

Blessings for Chanukah



Candles are added to the *Chanukiyah* (Menorah) in the Hebrew direction, from right to left. The newest candle is lit first, so they are lit from left to right. The helper candle called the *Shamash* is set lower or higher than the other candles. It is lit first, then used to light the other candles. Some families light a *Chanukiyah* for each member of the family.

Recite the first two blessings each night of Chanukah as you light the candles. The last blessing, *Shehechyanu*, is only recited the first night. (Blessings are on the back of the sheet.)

MAOZ TZUR

מָעוֹז צוֹר יְשׁוּעָתִי לְךָ נֶאֱחָה לְשִׁבְחֵךְ,
תִּכּוֹן בֵּית תְּפִלָּתִי וְשֵׁם תּוֹדָה נִזְבַּחֵךְ,
לַעֲת תִּכְיִן מִטְּבַח מִצָּר הַמְּנַיִבֵךְ,
אֶז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר חֲנֻכַּת הַמְּזִבְחֵךְ.

Ma-oz tzur y'shu-a-ti, l'cha na-eh l'sha-bei-ach
Ti-kon beit t'fi-la-ti v'sham to-dah n-za-bei-ach
L'eit ta-chin mat-bei-ach mi-tzar ha-miz-bei-ach
Az eg-mor B'shir miz-mor Cha-nu-kat Ha-miz-bei-ach.

Rock of ages let our song, praise Your saving power.
You amid the raging foes, were our sheltering tower.
Furious, they assailed us, but your arm availed us.
And your word broke their sword, when our own strength failed us.

Blessings for Lighting the Chanukah Candles

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוֵּנוּ
לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

*Baruch Atah Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher kid'sha-nu
b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzi-va-nu l'had-lik neir shel Chanukah.*

Blessed are You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe; You have made us holy with your mitzvot and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ
בְּיָמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמַּן הַזֶּה.

*Baruch Atah Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, she-a-sah ni-sim
la-a-vo-tei-nu, ba-ya-mim ha-hem ba-z'man ha-zeh.*

Blessed are You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe; You showed wonders to our fathers and mothers during this season in days of old.

THIS PRAYER IS ONLY SAID ON THE FIRST NIGHT

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ
לְזִמַּן הַזֶּה.

*Baruch Atah Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-chi-ya-nu,
v'ki-y'ma-nu, v'hi-gi-a-nu la-z'man ha-zeh.*

Blessed are You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe; for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

