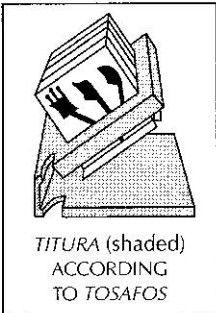


9. The *titura* [literally: bridge (see *Bava Basra* 21a; *Nedarim* 41a)] is the base the tefillin, and it is made in the following manner: After the passages are inserted into the four compartments of the head tefillin through the opening at the bottom of the *ketzitzah* [the compartments having been fashioned like gloves to receive the parch-

ments], the extra leather at the bottom of the *ketzitzah's* front and two side walls is cut away. The extended fourth wall is then folded back under the *ketzitzah* to serve as the tefillin's base [and as a seal for its opening]. After being aligned with the edges of the front and side walls, the extended piece is stitched in place. This part of the tefillin is called *titura* (bridge) because it resembles the plank of a bridge (*Rashi*). See illustrations. [In *Rashi's* view, then, the *titura* and *ketzitzah* are made from the same piece of hide. According to *Tosafos* and many other Rishonim, however, the *titura* is fashioned from a separate hide (see *Shitah Mekubetzes* §20 and illustration).]



The Rishonim debate whether or not *Rashi* learns that the *titura* protrudes like a rim around the bottom of the *ketzitzah*. According to *Mordechai*, *Rashi* holds that it does not protrude (see also *Pri Megadim*, *Aishel Avraham* 32:56). *Rosh* and *Sefer HaTerumah* take the opposite view. See illustration. In *Tosafos'* own view (see above), the *titura* perforce protrudes (see also *Ittur*, *Shaar Rishon* §3; *Rosh* §9).

