

Yom Kippur Blessings for the Home



Jewish holidays begin at sunset. Prior to sundown, it is traditional to have a family meal with the candle lighting at the conclusion of the meal. This process marks the ushering of Yom Kippur into the home and the beginning of the fast. At the conclusion of the holiday our fast is broken the following day with a festive

Yom Kippur Break-Fast meal.

It is also customary on Yom Kippur to perpetuate the memory of loved ones. Many Jews visit the cemetery during the High Holy Days before Yom Kippur, and kindle 24-hour *yahrzeit* candles (in memory of loved ones who have died). *Yahrzeit* candles are lit prior to the lighting of the holiday candles.

Order of the Home Blessings

Blessing Over The Challah (Hamotzi)
Yahrzeit Candles (if applicable)
Holiday Candle Lighting
Shehecheyanu (blessing for a special occasion)

Blessing over the Challah (Hamotzi)



This blessing begins the evening meal. Uncover the challah and say:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם
מִן הָאָרֶץ.

Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-nai E-lo-hae-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lam,

ha-mo-tzi le-chem min ha-a-retz.

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

Cut or break off pieces of challah for each family member to eat, prior to the last meal before the holy day fast begins.

Yahrzeit Candle Lighting (if applicable)

Light Yahrzeit candles prior to the lighting of the holiday candles.



Holiday Candle Lighting

After we are finished eating the meal, we officially begin the holiday by lighting and blessing candles with the following blessings: (Include the words in brackets only if Yom Kippur falls on Shabbat)



After lighting candles, recite the following blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוֵּנוּ
לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל (שַׁבָּת וְשֶׁל) יוֹם טוֹב.

***Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-nai E-lo-hae-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lam, a-sher ki-d-sha-nu
b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzi-va-nu 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 Shehecheyanu (Blessing for a Special Occasion)

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



בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁהַחֲיֵנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהַגִּיעְנוּ לְזִמְנֵן הַזֶּה.

Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-nai E-lo-hae-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lam, she-he-che-ya-nu v'ki-y'ma-nu v'hi-gi-a-nu laz'man ha-zeh.

Praised 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 special occasion.

After lighting the candles, the holiday and the fast officially begin. There is no holiday *kiddush* -- blessing over the wine, for Yom Kippur.

