

May One Extend His Deck If Doing So Would Give Him a View Into His Neighbor's Window ?

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Question: With a little effort, Reuven is able to see into his neighbor's window from his backyard. He now wants to extend the deck in his yard to make room for a large sukkah. From the new deck, he will have a much clearer view of his neighbor's window. Is he allowed to make this extension?

Answer: Most Poskim say that even if one could see into his neighbor's window, if he cannot see into them easily or clearly it is not considered *hezek riya*. Accordingly, if building a deck would make it easier for him to see in the windows, it would not be permitted.

While it is a mitzvah to make a nice deck in order to be able to have a nice sukkah, in this case, it would be preferable to find another way to beautify one's sukkah.