

# HIGH HOLIDAYS



# Triv?a



Chabad  
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Questions adapted from [chabad.org](http://chabad.org)



**Rosh Hashanah translates as:**

- A. "The New Year"
- B. "Head of the Year"
- C. "The First Day"

Answer: B



## **How long is Rosh Hashanah?**

- A. Rosh Hashanah is one day, the first day of the Jewish year
- B. Rosh Hashanah is observed for two days in the Diaspora and one day in Israel
- C. Rosh Hashanah is celebrated for two days everywhere

Answer: C



**What is the central mitzvah of Rosh Hashanah?**

- A. Hearing the shofar blowing
- B. Eating apples dipped in honey
- C. Casting our sins into the water

Answer: A



**Which of the following foods is NOT eaten on Rosh Hashanah?**

- A. Carrot tzimmes
- B. Raisin challah (bread) dipped in honey
- C. Gefilte fish in horseradish

Answer: C



**When do we eat an apple dipped in honey on Rosh Hashanah?**

- A. After we make kiddush on the first night
- B. After we eat challah on the first night
- C. After we make kiddush on the second night

Answer: B



**What should one do if they cannot attend services on Rosh Hashanah?**

- A. Arrange to hear the shofar blowing at home
- B. They may not hear shofar that year, as it may only be blown in the presence of a congregation
- C. They may make up for it by hearing the shofar at the conclusion of Yom Kippur

Answer: A



**During Musaf services of Rosh Hashanah, we say verses related to which three themes?**

- A. Teshuvah (repentance), Tefillah (prayer), and Tzedakah (charity)
- B. Malchiyot (coronation), Zichronot (remembrance), and Shofarot (shofar)
- C. Torah (study), Avodah (prayer service), and Gemilut Chasadim (acts of kindness)

Answer: B



### **What is “Tashlich”?**

- A. A dish of raisins, cinnamon, carrot, and shredded apple eaten by Sephardim on Rosh Hashanah
- B. A Yiddish term that denotes collecting “pocketfuls” of inspiration for the coming year
- C. A prayer said near a body of water on the first afternoon of Rosh Hashanah

Answer: C



**Why do we eat a new fruit on the second night of Rosh Hashanah?**

- A. It ensures that the Shehecheyanu blessing is not in vain
- B. It expresses our wish that the coming year be sweet, fresh, and good for us
- C. It is an ancient custom, with no apparent reason, attributed to Ezra and Nehemia

Answer: A



**The day after Rosh Hashanah (except when it is Shabbat) is observed as:**

- A. Yom Sheini: The “first day of the rest of the year”
- B. Isru Chag: a minor holiday celebrating the afterglow of the holy experience
- C. Tzom Gedaliah: a fast day

Answer: C



**Which five activities are forbidden on Yom Kippur?**

- A. Eating and drinking, wearing leather shoes, conjugal relations, applying oils and lotions, smelling pleasant aromas
- B. Eating and drinking, wearing leather shoes, applying oils and lotions, conjugal relations, washing
- C. Eating and drinking, wearing leather shoes, applying oils and lotions, napping, washing

Answer: B



**How many meals are traditionally eaten before Yom Kippur?**

- A. One meal, right before the fast, but it should be the size of three ordinary meals
- B. Two meals, one early in the afternoon and another right before the onset of the holy day
- C. Three meals, one every two hours, progressing from fish to poultry to meat

Answer: B



**What happened on the first Yom Kippur after the Exodus?**

- A. Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the second tablets
- B. Moses told the people that G-d had forgiven them for the sins committed under duress in Egypt
- C. Moses performed the ceremony of the two goats, leading the Azazel to Mount Heresh

Answer: A



**On Yom Kippur we recite Yizkor  
("Remember"), during which:**

- A. We pray for the souls of our departed loved ones and pledge tzedakah in their merit
- B. We beseech our departed loved ones to pray on behalf of their family and friends who are still alive
- C. We recall the bravery and devotion of past generations and pray that we emulate their ways

Answer: A



**What is the name of the fifth (and final) prayer service of Yom Kippur?**

- A. Ne'ilah ("Closing"), thus named since it is said in the closing moments of the holy day
- B. Baruch Hashem ("Thank G-d"), expressing our gratitude to G-d for granting us forgiveness
- C. U'netahneh Tokef ("Let us proclaim holiness"), in which we sum up the sanctity of the day

Answer: A



**Which of the following statements is accurate?**

- A. Like Yom Tov, all “work” is forbidden on Yom Kippur, except for carrying and food prep
- B. Like Shabbat, no “work” may be performed on Yom Kippur
- C. Like Shabbat, no “work” may be performed on Yom Kippur, except for carrying prayerbooks outside the eruv

Answer: B



**Who was the focus of the Yom Kippur service in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem?**

- A. The King, who read aloud from the Torah scroll for all to hear
- B. The High Priest, who performed a series of sacrifices and rituals
- C. The Chief Rabbi, who delivered an inspirational sermon in Aramaic, the language of the people

Answer: B



**What do men traditionally wear during Yom Kippur services?**

- A. A white robe called a kittel, which resembles a shroud
- B. A tallit, worn even during the night-time services
- C. Shoes of a substance other than leather (this applies to women as well)
- D. All of the above

Answer: D



**What should one do if they do not feel strong enough to fast AND attend services?**

- A. Priority is given to attending services and praying, even if it means eating a little snack
- B. It is most important to fast (when medically possible), even if it means staying in bed
- C. This is a personal decision, which each person can make on their own

Answer: B



**What mitzvah do we do the evening after Yom Kippur?**

- A. We set aside a deposit for matzah and wine for Passover
- B. We begin (or make plans) to build the sukkah
- C. We call family and friends and wish them a sweet new year

Answer: B



**What brings the end of the Yom Kipur fast?**

- A. The blasts of the shofar
- B. Nightfall and the recitation of Havdalah
- C. Exiting the synagogue with a resolute will to do better during the coming year

Answer: B



**When does Sukkot begin?**

- A. On the eve of Tishrei 15
- B. On the eve of Tishrei 16
- C. On the eve of Tishrei 17

Answer: A



## What is a sukkah?

- A. The place where Jews eat, drink, study, socialize and make themselves comfortable for the duration of Sukkot
- B. A structure covered by greenery that has been harvested from the ground
- C. All of the above

Answer: C



**Where may a sukkah not be built?**

- A. Under a roof
- B. On the back of a camel
- C. Aboard a ship

Answer: A



**In the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, what was poured on the altar on Sukkot?**

- A. Willow petals
- B. Water
- C. Fragrant oils

Answer: B



### **What are three other names for Sukkot?**

- A. Chag (“Holiday”), Chag Ha’asif (“Gathering Festival”), and Zeman Simchatenu (“Time of Our Joy”)
- B. Chag (“Holiday”), Chag Hakatzir (“Harvest Festival”), and Zeman Simchatenu (“Time of Our Joy”)
- C. Zeman (“Time”), Chag Hakatzir (“Harvest Festival”), and Zeman Shmirateinu (“Time of Our Protection”)

Answer: A



**What holiday comes immediately after Sukkot?**

- A. Shemini Atzeret
- B. Isru Chag
- C. Hoshanah Rabbah

Answer: A



**Which biblical event took place on Sukkot?**

- A. G-d shielded the People of Israel from the attacking Amalekites
- B. Joshua led the people into Jericho, the first “key” of the Land of Canaan
- C. The Torah does not specify anything special happening at this time

Answer: C



**Which prayer is said only on Sukkot?**

- A. Seder Todah, in which we list the items for which we are grateful, organized according to the Hebrew alphabet
- B. Hoshanot, which includes circling the bimah holding the lulav and etrog
- C. Hallel, the joyous Psalms of praise

Answer: B



**Which blessing is said before every meal enjoyed in the sukkah?**

- A. Blessed are You ... Who guards the covenant (“shomer haberit”)
- B. Blessed are You ... Who has commanded us to dwell in the sukkah (“leshev basukah”)
- C. Blessed are You ... Who has granted us life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this occasion (“shehecheyanu”)

Answer: B



## **What do we celebrate on Simcha Torah?**

- A. The giving of the Torah
- B. Finishing to read the Torah and starting again
- C. That the fast of Yom Kippur is behind us

Answer: B



**Who gets called up to the Torah only once a year on Simchat Torah?**

- A. Kohanim
- B. Children under Bar/Bat Mitzvah
- C. Men over 6ft tall

Answer: B