DAF YOMI · ARACHIN 9

How Many Full Months?

Months, years and the molad: why a year may have 4 to 8 full months.

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STEP 1 · THE UNITS

Hours and chalakim

1 hour

1,080

chalakim

1 day = 24 hours

25,920

chalakim (24 × 1,080)

1 cheleq

3⅓

seconds, about

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STEP 2 · THE MONTH

A month has whole days: 29 or 30

The real time from molad to molad: 29 days, 12 hours, 793 chalakim. For now we ignore the 12 hours and 793 chalakim.



Two months are about 59 days, so we alternate: one short, one full.

Sand = short month, 29 days Copper = full month, 30 days

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STEP 3 · THE YEAR

6 full + 6 short months = 354 days



6 × 30 + 6 × 29 = 180 + 174 = 354 days. The real 12 months are 354 days, 8 hours, 876 chalakim. We set that leftover aside for later.

Sand = short month, 29 days Copper = full month, 30 days

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STEP 4 · THE WEEKDAY

354 = 50 weeks + 4 days: Rosh Hashana moves 4 days



Example: Rosh Hashana on Sunday, next year on Thursday. A leap year with a 29-day extra Adar: 383 days = 54 weeks + 5 days. With a 30-day extra Adar: 384 days = 54 weeks + 6 days.

Navy = this year’s Rosh Hashana Teal = next year’s Rosh Hashana

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THE PROBLEM

Rosh Hashana should land on the molad

◂ Rosh Hashana early

Rosh Hashana late ▸

	−3 d	−2 d	−1 d	molad / Rosh Hashana / 0 d	+1 d	+2 d	+3 d
6 full, 6 short exactly on the molad							
8 full, 4 short 2 days after the molad				molad / 0 d		Rosh Hashana / +2 d	
9 full, 3 short 3 days after the molad				molad / 0 d			Rosh Hashana / +3 d

Each full month above 6 adds 1 day.

Teal = allowed, within 1 day Gold = one day off Red = too far, 2 or 3 days off

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THE MISHNAH

At least 4 full months, and no more than 8

Most full months allowed: 8 full, 4 short



Fewest full months allowed: 4 full, 8 short

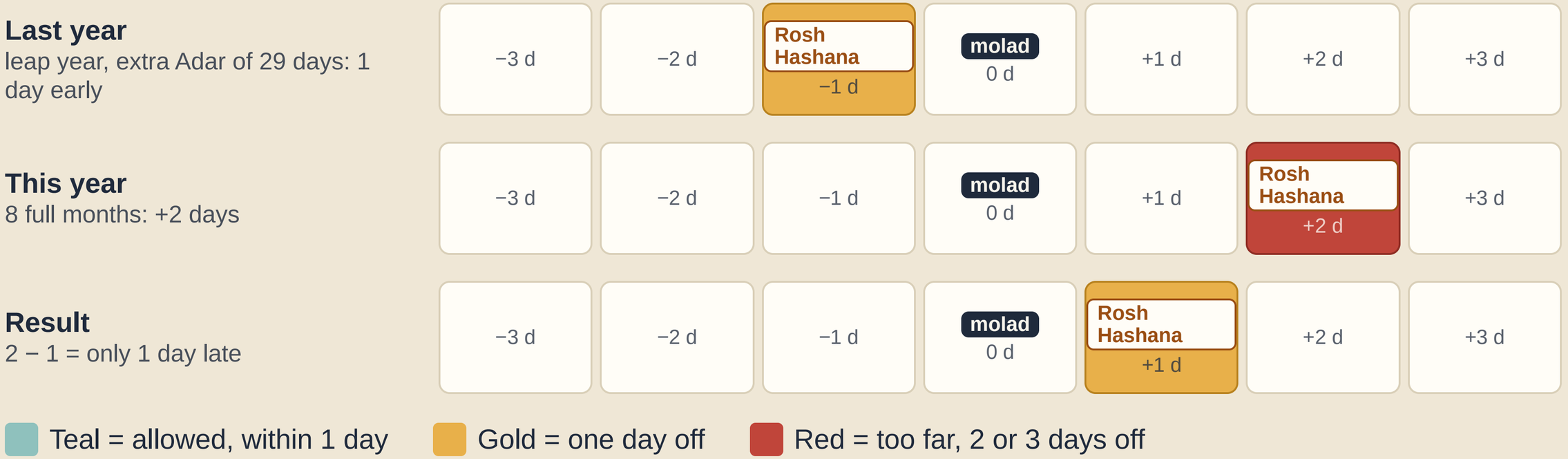


Sand = short month, 29 days Copper = full month, 30 days

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RAV HUNA

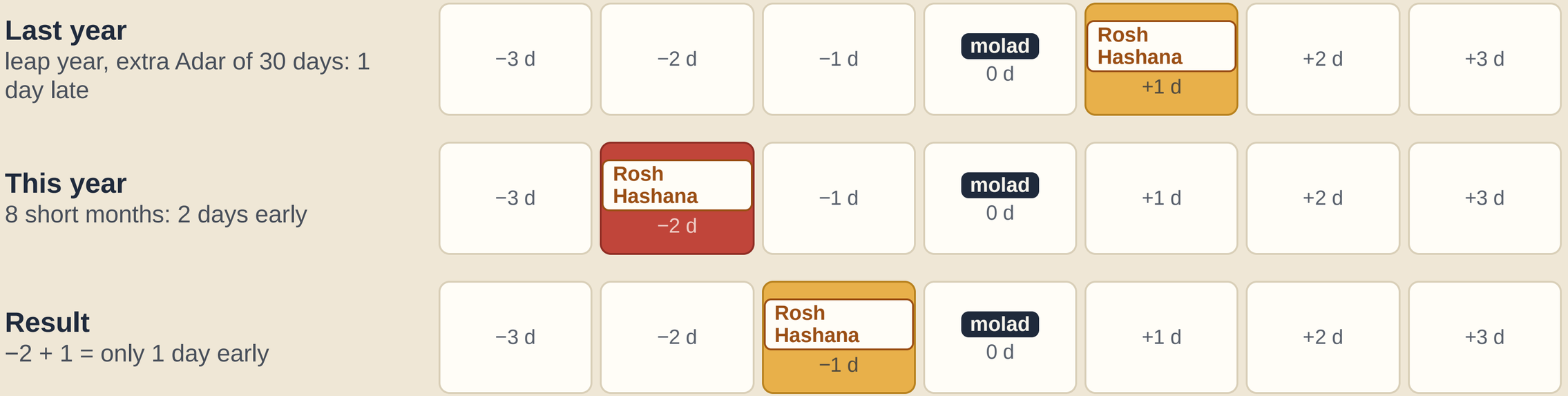
8 full months after a 29-day extra Adar



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ULLA

8 short months after a 30-day extra Adar



Teal = allowed, within 1 day Gold = one day off Red = too far, 2 or 3 days off

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WHAT THEY ARGUE ABOUT

How long is the extra Adar?

	Tanna Kama	Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel
Extra Adar is	always 30 days	29 or 30 days
Followed by	Ulla	Rav Huna
8 short months	works (extra Adar of 30)	works (extra Adar of 30)
8 full months	cannot work	works (extra Adar of 29)

Teal = allowed, within 1 day Red = too far, 2 or 3 days off

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THE SIMAN

Know the weekday of Pesach, know the weekday of the rest

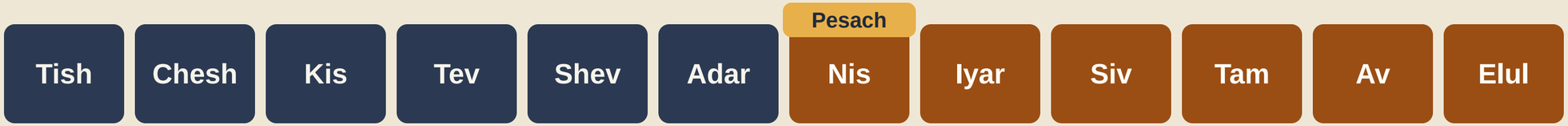
Day of Pesach	Same weekday as	Example	Siman
Day 1 · 15 Nisan	Tisha b’Av	Mon	את
Day 2 · 16 Nisan	Shavuot	Tue	בש
Day 3 · 17 Nisan	Rosh Hashana	Wed	גר
Day 4 · 18 Nisan	Simchat Torah (23 Tishrei)	Thu	דק
Day 5 · 19 Nisan	Yom Kippur	Fri	הצ

Example: day 1 of Pesach is Monday. This holds when the months alternate (Nisan, Sivan, Av full).

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WHERE THE FULL MONTH GOES

Only the months after Pesach move Rosh Hashana



Where the full month goes	What moves	Rosh Hashana has the weekday of
A full month before Pesach (Tishrei to Adar)	Pesach moves too: the gap to Rosh Hashana stays	Day 3 of Pesach
A summer month made short (Nisan to Elul)	Rosh Hashana 1 day earlier	Day 2 of Pesach
A summer month made full (Nisan to Elul)	Rosh Hashana 1 day later	Day 4 of Pesach

Navy = months before Pesach Copper = months from Nisan to Elul Teal = the normal case

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THE BRAITA

Rosh Hashana on day 2 or day 3 of Pesach

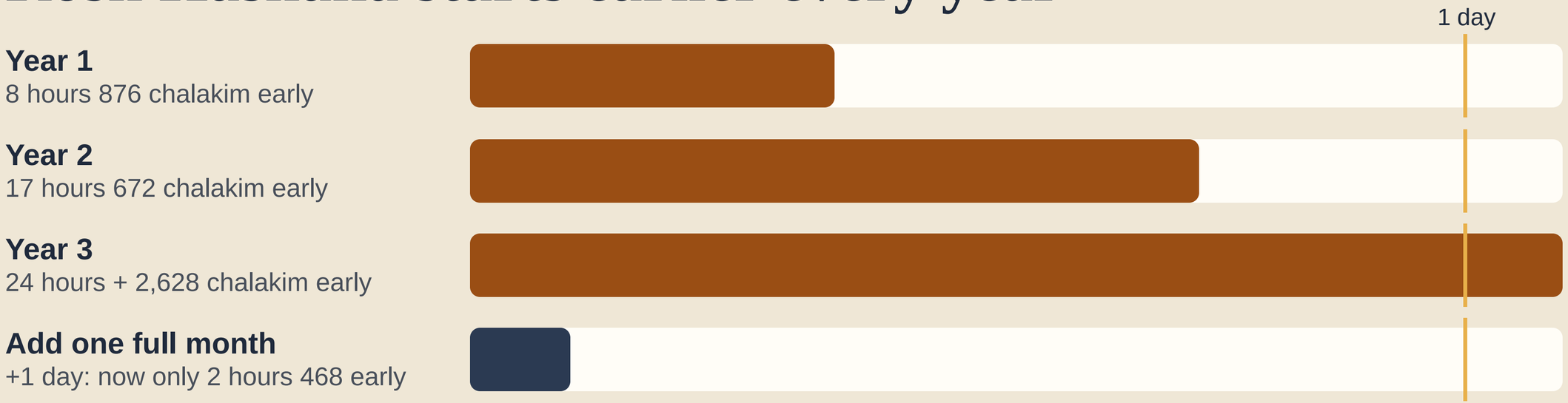
Summer months	Rosh Hashana has the weekday of	In the Braita?
One summer month made short	16 Nisan (day 2)	Yes: “yom hanef”
Months alternate	17 Nisan (day 3, “31 Nisan”)	Yes: “ivuro”
One more summer month made full	18 Nisan (day 4, “32 Nisan”)	No

Teal = allowed, within 1 day Red = too far, 2 or 3 days off

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EVERY 3 YEARS

Rosh Hashana starts earlier every year



8 + 8 + 8 = 24 hours = 1 day. Every 3rd year, one more month is made full (355 days).

Copper = how early Rosh Hashana starts

Navy = left after the extra day

Gold line = one full day

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EVERY 30 YEARS

The chalakim left over every 3 years add up too

Each block is 2,628 chalakim (what is left every 3 years). The numbers are the years.



10 blocks = 26,280 chalakim = 1 day (25,920) + 360. Every 30 years, one more month is made full.

Navy = chalakim left over every 3 years

Copper = more than one day: the extra day is added

Gold line = one full day

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SUMMARY

How far Rosh Hashana moves each year

Year	Days	Weeks + days	Rosh Hashana moves
Regular year	354 days	50 weeks + 4	+4 weekdays
Regular year, 3rd-year correction	355 days	50 weeks + 5	+5 weekdays
Leap year, extra Adar of 29	383 days	54 weeks + 5	+5 weekdays
Leap year, extra Adar of 30	384 days	54 weeks + 6	+6 weekdays

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YEAR LENGTHS

352 to 356 days

4 full, 8 short = 352 days



6 full, 6 short = 354 days



8 full, 4 short = 356 days



Rebbi: 3 full, 9 short = 351 days



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