

# Learning Hebrew: Hophal Stem

## HOPHAL STEM

The Hophal Stem is the passive of the Hiphil and is used to express causative action with a passive voice.

Hiphil Stem: **הִמְלִיךָ** (he made [someone] king)

Hophal Stem: **הִמְלָךְ** (he was made king)

## HOPHAL – STRONG VERBS

The Hophal Perfect is formed with the either a kibuts prefix or a kamets prefix and a patach stem vowel (except in the third-person, feminine singular and third-person, common plural which both have a sheva stem vowel).

Hophal Stem (kibuts): **הִקְטַל**

Hophal Stem (kamets): **הִקְטַל**

The Hophal Imperfect is formed with the Imperfect preformative, a patach vowel, and the Imperfect sufformatives.

The exception to this rule is for the second-person, feminine singular, third-person, masculine plural and the second-person masculine plural where the sufformatives consist of a vowel.

Hophal Stem (kibuts): **יִקְטַלְךָ**

Hophal Stem (kamets): **יִקְטַלְךָ**

The Hophal Participle is formed with a **הִ** or a **הָ** prefix, kamets stem vowel (except the feminine singular which takes a segol), and the inflectional endings of the Participle.

Hophal Stem (kibuts): **מִקְטַל**

Hophal Stem (kamets): **מִקְטַל**

## HOPHAL STEM – WEAK VERBS

Category I-**ה** Guttural Hophal Stem weak verbs keep the same rules as the strong verbs.

Category III-**ה** Hophal Stem weak verbs keep the same rules as the strong verbs.

Category I-**ה** Hophal Stem weak verbs keep the same rules as the strong verbs.

Category I-׳ Hophal Stem weak verbs keep the same rules as the strong verbs except that the initial ׳ in the first root position is changed to a shurek (׳).

Sources: *The First Hebrew Primer, Third Edition* by Simon, Resnikoff, and Motzkin *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar* by Pratico and Van Pelt

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