Jewish holidays begin at sunset. The central home ritual for Rosh Hashanah is a festive holiday meal accompanied by the following blessings:

### The Order of the Home Blessings

- **Holiday Candle Lighting**
- **Shehechsheheyanu** (Blessing for a special occasion)
- **Blessing over the wine** (Kiddush)
- **Blessing over the Challah** (Hamotzi)
- **Blessing for eating apples and honey**

### Candle Lighting:

Candles should be lit before sunset on the first night of Rosh Hashanah. Include the words in brackets only if Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat.

After lighting candles, recite the following blessing:

![Candles](image)

Ba-rukh A-tah A-do-nai E-lo-hae-nu Me-lekh Ha-o-lam, a-sher ki-d-sha-nu b’mitz-vous v’tzi-vous l’had-lik ner (shel Shab-bat v’) shel Yom Tov.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe who makes us holy with Mitzvot, moving us to kindle the lights of (the Sabbath and) the holiday.
The Shehekheyenu (Blessing for a Special Occasion):

Next we recite the blessing marking a special occasion following the blessing for candles:

**Ba-rukh A-tah A-do-nai E-lo-hai E-lo-hai Ve-Adonai Meko-lolam, She-he-cha-ye-nu She-khe-e-enu Ve-ki-yi-ma-nu L’Zman Hazeh.**

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who has granted us life, who has sustained us, and who has enabled us to reach this festive occasion.

**Blessing over the Wine (Kiddush):**
Recite the following blessing before taking a sip of wine:

**Ba-rukh A-tah A-do-nai E-lo-hai E-lo-hai Ve-Adonai Meko-lolam, Borae Pri Ha-gafen.**

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.
Blessing over the Challah (Hamotzi):

Recite the following blessing before taking a bite of the Challah:

ברוך אתה ה' האלוהים מלך ה' העולम, המçıים לךם

Ba-rukh A-tah A-do-nai E-lo-hae-nu Me-lekh Ha-o-lam, ha-mo-tzi le-khem min ha-ar-etz.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

Blessing for the Apples

Before eating apples dipped in honey, recite the following blessing:

ברוך אתה ה' האלוהים מלך ה' העולם, בוֹרָא פְּרִי הָאָּרֶץ.


Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the tree.

Then add: (For the Honey)

יהי רצוֹן מִלְפָּנֶיךָ ה' אהָלֹהֵי אבֹתֵינוּ וּאֱמֹתֵינוּ שֵׁחתַח דָּאָשׁ עֹלֶיהֶ נְבֶהוֹתָהּ.

Y’hi ra-tzon mil’fa-ne-khah A-do-nai E-lo-hae-nu vay-lo-hae a-vo-tae-nu v’imotaenu sheh-t’ka-daish a-la-e-nu sha-nah to-vah oo-m’too-ka.

May it be your will, Adonai our God, that this be a good and sweet year for us.