

# One or Two Days Rosh Chodesh

A TTreader who looked over this year's calendar (5779), noticed that we will have 8 months with two days Rosh Chodesh and only 4 with one day R"Ch. He asked if that was rare.

So here's the story:

Rosh Chodesh Tishrei is eclipsed and hidden by Rosh HaShana, so we will leave Tishrei out of the picture.

Twelve month years (one Adar) have 11 months with Rosh Chodesh and 13 month years (two Adars) have 12.

A month that follows a month with 30 days, will have two days of R"Ch. A month that follows a 29-day month will have only one day of R"Ch.

If follows that Marcheshvan, Adar, Adar Alef, Adar Bet, Iyar, Tammuz, and Elul will always have two days R"Ch (in our fixed calendar) and Sh'vat, Nissan, Sivan, and Av will always have one day Rosh Chodesh.

Marcheshvan and Kislev are the two variable months. As far as these two months are concerned, there are three types of years. In K'SEIDER or K'SIDRAN years, Marcheshvan has 29 days and Kislev has 30 - their 'normal' allotment of days.

In a SHALEIM year, Marcheshvan will have 30s and so will Kislev.

In a CHASEIR year, Kislev will have 29 days, and so will Marcheshvan.

Leaving out which day of the week Rosh HaShana begins - because that factor does not affect the number of days of R"Ch for each month, there are six different year-types. Following the description of the year-type is the pattern of number of days of R"Ch, from Marcheshvan through Elul, and the totals of 1 or 2 days R"Ch, and in parentheses, the frequency of each year type.

12-month CHASEIR year	2 1 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	6/5	(10.04%)
12-month K'SEDER year	2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	5/6	(24.30%)
12-month SHALEIM year	2 2 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	4/7	(28.83%)
13-month CHASEIR year	2 1 1 1 2 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	6/6	(15.47%)
13-month K'SEDER year	2 1 2 1 2 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	5/7	(5.26%)
13-month SHALEIM year	2 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	4/8	(16.10%)

And so... Eight 2-day Rosh Chodesh? Not so rare.