



The Fifth Night of Chanukah!

This is a Chanukah Lamp made in Europe or the United States in the early 20th century, or the early 1900s. Some details on this Chanukiah were added later.

What makes this particular lamp special is that it is portable. That means that whoever owned this Chanukiah was able to easily take it from one place to another. Maybe the owner traveled a lot, or maybe the owner had many different homes. Perhaps the owner did not have a lot of room to store a big Chanukah menorah, or maybe the owner did not feel safe displaying a Chanukah lamp.

Why do you think someone would choose to use a portable Chanukiah? Why do you think the owner added details to their Chanukiah after they first bought it?



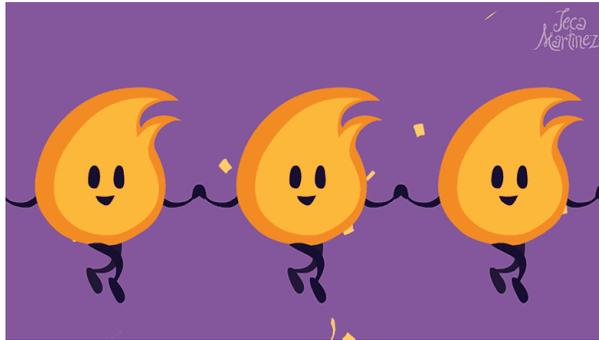
It is a tradition in many families to place a lit Chanukah menorah in the window of their home every night. By placing the Chanukah menorah in the window, families are declaring their identity as Jews and publicly celebrating the miracle of Chanukah. One might also view the lit Chanukah menorah as a symbol of protest and victory. No matter how many times the Jewish people have been persecuted or hurt, we continue to survive.

[Learn about placing light in the window.](#)

During the time of the Maccabees and King Antiochus, it was dangerous for Jewish people to outwardly show their religion. Many Jewish communities throughout history felt scared to display Chanukah or Shabbat candles, whether they lived in Spain, the Caribbean, Germany, or elsewhere. There are many people, even outside the Jewish community, that are afraid to show their true identity for fear of being bullied, hurt, and pushed aside.

Who are we helping as we place our Chanukah Menorah in the window this year?

Are there other ways that we can "show our light" to help others?



Dak'il Tas - a traditional Sephardic song

The Sephardic Jewish community lives all over the world today, but traces its history all the way back to Spain. In 1492, the King and Queen made it very dangerous for Jewish people to live in Spain safely. Many people left, traveling to Northern Africa, Turkey, the Netherlands, England, and to the Caribbean. Those who remained in Spain and other areas of the world under Spanish rule had to practice their Jewish traditions in hiding. It was not safe for them to place a Chanukah menorah in the window, or even to have a Chanukah menorah on display inside the house. Today, many Sephardic Jews are now safe to share the light proudly and openly, as a symbol of perseverance and strength.

*Dak'il tas toma'l tas,
laz muchachaz meten baz,
en shaba de Hanuka,
L'hadlik ner shel Hanuka.*

Strike the bowl, take the bowl
the girls get into the spirit,
on the Sabbath of Hanukah,
light the Hanukah candle.

*La gayina de la kuzina,
dalde a gostar a la vizina,
ke le sea milizina,
en shaba de Hanuka,
L'hadlik ner shel Hanuka.*

The chicken in the kitchen,
give the neighbor a taste of it,
may it be keep her healthy
on the Sabbath of Hanukah,
light the Hanukah candle.

*Dak'il tas toma'l tas,
laz muchachaz meten baz,
en shaba de Hanuka,
L'hadlik ner shel Hanuka.*

Strike the bowl, take the bowl
the girls get into the spirit,
on the Sabbath of Hanukah,
light the Hanukah candle.

*Mete la karne al tandur
ke le sea buen santur
en shaba de Hanuka,
l'hadlik ner shel Hanuka.*

Put the meat into the oven,
so that it may taste good,
on the Sabbath of Hanukah,
light the Hanukah candle.

*El vino de la sterada
ke a mi mucho m'agrada
a beber en Hanuka,
ocho dias de Hanuka,
L'hadlik ner shel Hanuk*

The wine in the straw,
the wine I really like,
to drink on Hanukah,
eight days of Hanukah,
light the Hanukah candle.

[Listen to the Song](#)



Many Sephardic Jews made their way to the Caribbean and Latin America after they were expelled from Spain in 1492. Surrounded by new foods and culinary traditions, they adopted new ways of celebrating Chanukah. One prevalent, or common, fruit found in the Caribbean is the plantain. Plantains look like big bananas, and you can eat them when they are green, yellow, or even black. Click on the recipe below to learn how to turn a "big banana" into a yummy, oily, Chanukah treat!

[Follow the Recipe](#)



One of the main themes of Chanukah is strength! The Maccabees and their fellow soldiers were strong and brave as they fought back against King Antiochus. They were proud about their Jewish identity, and did not want anyone to tell them how to practice their religion or how to identify. Now it's your turn to show your strength! Make a Chanukah Shield out of paper to show your bravery and your willingness to stand up for the rights of your people and of others!

Materials:

- Colored construction paper, or any paper you have available
- Scissors
- Tape and/or glue
- Markers, pencils, or any drawing materials you have

Making your Shield:

1. Cut out the shape of your shield! It can be a rectangle, square, triangle, circle, or any fancy shape you want!
2. Draw on the front of your shield. Write your name, draw pictures of Chanukah lights, etc. You can also choose to play pretend and be one of the Maccabees! See below for quick details on each of the Maccabees.

3. Cut out a rectangular piece of paper. Bend the two short edges inward to create a small ledge that you can tape to the back of the shield. See the image above for guidance. **Tip: Double or triple fold this rectangular piece of paper to make it thick enough to hold the shield!
4. Once your handle is taped in place, you are ready to stand up and show your strength!

Maccabees:

- **Mattathias:** The first leader of the Maccabees, Mattathias was the father of all the other Maccabees.
- **Judah:** Also known as Judah Maccabee, Judah led his brothers and fellow soldiers into battle against King Antiochus and his army. He took over the leadership role from his father.
- **Eleazar:** Eleazar's nickname is "the piercer." King Antiochus' army rode on elephants, and Eleazar was able to help defeat the King's army by throwing a spear to stop one of the giant elephants.
- **Simon:** Simon's nickname was "the wise."
- **John:** John was the oldest brother! Are you the oldest of your siblings?
- **Jonathan:** Jonathan's nickname was "the diplomat." He was very good at helping people come to agreements, and stop fighting without the need for war.
- **YOU:** You can be a Maccabee too!

Thank you to T'heleh Ben-Dan for this Chanukah activity idea.