

Hanukkah Home Service

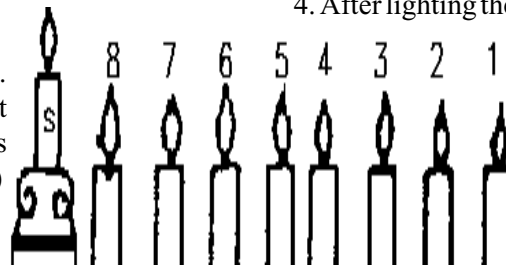
Hanukkah is a wonderful holiday and our celebration must include more than just the custom of giving gifts. Decorating the home with *Hanukkah* symbols increases the holiday spirit. The most important part of the holiday is lighting of the *Hanukkah* candles. The only function of the candles is to be watched. They may not be used for heat or light.

Everyone is obligated to light the candles. If possible, there should be a *hanukiyah* (*menorah*) for every member of the family. A *hanukiyah* is easy to make and using a home-made one can enhance the joy of the holiday.

Home Service

1. Place the candles in the *hanukiyah* as shown in the diagram. The number of candles should equal the number of the night of *Hanukkah*, plus one for the *Shammash*. When the candles are lit, the highest number candle is lit first. The *Shammash* (S) is lit nightly to light the other candles.

Note: On Friday night, light the *Hanukkah* candles before the *Shabbat* candles. On Saturday night, light them after *Havdalah*.



2. Place the *hanukiyah* near a window so people can see the lights. The purpose of lighting the candles is *pirsuma d'nisa*, to publicize the miracle of *Hanukkah*.

3. After lighting the *Shammash* and before lighting the other candles, say the following *brakhot*:

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

Barukh ata adonai elohenu melekh ha'olam, asher kideshanu bemitz-votav ve'tzivanu lehadlik ner shel hanukah.

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Master of time and space, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to light the *Hanukkah* lights.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם
שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם ובזמן הזה.

Barukh ata adonai elohenu melekh ha'olam, she-asah nissim la'avoteinu ba'yamim ha'heim u'vazman hazeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of time and space, who accomplished miracles for our ancestors in ancient days, and in our time.

On the first night, the following is added:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם
שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Barukh ata adonai elohenu melekh ha'olam, shehehiyanu ve'kiyemanu ve'hig'ianu lazeman hazeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of time and space, who has kept us alive, sustained us and enabled us to reach this day.

4. After lighting the candles, recite the following:

We kindle these lights to recall the great and wonderful deeds done by You, Lord our God, through the Macabees. May their light remind us to look to You, source of our help. We remember those who came before us who made every sacrifice to keep the light of Your truth burning brightly. May we and our children be inspired by their example so that Israel may continue to be a light to the world in the ways of righteousness and truth. Amen.

5. All join in singing *Ma'oz Tzur*.

מעוז צור ישועתי לך נאה לשבח
תבון בית תפילתי ושם תודה נזבח
לעת תכין מטבח מצר המנבח
אז אגמר בשיר מזמור חנוכת המזבח.

Ma'oz tzur ye'shua'ti lekha na'eh le'shabay-ah. Tikon bate tefilati ve'sham todah niza'bay-eah. Le'ate takhin mat'bay-ah me-tzor ha'mina'beyah. Az egmor be-shir mizmor hanukat ha-mizbe'ah.

Other Notes

Tephillin are donned during *Hanukkah*, except *Shabbat*, of course. They are worn for the entire morning service. A special paragraph is added to *Birkat HaMazon*, as noted, on the holiday.