

Hannukah Candle Lighting Instructions



1. Ideally, candles should be lit at sunset or, according to some views, when the stars come out. If that is not possible, one may light into the evening.

2. The hannukiah should be placed where it can be seen publicly, either by one's front door on the left hand side or in a window facing the street. (If you are placing a flame in this location be mindful of curtains or other flammable items.)

3. Candles are placed from right to left in the hannukiah and are lit from left to right, with the newest candle always being lit first.

Place

Light

4. Candles should burn for at least 30 minutes after dark.

5. Bear in mind the following when lighting candles on Erev Shabbat (Friday evening):

1) Hanukah candles are lit BEFORE Shabbat candles.

2) Being lit early, you may need larger candles that will remain lit for at least 30 minutes after dark.

6. Lighting Hanukah candles on Motzei Shabbat (Saturday evening) is a matter in which there is a difference of opinion. Some light the hannukiah before doing havdalah symbolically prolonging Shabbat. Others will light the hannukiah after doing havdalah based on the principle of doing the more regularly done mitzvah first.

7. Enjoying the candles while they are burning is an important aspect of the celebration. In addition to singing Hannukah songs, this is a wonderful opportunity for sharing time with family and/or friends, engaging in conversation or in playful gaming pursuits.

8. The blessings for lighting candles appear below.

