



## Erev Succos

One should assist the poor to ensure that all of Klal Yisrael have their Yom Tov needs. Otherwise, one's own *Mitzvas Simchas Yom Tov* is considered severely deficient • Constructing the Succah is a mitzvah and one should involve himself in the process. Some say that the *s'chach* must be placed on the *succah* by a Jew who is over *bar mitzvah*. One should not hang light fixtures or ornaments four *tefachim* (approximately 14 inches) beneath the *s'chach*, if people will be sitting beneath these areas • The Yom Tov candles should preferably be lit in the *succah*, or in a place visible from the *succah*. As a new fire may not be lit on Yom Tov, a two-day candle is commonly lit before Yom Tov to have a source for *Hadlakas Neiros* on the second night • There is a mitzvah to be *b'simcha* and to ensure the simcha of one's family throughout the days of Yom Tov. Be sure to show appreciation for all those who helped prepare for your Yom Tov. Also, one should take the opportunity on Erev Yom Tov to call one's parents, in-laws, grandparents and Rabbi to wish them a Chag Sameach.

Daf Yomi - Friday: Bavli: Kiddushin 47 • Yerushalmi: Kilayim 76 • Mishnah Yomis: Megillah 4:8-9. The Siyum on Megillah is on the first day of Yom Tov, Mazal Tov! Moed Katan begins next • Oraysa - Next week: Yoma 13b-16a

## Succos

Succos begins on Friday night and the first day of Yom Tov is also Shabbos. All Shabbos restrictions regarding cooking and carrying (outside an *eruv*) are in effect. The *Daled Minim* are not taken on Shabbos and are considered *muktzeh* • The berachah at *hadlakas neiros* is "L'hadlik ner shel Shabbos v'shel Yom Tov" • An abridged Kabbalas Shabbos is said. The additions for Shabbos are added in *Shemoneh Esrei* • The *Yud Gimmel Middos* before *Kerias Hatorah* are omitted. *Kerias Hatorah* is divided into seven *aliyos* (instead of five). *Kah Keli* is not recited before Mussaf. The special supplications during *Bircas Kohanim* are omitted • *Seudah Shelishis* should be eaten before *tesha sha'os* (the end of the halachic 9th hour of the day [midpoint between *chatzos hayom* and *shekiya*]). Many fulfill *seudah shelishis* through splitting up the day meal (*Bircas hamazon* is recited after a course or two, followed by a halachic break [e.g. by taking a walk] and then washing again for bread and completing the meal) • One may not prepare

on the first day of Succos for the second night of Yom Tov. As such, preparations for the second night of Yom Tov may not begin until nightfall (*tzeis hakochavim*) and reciting *baruch hamavdil bein kodesh lakodesh* for *motzaei shabbos*. *Vatodieinu* is added to *Shemoneh Esrei* on the second night of Yom Tov. Kiddush on the second night includes *Havdalah* for *Motzaei Shabbos* (*Yakneha"z*). As a flame may not be extinguished on Yom Tov, using the regular *Havdalah* candle is impractical. Therefore, many use a special two-wicked "Yakneha"z" candle. (Holding two candles together to join their flames and then separating them may be problematic halachically. Others maintain that there is no absolute need to have a double candle for this berachah.)

For all days and nights of Succos *yaaleh veyavo* is added in *shemoneh esrei* and *bircas hamazon*. One who omits *yaaleh veyavo* during *shemoneh esrei* must repeat *shemoneh esrei*. With regards to *bircas hamazon*, a man who omits *yaaleh veyavo* in *bircas hamazon* on Yom Tov must repeat *bircas hamazon*; a woman does not repeat. During Chol HaMoed however, neither need to repeat *bircas hamazon*.

## Leishev Basuccah

There is an obligation on the first two nights of Yom Tov (after *tzeis hakochavim*) to eat a *kezayis* of bread (preferably a *k'beitza*) within *k'dei achilas pras* (within 2-4 minutes) in a *succah*. One should have in mind that he is sitting in the *succah* as a remembrance for both *Yitziyas Mitzrayim* - our redemption from Egypt - as well as the *Ananei HaKavod* - the clouds of glory that protected the Jewish nation in the desert. In the event of rain, one should delay the meal to an extent, while bearing in mind the *Simchas Yom Tov* of his family members and guests. If the rain does not abate, one should go out to his uncovered *succah* - despite the rain - and recite *Kiddush*. *Shehecheyanu* is recited, but not the berachah of *Leishev* when it is raining. He should then wash and eat the required amount of bread, after that he may continue the meal inside the house. On the second night, many Poskim are more lenient and allow one to eat his meal inside without waiting, and then eat the required amount in the *succah* if the rain lets up. On both nights, if after fulfilling the obligation in the rain, the rain stops, one must return outside

again to eat another *halachic shiur*. However, if one already retired for the night, he is exempt from this. Aside from the obligatory mitzvah of the first two nights, generally, one who was forced to eat his meal indoors may continue the meal there even if the rain stops.

On the first two nights, one should have in mind that the *berachah* of *Shehecheyanu* should apply to the *Chag* as well as to the mitzvah of *Succah*. When reciting *Shehecheyanu*, Rabbi Zlotowitz z"l would look at his family and guests gathered around the table and count his blessings, utilizing the opportunity to sincerely express gratitude to Hashem.

During Kiddush on the first night of Yom Tov, the *berachah* of *Leishev Basuccah* is recited prior to *Shehecheyanu*. Many reverse this order on the second night. Ashkenazim have the practice of making a *berachah* of *Leishev* when eating a *k'beitza* of *mezonos*; Sephardim require a larger amount. One who forgets to make the *berachah* before eating may still do so until he leaves the *succah*. One who made the *berachah* while the *succah* was *pasul* (e.g. the *s'chach* was covered) must repeat the *berachah*. It is questionable whether to make a *berachah* of *Leishev Basuccah* during *Havdalah*. One may obviate the uncertainty by partaking in some *mezonos* along with the *Havdalah* wine, as the *berachah* of *Leishev* is then surely required.

One should establish the *succah* as a comfortable place to eat, learn Torah and spend time over Yom Tov. One must be careful with the holiness of the *Succah* and treat it with respect. Dirty plates, trash, etc., should be removed soon after use. Additionally, one should also take care that his speech and conversation are appropriate for the place of 'Hashem's shade'.

If the wind blows off a section of *s'chach* on Yom Tov in a way that some of the *succah* is still Kosher, one may fix it with a *shinui*. Alternatively, one may ask assistance from a non-Jew. Decorations that fall down on Shabbos or Yom Tov are *muktzah* (*machmas mitzvah*), and should only be handled indirectly.



## **Daled Minim**

The *Daled Minim* are not taken on Shabbos and are considered *muktzah*. When taking the *Daled Minim*, one positions the *Lulav* with the *shedra* (the spine of *lulav* where the middle leaves rise from) facing him, the *Hadassim* on the right and the *Aravos* on the left. These species must be bound together; many use a *keishekel* (woven holder made of *Lulav* leaves). Rings made of *Lulav* leaves are placed around the *Lulav*. The highest ring on the *Lulav* should be a *tefach* (3.54 inches) lower than the top of the *shedrah*. The top of the branches (not the top of the leaves) of the *Hadassim* should reach a *tefach* below the *shedrah* of the *lulav*, and the branch tops of the *Aravos* (not the top of the leaves) should reach slightly below the *Hadassim* branches. • One should be careful to avoid the *melachah* of tying on Yom Tov when assembling or adjusting his *Daled Minim*. • On the first two days of Yom Tov, one must be in (halachic) possession of the *Daled Minim* he will be using. Therefore, if one doesn't own a set, his friend may transfer ownership to him. The ownership should be transferred back once he has performed the mitzvah. One should not transfer ownership to a minor, as a minor is unable (halachically) to transfer it back to the original owner. • Common practice is to recite the berachos while the Esrog is upside down (*pitum* side down); the Esrog is then turned upright and the four species are shaken in six directions.

## **Chol Hamoed**

On Chol Hamoed, the weekday Shacharis includes the addition of *Yaaleh Veyavo* to the weekday *Shemoneh Esrei*, Full *Hallel*, *Kerias Hatorah*, *Mussaf* and *Hoshanos*. *Lamenatzei'ach* is omitted.

One should wear nice clothing and celebrate with meals of meat and wine. Some have the custom to wear *tefillin* on Chol Hamoed while others have the custom not to do so. The restrictions against *melachah* and work on Chol Hamoed are beyond the scope of this work.

## **Kerias Hatorah**

On the first two days of Yom Tov, two Sifrei Torah are taken out. The reading is from Vayikra (22:26-23:44), which discusses the Yomim Tovim. On Shabbos it is divided into seven *aliyos*, and on the second day of Yom Tov it is divided into five *aliyos*. *Maftir* (Bamidbar 29:12-16) is *leined* from the second sefer Torah and pertains to the *korbanos mussaf* brought on Succos.

The *haftarah* of the first day of Yom Tov (Zecharias 14:1-21) discusses *Milchemes Gog u'Magog*, the war that will take place in the End of Days. The Tur (O.C. 490) writes that this victory will occur in the month of Tishrei. The *haftarah* for the second day of Yom Tov (Melachim Alef 8:2-21) discusses the *Chanukas Habayis* of the Beis Hamikdash which took place on Erev Succos.

On Chol Hamoed one sefer Torah is taken out. The four *aliyos* (Bamidbar 29) pertain to the *korbanos* brought on each day of Succos. The *pesukim* included are determined by the day of Yom Tov (they therefore differ from Eretz Yisrael to Chutz L'Aretz).

## **For the Yom Tov Table**


The Pele Yoeitz, quoting from the Arizal, says that one who is joyous throughout the days of Succos and makes the tremendous effort to avoid any anger and unhappiness will merit a year full of simchah.

Rav Yeruchem Olshin shlit"a explains that by leaving our homes and entering the fragile edifice of our *Succah*, we demonstrate that it is not the brick and mortar of our homes that protect us; it is Hashem who provides all our needs. The Sefer Orchos Tzaddikim, despite its many chapters, does not include a chapter on *bitachon*. Rather, in the chapter *Shaar HaSimcha*, the Orchos Tzadikim writes extensively about *bitachon* and how reliance on Hashem brings a person true happiness. When a person recognizes that he is the child of a most loving and powerful Father in heaven, Who only seeks his ultimate success, he is filled with immense tranquility and happiness. Thus, one who celebrates this Yom Tov and develops genuine *bitachon* will surely merit simchah for the year ahead.

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|                     | ר"ת<br>יום ב' | שקיעה<br>יום ב' | סוק"ש יום ב'<br>רמ"א/גר"א | ר"ת<br>יום א' | שקיעה<br>יום א' | סוק"ש יום א'<br>רמ"א/גר"א | שקיעה | הדלקה<br>ערב סוכות |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| <b>Atlanta</b>      | 8:34          | 7:22            | 10:29/9:52                | 8:35          | 7:23            | 10:29/9:52                | 7:24  | 7:06               |
| <b>Baltimore</b>    | 8:01          | 6:49            | 9:59/9:19                 | 8:02          | 6:50            | 9:58/9:19                 | 6:52  | 6:34               |
| <b>Boston</b>       | 7:38          | 6:26            | 9:37/8:55                 | 7:39          | 6:27            | 9:36/8:55                 | 6:29  | 6:11               |
| <b>Catskills</b>    | 7:52          | 6:40            | 9:51/9:10                 | 7:54          | 6:42            | 9:51/9:09                 | 6:43  | 6:25               |
| <b>Chicago</b>      | 7:44          | 6:32            | 9:43/9:02                 | 7:46          | 6:34            | 9:43/9:01                 | 6:35  | 6:15               |
| <b>Cleveland</b>    | 8:20          | 7:08            | 10:19/9:38                | 8:22          | 7:10            | 10:19/9:38                | 7:12  | 6:54               |
| <b>Detroit</b>      | 8:25          | 7:13            | 10:25/9:43                | 8:27          | 7:15            | 10:24/9:43                | 7:17  | 6:03               |
| <b>Lakewood</b>     | 7:51          | 6:39            | 9:49/9:09                 | 7:53          | 6:41            | 9:49/9:09                 | 6:42  | 6:24               |
| <b>Los Angeles</b>  | 7:49          | 6:37            | 9:44/9:07                 | 7:50          | 6:38            | 9:44/9:07                 | 6:40  | 6:22               |
| <b>Miami</b>        | 8:19          | 7:07            | 10:11/9:37                | 8:20          | 7:08            | 10:11/9:37                | 7:09  | 6:51               |
| <b>Monsey</b>       | 7:50          | 6:38            | 9:49/9:08                 | 7:52          | 6:40            | 9:48/9:08                 | 6:41  | 6:23               |
| <b>Montreal</b>     | 7:46          | 6:34            | 9:47/9:04                 | 7:48          | 6:36            | 9:47/9:03                 | 6:38  | 6:20               |
| <b>New York</b>     | 7:50          | 6:38            | 9:48/9:08                 | 7:52          | 6:40            | 9:48/9:07                 | 6:41  | 6:23               |
| <b>Orlando</b>      | 8:23          | 7:11            | 10:16/9:41                | 8:24          | 7:12            | 10:16/9:41                | 7:13  | 6:55               |
| <b>Passaic</b>      | 7:50          | 6:38            | 9:49/9:08                 | 7:52          | 6:40            | 9:49/9:08                 | 6:42  | 6:24               |
| <b>Philadelphia</b> | 7:55          | 6:43            | 9:53/9:13                 | 7:56          | 6:44            | 9:53/9:12                 | 6:46  | 6:28               |
| <b>Toronto</b>      | 8:10          | 6:58            | 10:10/9:28                | 8:12          | 7:00            | 10:10/9:28                | 7:02  | 6:44               |
| <b>Yerushalayim</b> | 7:41          | 6:24            | 9:30/8:54                 | 7:42          | 6:25            | 9:30/8:54                 | 6:26  | 5:51               |

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