them on. M sets no time limit, provided they remain clean and intact. Muslim — the ḥadīth of ‘Alī ^Ṣ · ṣaḥīḥ Wipe the upper surface only, from toes toward the shin, once. Wiping the sole is not the sunnah. Abū Dāwūd · ṣaḥīḥ — "Were the religion by opinion, the underside would merit wiping." Removing the socks, or the term expiring, ends the wiping. Bandages and casts are wiped over without any time limit.	07 Najāsah WHAT IS IMPURE Urine, excrement, madhī and wadī, menstrual blood. Blood that flows, pus, vomit in quantity. Swine, and the saliva of a dog. Carion, and the meat of any animal not slaughtered lawfully. Wine and every intoxicating drink. DEGREES & REMOVAL Grave — a vessel licked by a dog: seven washes, the first with earth. Light — the urine of a boy not yet eating solids: sprinkle until covered, no wringing. Ordinary — wash until colour, scent and taste are gone; a remaining stain that resists is pardoned. Muslim · ṣaḥīḥ; Abū Dāwūd · ṣaḥīḥ — the ḥadīth of Umm Qays ^Ṣ Pure although often assumed otherwise: semen — scraped when dry, wiped when wet; the sweat and saliva of a cat; the hair and skin of a tanned hide; a small quantity of blood. Muslim · ṣaḥīḥ — "She is not impure; she is among those who circle about you."	08 Ḥayḍ, nifās, istiḥāḍah A women's reference. This panel is self-contained and may be given separately. DURATION OF ḤAYḌ Ḥ — minimum three days, maximum ten. S, Ḥb — minimum a day and a night, maximum fifteen. M — no fixed minimum; maximum fifteen. The least purity between two cycles is fifteen days. NIFĀS — AFTER CHILDBIRTH Maximum forty days per Ḥ and Ḥb; sixty per M and S. Should the bleeding stop sooner, she bathes and resumes at once. SUSPENDED DURING BOTH Prayer — and it is not made up afterwards. Fasting — and it is made up afterwards. Ṭawāf around the Ka'bah; intercourse. All else of Ḥajj is performed as normal. Bukhārī, Muslim · ṣaḥīḥ — "Do all that the pilgrim does, except circle the House." Istiḥāḍah — bleeding outside the known cycle is an ailment, not hayḍ. She bathes once, then makes fresh wuḍū for each prayer and prays and fasts as normal. Bukhārī · ṣaḥīḥ — the ḥadīth of Fātimah bint Abī Hubaysh ^Ṣ
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