

חג חמוץ חמץ

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How to make latkes

During Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, it's customary to eat foods fried in oil. This is to commemorate the miracle that a tiny bit of oil lasted eight days to light the Menorah in the Temple in Jerusalem thousands of years ago. Latkes (potato pancakes) are a specialty of Hanukkah. Latkes are best enjoyed immediately after preparing.



Mike Wise, HMI
Co-CEO and Co-founder



Mike Wise's Quick & Easy Potato Latkes

INGREDIENTS

- 1 30oz bag of shredded frozen potatoes (semi-defrosted)
- 1 8oz bag of frozen diced onions
- 2 eggs
- 3 tablespoons flour (remove for gluten free)
- 1 tsp salt
- Pinch of ground pepper
- 3-4 tablespoons of your favorite oil for frying

DIRECTIONS

Mix all of your ingredients together in a bowl, except for the oil. Heat the oil on medium-high heat. Take 1-2 spoonfuls of the mixture and form into a flat patty. Fry the patty until each side is dark, golden brown.

Make it like Mike: Top with applesauce or sour cream.

How to say the blessings



BLESSING OVER THE HANUKKAH CANDLES

Say this every night of the holiday

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה
Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, asher kidshanu bemitzvotav vitzivanu lehadlik neur shel Hanukkah.

Praised are You, Spirit of the Universe, who makes us holy through your commandments and commands us to light the Hanukkah candles.

BLESSING FOR THE HANUKKAH MIRACLE

Say this every night of the holiday

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנָן הַזֶּה
Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, she'asah nisim la'avoteinu, bayamim haheim baziman hazeh.

Praised are You, Spirit of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors in their day at this season.

THE SHEHECHEYANU / BLESSING FOR GRATITUDE

Say this only on the first night

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֵחֵינּוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנָן הַזֶּה
Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, shehecheyanu v'key'manu v'higiyanu lazman hazeh.

Praised are You, Spirit of the Universe, who keeps us alive, sustains us, and brings us to this moment.



How to light the Hanukkah

Adapted from JewBelong

Traditionally, on the first night of Hanukkah, you read three blessings when lighting the candles. For the next seven nights, you only read two.

When you're ready to light candles, place the candles in the Hanukkah from right to left, and then light them from left to right. You'll notice that your Hanukkah has one taller candle holder than the others. This is for the *shamash*, or "helper" candle.

On the first night of the holiday, put candles in the *shamash* and the far-left candle space. On the second night, you will need three candles, one for the *shamash*, the far-left candle space, and the one next to it. Each night, add one more candle, and on the last night, you will fill up all the spaces on the Hanukkah.

Light the *shamash* candle with a match. Then take the *shamash* and use it to light the other candles, left to right. Once your candles are lit, put the *shamash* back in its spot and recite the blessings!

According to tradition, you're supposed to place the Hanukkah near your front window, facing the street, because lighting them is bringing light into the world around us.

How to play Dreidel



1. Give everyone playing an equal number of game pieces such as gelt, pennies, or poker chips.
2. Every player puts one piece in the pot to start the round. Each person adds one more piece each time the pot is empty during the game.
3. On your turn, spin the dreidel and give or take pieces from the pot depending on which letter the dreidel lands on (see below!). Then, pass the dreidel to the next person.
4. When a player is out of game pieces, they are 'out' of the game. The last person with game pieces wins!

נ **Nun:** Do nothing

ה **Hey:** Take half

ג **Gimel:** Take all

ש **Shin:** Put one in