

TALLIT BLESSING

1. The whole family holds the tallit together
2. The BM grasps the ends of the atara (band at the top) and recites:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ
לְהִתְעַטֵּף בְּצִיצִית.

Ba-ruch a-tah Adonai, Elo-hey-nu me-lech ha-olam
a-sher kid-sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzi-va-nu l'hit-a-teyf
ba-tzi-tzit.

3. Everyone expect the BM lets go and the BM wraps the tallit around their shoulders.

Translation: Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to enwrap ourselves in Tzitzit.

Background: When is a Tallit worn?

Tallitot are worn primarily during day-time services. Evening services were excluded because of the biblical instruction to see the fringes. ("See" to the ancient Rabbis meant "see by daylight.") Even today, however, the occasions for wearing and using a full tallit extend beyond Shaharit (morning) and Minha (afternoon) services. The habits and customs of donning a tallit are more complex than they might at first seem. Occasions for use include the following: For Liturgical Moments and Honors A tallit is worn for daily, Sabbath, and holiday morning and afternoon prayers. It is used for individual prayer, or prayer in a minyan (prayer quorum).

As noted above, it is traditional to wear a tallit when called to the Torah for an aliyah (the honor of reciting blessings before and after the Torah is read). Most people also use the fringes of a tallit to kiss the place in the Torah where the reading begins and ends. A baraita taught: "That you may look upon [the fringe] and remember all the commandments of Adonai": this commandment is of equal weight to all the other commandments combined.--Babylonian Talmud, Menahot, 43b