



High Holidays Honors Guide

Your honors card indicates the approximate time of your honor. Your card also indicates the page number on which your honor will occur, so that as the service progresses you can gauge how soon your name will be called. Ten minutes prior to your appointed time, please move to the front of the sanctuary to the Honors section at the front of the sanctuary, to the left of the *bimah*.

Please note that when going up onto the *bimah*, men are expected to wear *kippot*. Jewish men are also expected to wear a *tallit*.

Taking Out / Carrying The Torah

At the beginning and end of each Torah Service, all four of our Torahs will be taken on a procession through the congregation. You will carry one of the Torahs through the congregation at the *beginning* of the Torah Service. Each of the Torahs will take a slightly different route in order to ensure that everyone gets a chance to touch the Torah, so once one of the Torahs is handed to you, please be alert for instructions from Ritual leaders indicating which route you and your spouse should take.

1. Come to the *bimah* when your names are called.
2. A Torah will be given to you to hold comfortably in both arms.
3. The Rabbi or Cantor will indicate to you when to begin the procession of the Torahs through the congregation. You and your spouse will **lead** the procession, and the clergy or synagogue President will follow behind you.
4. **Please proceed down the steps of the *bimah* carefully.**
5. You will proceed down **one of the sides of the sanctuary** (a Ritual leader will direct you on the route) **to end of the permanent seats only**. You will then cross over and return to the *bimah* by way of the center aisle.
6. Hold the Torah firmly upright in your arms and walk slowly. Move from one side of the aisle to the other, to allow congregation members to touch the Torah. For obvious reasons, please do not shake hands with congregation members while holding the Torah. Your spouse may do so instead on your behalf.
7. When you reach the *bimah* at the end of the procession, please do not ascend the steps with the Torah. The Torah will be taken from you at the bottom of the *bimah* steps.
8. You may now return to your seat in the congregation.