

## Lighting the Chanukkah Menorah

**What to Light** -Buy or make a Chanukkah Menorah (also called a Chanukkiah). The Menorah should have eight candle holders in a row and a separate candle holder for the "Shamash." The Shamash candle is used to light the other eight candles since it is forbidden to use the Chanukkah lights for any purpose other than viewing.

**Where to Light**-To best publicize the miracle, the Chanukkah Menorah is ideally lit outside the doorway of your house, on the left side when entering. If this is not practical, then the Menorah should be lit in a window facing the public thoroughfare. If the Menorah cannot be lit by the window, it may be lit inside the house on a table, which at least fulfills the mitzvah of "publicizing the miracle" for members of the household.

**When to Light**- The Menorah should preferably be lit immediately at nightfall. If necessary, however, the Menorah can be lit late into the night. It is best to wait until all members of the household are present to light the Menorah. The Menorah should remain lit for at least 30 minutes after nightfall. On Friday afternoon, the Menorah should be lit before sundown.

**How to Light on the First Night**-On the first night, place one candle in the Menorah's far right (as you face the Menorah) candle holder. Another candle is placed for the Shamash (helper candle). Say the below blessings and then light the candle using the Shamash candle.

**First Blessing to Recite**-*Baruk Atah YHWH Eloheinu Melek Ha-olam Asher Keedishanu Be-mitsvot Ve-tsvivot Lehadlik Neyr Shel Chanukah.*

Blessed are You, YHWH our Elohim, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by His commandments, and has commanded us to kindle the lights of Chanukkah.

**Second Blessing to Recite**-*Baruk Atah YHWH Eloheinu Melek Ha-olam She-oso Nissim La-avoteinu Ba-yyomim Ho-heyim Ba-zzman Ha-zze.*

Blessed are you, YHWH our Elohim, King of the universe, who wrought miracles for our fathers in days of old, at this season.

**Third Blessing to Recite (only on the first night of Chanukkah)** -*Baruk Atah YHWH Eloheinu Melek Ha-olam She-hekheyonu Ve-kiymonu Ve-higgi'onu La-zzman Ha-zze.*

Blessed are You, YHWH our Elohim, King of the universe, who has kept us alive, and has preserved us, and enabled us to reach this time.

**How to Light on the Second through Eighth Night**-The second night, place two candles in the Menorah's far right (as you face the Menorah) candle holders. Another candle is placed for the Shamash (helper candle). Say the first two blessings above and then light the candles using the Shamash candle. Light the left-most candle first and then light in order, from left to right. Follow this procedure for each night of Chanukkah.

