

JEWISH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 2003-2007

The **Jewish Community Relations Council** and **Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven** have prepared this calendar to help you plan events, exams, and other school programs by providing you with an explanation of Jewish holidays and observance dates.

Jewish holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the date noted and conclude at nightfall on the date noted. The Jewish Sabbath begins before sunset on Friday evening and concludes after nightfall on Saturday. Dates of Jewish holidays vary from year to year.

The shaded holidays indicate the dates on which major school-related programs for students, parents and teachers should not be scheduled. Jewish students might be absent, and Jewish adults might refrain from work.

	2003/2004 5764	2004/2005 5765	2005/2006 5766	2006/2007 5767
ROSH HASHANAH Jewish New Year	Sept. 27 & 28 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Sept. 26)	Sept. 16 & 17 Thurs. & Fri. (starts sunset Sept. 15)	October 4 & 5 Tues. & Wed. (starts sunset Oct. 3)	Sept. 23 & 24 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Sept. 22)
YOM KIPPUR Day of Atonement. Most solemn of Jewish holy days, devoted to fasting and prayer.	October 6 Monday (starts sunset Oct. 5)	September 25 Saturday (starts sunset Sept. 24)	October 13 Thursday (starts sunset Oct. 12)	October 2 Monday (starts sunset Oct. 1)
SUKKOT Festival of Booths. Commemorates the wanderings of the ancient Israelites in the wilderness and giving thanks for a good harvest.	October 11 & 12 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Oct. 10)	Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 Thurs. & Fri. (starts sunset Sept. 29)	October 18 & 19 Tues. & Wed. (starts sunset Oct. 17)	October 7 & 8 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Oct. 6)
SHEMINI ATZERET Eighth and final day of Sukkot.	October 18 Saturday (starts sunset Oct. 17)	October 7 Thursday (starts sunset Oct. 6)	October 25 Tuesday (starts sunset Oct. 24)	October 14 Saturday (starts sunset Oct. 13)
SIMCHAT TORAH Rejoicing in the Torah. Reading of the Torah is completed and begun anew.	October 19 Sunday (starts sunset Oct. 18)	October 8 Friday (starts sunset Oct. 7)	October 26 Wednesday (starts sunset Oct. 25)	October 15 Sunday (starts sunset Oct. 14)
* CHANUKAH Festival of Lights. Recalls the story of the Maccabees overcoming their foes, the many being delivered into the hands of the few, and the miracle of one day's oil burning for eight days in the Temple's Lamp of Eternal Light.	Dec. 20 – Dec. 27 Sat. – Sat. (starts sunset Dec. 19)	Dec. 8 – Dec. 15 Wed. – Wed. (starts sunset Dec. 7)	Dec. 26 – Jan. 2 Mon. – Mon. (starts sunset Dec. 25)	Dec. 16 – Dec. 23 Sat. – Sat. (starts sunset Dec. 15)
	2004	2005	2006	2007
* PURIM Feast of Lots. Marks the defeat of the wicked Haman by Mordecai and Esther.	March 7 Sunday (starts sunset March 6)	March 25 Friday (starts sunset Mar. 24)	March 14 Tuesday (starts sunset Mar. 13)	March 4 Sunday (starts sunset Mar. 3)
PESACH (PASSOVER) Commemorates the Israelites' Exodus from Egyptian slavery to freedom. Only unleavened foods are eaten. The first two days and the last two days are observed as holy days.	April 6 & 7 Tues. & Weds. (starts sunset April 5) April 12 & 13 Mon. & Tues. (starts sunset April 11)	April 24 & 25 Sun. & Mon. (starts sunset Apr. 23) April 30 & May 1 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Apr. 29)	April 13 & 14 Thurs. & Fri. (starts sunset Apr. 12) April 19 & 20 Wed. & Thurs. (starts sunset Apr. 18)	April 3 & 4 Tues. & Wed. (starts sunset Apr. 2) April 9 & 10 Mon. & Tues. (starts sunset Apr. 8)
SHAVUOT Feast of Weeks. Commemorates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.	May 26 & 27 Wed. & Thurs. (starts sunset May 25)	June 13 & 14 Mon. & Tues. (starts sunset June 12)	June 2 & 3 Fri. & Sat. (starts sunset June 1)	May 23 & 24 Wed. & Thurs. (starts sunset May 22)

	SPRING (March – May)	SUMMER (June – August)	FALL (Sept. – Nov.)	WINTER (Dec. – Feb.)
SHABBAT The Jewish Sabbath. Begins each Friday at sunset and ends each Saturday at sunset. A holy day of rest.	Each Friday, begins as early as 5:25 p.m.	Each Friday, begins as early as 7:15 p.m.	Each Friday, begins as early as 4:05 p.m.	Each Friday, begins as early as 4:00 p.m.

* Note: Purim and Chanukah do not require cessation from daily routines, but major school-related programs should not be scheduled on the first nights.

For further information, please contact:
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