

Chanukah Candle Lighting Instructions

Chanukah begins December 22, 2019. Candles should be kindled when it starts to get dark outside. The Shamash (the 9th and helper candle) is raised above the other lights of the *Chanukiyah* (Chanukah Menorah). It is lit first and used to light the other candles each night. According to tradition, one is not permitted to make use of the *Chanukiyah* for any other purpose during the year.

As one faces the Menorah, the candles are inserted from right to left. On the first night, place the first candle on the far right on the Menorah. On the second night, an additional candle is placed to the left of the first candle, and so on, until the eight nights are completed. The arrangement of the candles is from the right to the left, as in reading Hebrew, but the candles are lit from left to right.

This year, the sixth night of Chanukah is also Shabbat. When Shabbat coincides with Chanukah, the Chanukah candles are lit first, **right before** the Shabbat candles.

Chanukah Blessings

Below you will find the blessings to recite before lighting the Chanukah candles. The first two are recited every night. The third is a blessing of joy that is traditionally recited at the beginning of all festivals. This third blessing is only recited on the first night.

1. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה

1. *Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav, v'tsivanu l'hadlik neir shel Chanukah.*

1. Praised are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has sanctified our lives through His comandments, commanding us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

2. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ
בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמֶן הַזֶּה

2. *Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, she'asa nisim la'avoteinu, bayamim ha'heim bazman hazeh.*

2. Praised are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season.

3. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמֶן הַזֶּה

3. *Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, she'he'che'yanu, v'ki'y'manu v'higi'anu lazman hazeh.*

3. Praised are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for helping us to reach this moment.