

CREATIVE CHANUKAH MENORAHS YOU CAN MAKE AT HOME

**10 - 30 minute craft projects you can do
with little skills and few tools!**

INTRODUCTION

History of the “Rabbi Eliot Pearlson Potato Menorah”



DIY MENORAH EXAMPLES

WINE BOTTLE MENORAH



MATERIALS

- 8 similar size bottles
- 1 taller bottle
(note: in the picture above, the bottles on the ends are taller; shouldn't be)
- Craft paints

You can paint each bottle a different color, all the same... or 8 in one color and the shamash a different one!

NAIL POLISH BOTTLE MENORAH



MATERIALS

- 8 similar size nail polish bottles
- 1 taller bottle
- craft paints

Any small bottle works. Spice bottles... condiment bottles...

COLORED SAND MENORAH



The candles can be pushed directly down into the sand without having to worry about heat or flame issues!

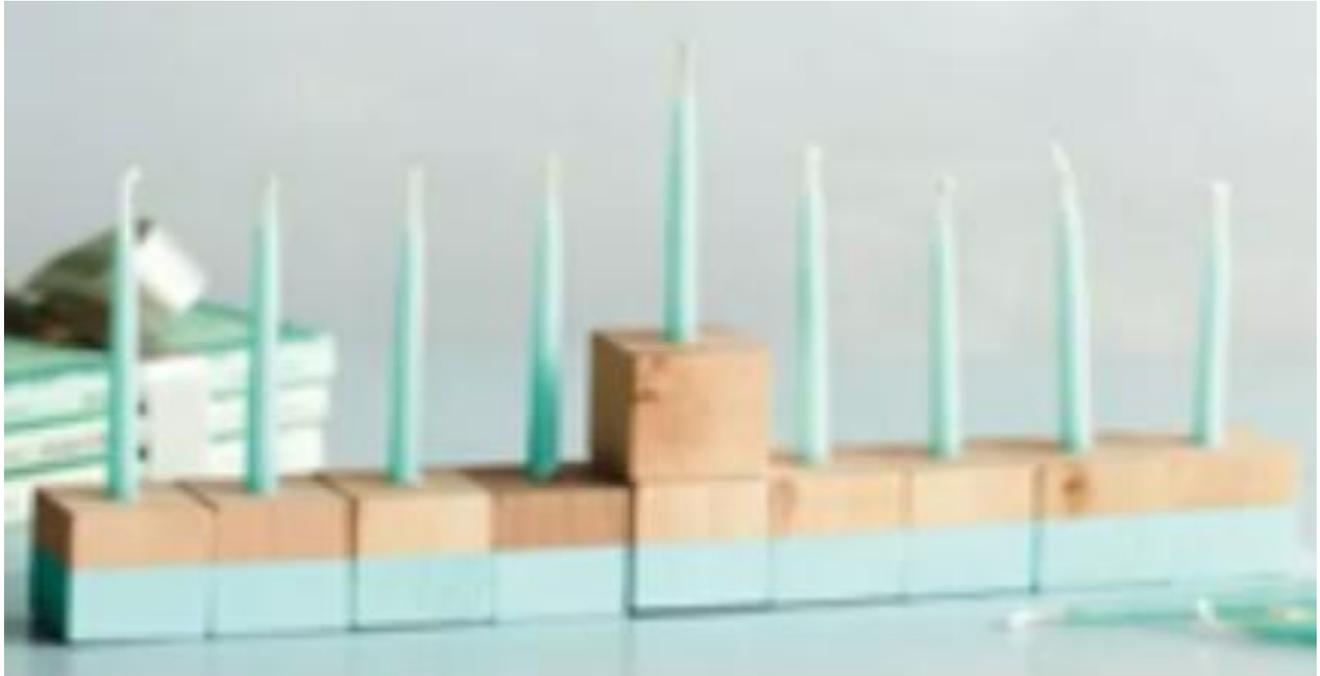
MASON JAR MENORAH



If you don't have craft paints or fear paint spills (*even though they are washable*) you can:

- wrap the jars with different colored yarns!
- fill the jars with water and then use different food coloring
- wrap the jars w/ different colored crepe or construction paper

BLOCK MENORAH



Use baby blocks, hot glue them together... or if you feel ambitious, cut a 2x2 into the sizes you want.



THIMBLE MENORAH



“Rabbi! In this day and age, where am I going to get sewing thread spools!?”

Ask your local dry cleaner/tailor or anyone that does alterations! They have a lot of them!

WASHER & NUT, BOX MENORAH



Any old box works well. Can you even use a wooden cigar box!
What's really nice about this? Convenient storage matches,
candles and bracha and song sheets!

LEGO MENORAH



TOY MENORAH

This isn't "kosher" but it's a GREAT idea!!!



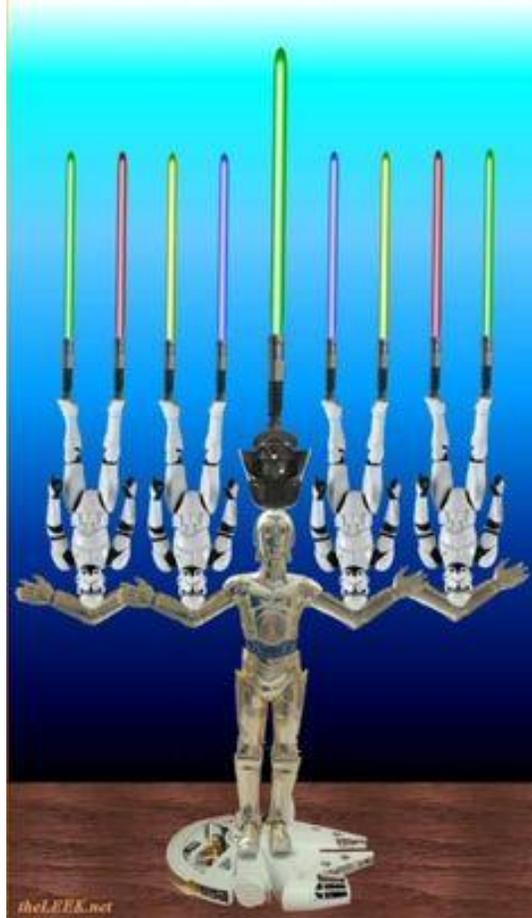
CLOTHES PIN MENORAH



TOY MENORAH, PART 2



STAR WARS-INSPIRED MENORAH



MINIMALIST, MARBLE MENORAH



MANISCHEWITZ MENORAH



TIKI TORCH MENORAH

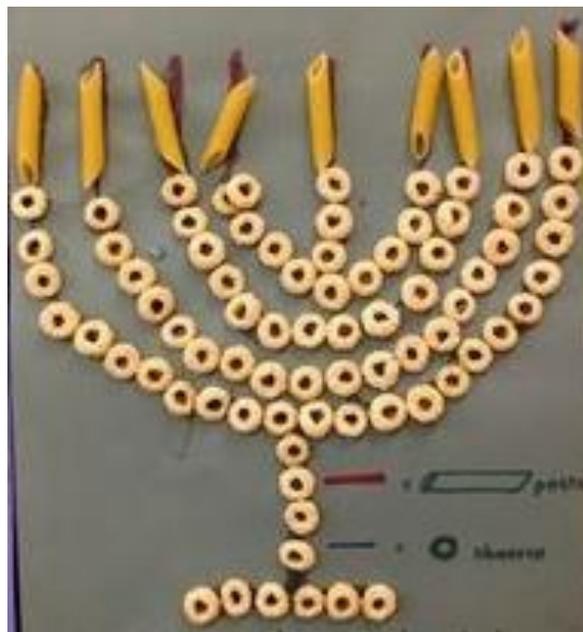


ICE SCULPTURE MENORAH



PASTA & CHEERIOS MENORAH

Not kosher as you can't light it, but a cute idea!



CHANUKAH 101

MENORAH SHAPE

1. All eight candles must be on the same level.
2. The *menorah* itself may be curved horizontally.
3. The *shamash* must be slightly raised, lowered, to the side, or in the center, *AS LONG AS IT IS CLEARLY NOT PART OF THE OTHER 8 CANDLE SPOTS*
4. You may put oil lights directly onto a windowsill or other level surface, but candles must be in or on some type of holder.

CANDLES: HOW MANY TO LIGHT?

1. Minimum 1 candle lit per house, per night.
2. The extra candles lit each night and everyone lighting their own menorah is an augmentation and custom.
3. If lighting many menorahs in one place ONE SHAMASH is sufficient for them all.

WHO MAY LIGHT THE MENORAH

1. Anyone who has reached *bar* or *bat mitzva* age can light Chanukah candles for the whole household – man or woman.
2. Even if all alone, a person should light candles each evening.
3. Women, like men, are required to light candles. A wife is required to light if her husband is not present, and even though he is not there, he therein fulfills the mitzvah. If the husband returns later, he does not need to light for himself.

WHERE TO LIGHT

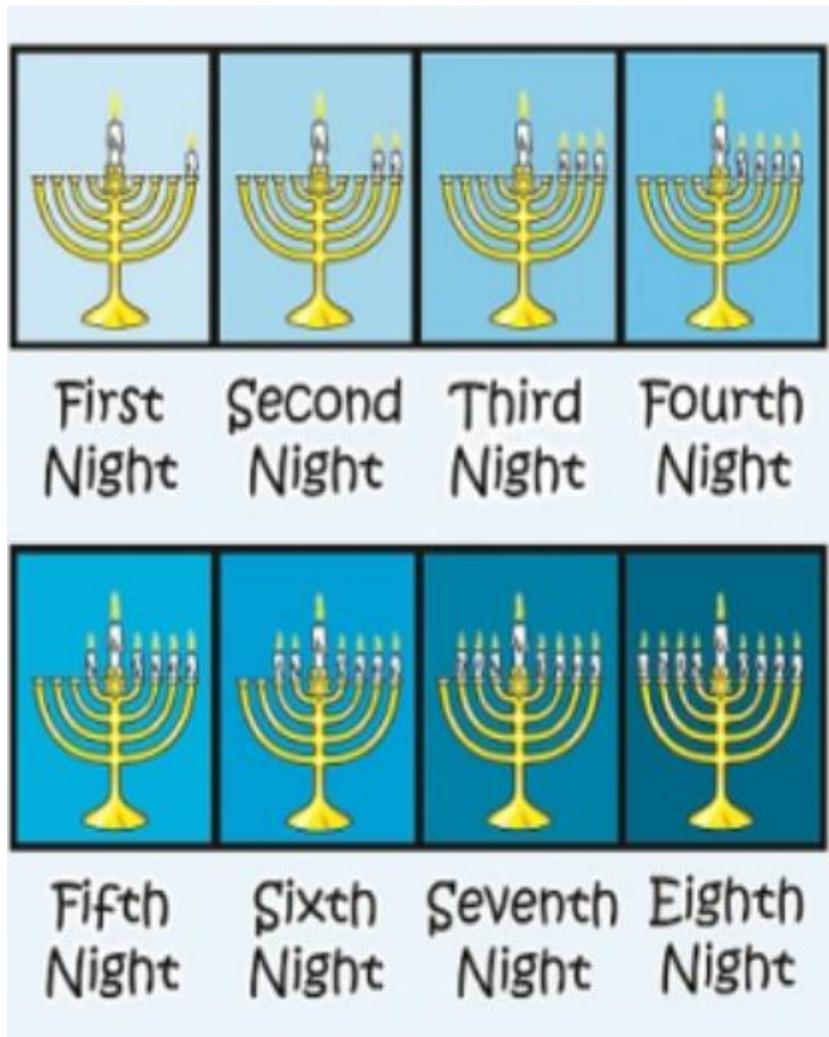
1. Light Chanukah candles in your own house, unless you are not in the city in which you live
2. Candles may be placed anywhere but it is customary to place them by a window, ideally facing the street

WHEN TO LIGHT

1. Preferably Chanukah candles should be lit after dark, except on Fridays
2. Candles can be lit as much as 1¼ hours before dark
(in Miami, that is approximately 6:15 pm in 2020)
3. If lighting early, the candles still must burn for 30 minutes after nightfall or approximately until 6:45 pm
4. Candles can be blessed and lit all through the night, until 100 minutes before daybreak

HOW TO LIGHT THE MENORAH

1. Face the menorah.
2. Fill the menorah with candles starting on the right side.
3. Make the blessings, 3 on the first night and 2 each subsequent night.
4. Light the newest candle first (the first candle on the left), then progress to the right.
5. Stay close to the menorah for at least 30 minutes while it burns.
6. Do not use the menorah's light for any secular purpose (i.e. lighting a cigarette, reading fine print, etc.)



REALLY GOOD QUESTIONS

Rabbi! My candles blew out before burning for 30 minutes - must I relight them?

ANSWER: SURPRISE! NO, as long as they *could have burned for 30 minutes*. But can you relight them? Yes, do it.

HOWEVER, if you placed them somewhere where there was a good chance they WOULD blow out... **THEN YOU MUST RELIGHT THEM.**

Rabbi, my brother bought me a fancy menorah but the candles are at different heights. He is coming over tonight to light with us.

What should I do?

ANSWER: Even if you do not feel comfortable explaining to him why it's not "kosher" light it along with at least one other menorah and you are fine. (Note: on the first night since there is only one candle.... You could in theory use this artistic menorah).

Rabbi! I am lighting alone tonight while traveling for business out of town. Do I have to sing all those songs like Maoz Tzur?

ANSWER: No! Surprise! All the songs are only tradition and not mandatory! Except for "I had a little dreidel" which is mandatory. Just joking.