

Hanukkah at Home



Hanukkah:
**THE
BIG
IDEA**

חַנּוּכָּה

This holiday models the Jewish response to darkness: LIGHT. During winter nighttimes - when daylight is most scarce - we light one candle each night for eight nights.

We do so to recall the miracle of Judah Maccabee leading the outnumbered Jews to defeat the mighty Greeks in battle. And we reenact the miracle of the little oil sustaining the Menorah for eight days.

Hanukkah reminds us to never give up no matter how much darkness surrounds us. For one little light drives away a roomful of darkness, *Bayamim Hahem UVazman HazeH*, then and now.

8 Ways to Celebrate 8 Days!

1. Place the Hanukkiyah by the window.
2. Insert the night's candles (one the first night, two the second night, etc.) from right to left.
3. Light the Shammash (helper) candle.
4. Recite the blessings.
5. Light the candles from left to right, starting with the new one.
6. After lighting the candles, recite *Hanerot Hallalu*.
7. Sing assorted Hanukkah songs, traditionally beginning with *Maoz Tzur*.
8. Eat and celebrate!



Foolproof latke tips on back page!

1. Place the Hanukkiyah by the window.
2. Insert the night's candles (one the first night, two the second night, etc.) from right to left.
3. Light the *Shammash* (helper) candle.
4. Recite the blessings.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם,
אשר קדשנו במצותיו, וצונו להדליק
נר של חנוכה.



8 NIGHTS

5. Light the candles from left to right, starting with the new one.
6. After lighting the candles, recite *Hanerot Hallalu*.

הנרות הללו אנחנו מדליקים על הנסים ועל הנפלאות ועל
התשועות ועל המלחמות, שעשית לאבותינו בימים ההם
בזמן הזה, על ידי כהניך הקדושים. וכל שמונת ימי חנוכה
הנרות הללו קדש הם, ואין לנו רשות להשתמש בהם,
אלא לראותם בלבד, כדי להודות ולהלל לשמך הגדול, על
נסיה ועל נפלאותיה ועל ישועתך.

We light these candles to recall the miracles, wonders, salvations, and victories that You performed for our ancestors through Your holy priests in those days and at this time. These candles are holy throughout the eight days of Hanukkah. We may not use them but only look at them in order to thank and praise Your great name for Your miracles, salvations, and wondrous acts.

Baruch atah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam asher kidshanu b-mitzotav v-tzivanu lehadlik ner shel hanukah.

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe Who commanded us to kindle lights for Hanukkah.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, שעשית נסים לאבותינו
בימים ההם בזמן הזה



Baruch atah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam she-asah nisim la-avoteinu bayamim hahem u-vazman hazeh.

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe Who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days and at this time.

(On the first night we add the Sheheyanu:)

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקימנו והגיענו
לזמן הזה.

Barukh atah Adonai eloheinu melekh ha-olam, she-heyanu v'kiymanu v'higianu lazman ha-zeh.

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, for enabling us to live, for sustaining us, and for bringing us to this moment.



7. We then sing assorted Hanukkah songs, traditionally beginning with *Maoz Tzur*.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Maoz tzur yeshuati</i> | מעוז צור ישועתי |
| <i>lecha na-eh</i> | לך נאה לשבח |
| <i>leshabe-ach, tikon</i> | תכון בית תפילתי |
| <i>beit tefillati vsham</i> | ושם תודה נזבח |
| <i>today nezabe-ach,</i> | לעת תכין מטבח |
| <i>l-eit tachin matbe-</i> | מזר המנבח |
| <i>ach mitzar ha-</i> | אז אגמור בשיר |
| <i>menabe-ach,</i> | מזמור |
| <i>az egmor bshir</i> | חנוכת המזבח |
| <i>mizmor hanukat</i> | |
| <i>hamizbe-ach.</i> | |



Protector, Rock of our deliverance, it is fitting to praise You: repair our house of prayer and we shall offer thanksgiving there. When You prepare the slaughter of the enemy exulting over us, then I will break out in song and praise rededicating the altar (Siddur Lev Shalem).

8. Time to eat and celebrate!

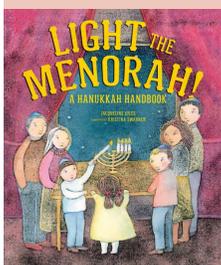
Available from our Beth El Library! Here are three brand new Hanukkah books to share with your family:

All-of-a-Kind Family Hanukkah by Emily Jenkins with illustration by Paul O. Zelinsky



When Gertie is not allowed to help prepare latkes with her older sisters, she throws a tantrum and is banished to the bedroom. But when Papa comes home he gives her the best job of all: lighting the first candle on the menorah. The beloved characters from Sydney Taylor's All-of-a-Kind Family return in a heartwarming picture book celebration of their shared Hanukkah traditions in 1912.

Light the Menorah! A Hanukkah Handbook by Jacqueline Jules with illustrations by Kristina Swarner



Includes holiday history, rituals, activities, songs, and recipes to help you create meaningful family moments in the light of the menorah as well as brief reflections to read aloud before reciting the candle-lighting blessings on each of the eight nights of Hanukkah.

How It's Made: Hanukkah Menorah by Allison Ofanansky



How is a menorah made? Why does it have nine branches? What are the different elements that make a menorah? When do we light it? What blessings do we say, and how does it all fit in with the miracle of Hanukkah? Over 100 explanatory photos help to answer these questions and more!

Check one out from our Pinsof Children's Reading Room or purchase a copy from your favorite bookseller.

Note: On Shabbat Hanukkah, we use candles that will burn for at least an hour. On Friday night we light Hanukkah candles before Shabbat candles, while on Saturday night we do Havdalah before lighting Hanukkah candles.

Foolproof Latke Tips from **epicurious**

The Potatoes

There's no question about it: Russets are hands down the best spuds for making latkes. They have a high starch content, which means your latkes are less likely to fall apart and you don't need flour to bind them.

The Binder

A good latke doesn't require many ingredients beyond potatoes, onions, and eggs, but you need a little bit of binder to keep them together in the pan. Ultimately we sided with Potato Latkes and used all matzo meal because we loved the tender interior and crunchy edges that it produced.

The Oil

Having enough fat in the pan is super-important to prevent those latkes from sticking. We wanted to use something with a high smoke point that also added flavor. A combination of vegetable oil and schmaltz (rendered chicken fat), as suggested by Adam and Maxine's Favorite Latkes, was just the thing.

The Method

We learned from this fast recipe for Potato Latkes that using a food processor's grating disk really cuts down on time (not to mention scraped knuckles). But once you've shredded your potatoes and onions, take heed: There's a critical, unskippable step that will keep your latkes crispy rather than soggy: Make sure you squeeze the excess liquid from the vegetables before mixing them with the eggs, matzo meal, and seasonings.

Happy Latke Making!

To read the complete entry from Epicurious, go to: <https://www.epicurious.com/archive/holidays/hanukkah/how-to-fry-the-ultimate-best-potato-latkes-for-hanukkah-holiday>

North Suburban Synagogue

Beth El
בית כנסת בית אל

Transliterations from Siddur Lev Shalem.
When finished with this guide, please place in Geniza at Beth El, as it contains God's name.