

What is Rosh Hashanah?

September 11-12, 2026

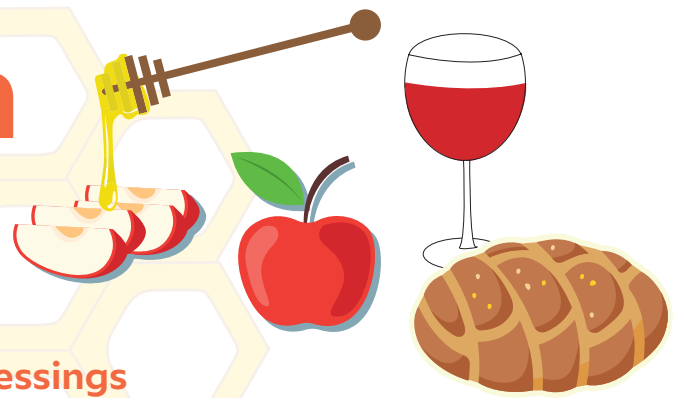
1-2 Tishrei, 5787

Holiday begins the night before

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, signifies the day on which God completed the creation of the world. On Rosh Hashanah we start counting the Days of Awe until Yom Kippur. During these 10 days, we reflect on the mistakes of the past year, and contemplate the changes we want to make in the coming year.

Traditions

- We dip apples in honey to symbolize our desire to have a sweet new year.
- At this time of year we greet each other with "Shanah Tovah" (Happy New Year).
- When we hear the blast of the shofar (ram's horn), it is a "wake-up call" to begin the process of introspection.



Blessings

For Apples and Honey:

יהי רצון מלפניך ה' אלוקינו ואלוקי אבותינו
שתחדש עלינו שנה טובה ומתוקה

*Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu
ve'Elohei Avoteinu, she'tchadesh aleinu
shanah tova u'metukah.*

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that You renew for us a good and sweet year.

For something new:

ברוך אתה ה' אלוקינו
מלך העולם שהחינו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

*Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam,
shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu laz'man
hazeh.*

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

What is Yom Kippur?

September 21, 2026 • 10 Tishrei, 5787

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the day we ask God for forgiveness of our sins from the past year and ask God to seal our names in the Book of Life. On Yom Kippur we fast from all food and drink (including water), beginning before sunset on the evening before Yom Kippur and ending after nightfall on the day of Yom Kippur. Yom Kippur ends with one final blast of the shofar and a prayer that "next year may we be in Jerusalem!"



*Holidays start the night before at sundown



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