

Translation Aids – Sanctuary Terms

The Curtains of the Tabernacle

Location	Hebrew	Root	English	Material	Receptor language	Key references
the enclosure of the courtyard	קָלַע	ql' II (HALOT: MHeb. "to weave / plait")	hanging / drapery / curtain	fine linen		Ex 27:9 Ex 38:9 Num 3:26; 4:26
curtain at the entrance to the courtyard	מָסָךְ	skk I 'shut off as protection' (HALOT); 'cover / guard / over-shadow' (NIDOTTE)	screen / cover / curtain / hanging	fine linen & colorful yarn		Ex 27:16 Ex 38:18 Num 3:26; 4:26
curtain at the entrance to the Holy Tent	מָסָךְ	ditto	ditto	ditto		Ex 26:36 Ex 36:37 Num 3:25; 4:25
curtain between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place ("second / inner curtain")	פָּרֹכֶת הַמָּסָךְ	pārōket: HALOT: "that which blocks off, separates" (with "?"; indicating uncertainty re: this underlying meaning)	"the curtain of the screen" *	fine linen & colorful yarn; with cherubim **		Ex 35:12; 39:34; 40:21; Num 4:5 [only]
ditto	פָּרֹכֶת		curtain / veil			Ex 26:31-33 Ex 36:35 & often
ditto	מָסָךְ		screen / cover / curtain / hanging			Num 3:31 [only]
ditto	פָּרֹכֶת הַקֹּדֶשׁ		"the curtain of the Holy Place"			Lev 4:6 [only]
ditto	פָּרֹכֶת הָעֵדוּת		"the curtain of the Testimony"			Lev 24:3 [only]

* Or: "obscuring curtain" (Gesenius / Donner); "protecting curtain" (NIV); "shielding curtain" (NET).

** Like the first [innermost] tent covering.