

SPECIAL DAYS IN TISHREI

Elul 29/September 15/Friday
Erev Rosh HaShanah

Birthday of our Holy Master and Teacher, **R. Menachem Mendel b. Sholom Shachne, third Lubavitcher Rebbe, "The Tzemach Tzedek,"** author of Tzemach Tzedek, 5549 (1789) in Liozna. On that day the Alter Rebbe said a Ma'amar, which became the first three chapters of Tanya. *"...Everyone is surely utilizing this day to add in Tzedakah and good deeds connected with the day, the Tzemach Tzedek's birthday, especially by learning his Torah and fulfilling his teachings."* (Erev Rosh HaShanah, 5750)



"...One of the reasons, or the primary reason for the name "Tzemach Tzedek" is that it corresponds to the numeric value of his two names: His first name, Menachem, is numerically equivalent to "Tzemach," and his second name, Mendel, to "Tzedek".

The significance of the name "Tzemach Tzedek" alludes to Moshiach: "Tzemach is the name of Moshiach, as we say in Hosha'anos "The man's name is Tzemach"; and of the name "Tzedek", we find in Yeshayahu's prophecy that one of the signs of Moshiach is that his conduct will be in a manner of tzedek, or righteousness etc.

"... and righteousness will gird his loins." That is to say that the faith of Chassidim is expressed in this name, for every Chassid believes with complete faith that the Rebbe of his generation, as in the example of our leader, is Moshiach, and would we be worthy, it would be realized in a revealed way, with eyes of flesh - Moshiach would be openly revealed. [Fifth night Sukkos, 5747]

Tishrei 1/September 16/Shabbos
First Day Rosh HaShanah

Creation of **Adam Harishon** and **Chavah**.
Birth of **Kayin** and **Hevel**. (B'reishis Rabah 22)

TISHREI ~ LAWS & CUSTOMS

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All candle lighting and davening times will be in the weekly email

Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel, Leah and **Channah's** prayers for children were answered. (Yevamos 64b, Tanchuma Vayera)

Elisha ate at the house of the **Shu-namite woman** and blessed her with children. (Melachim II, 4:16, Zohar, Beshalach)

Akeidah of **Yitzchak**, 2085.

Yartzeit of **Sarah Imeinu**, 2085.

Yosef was released from prison, 2236. (Rosh HaShanah 10b)

Pharaoh freed the Jews from labor, 2448. (Rosh HaShanah 11a)

Zerubavel brought the first offering on the new altar in Yerushalayim, 3391 (370 BCE). (Nechemiah 8:2)

Ezra read the Torah for the community returning from Bavel, inspiring Teshuvah, 3414 (347 BCE). (Nechemiah 8:2)

Yartzeit of **R. Amnon of Mayence**, who died for Kiddush HaShem, while composing the Rosh HaShanah prayer "Unesaneh Tokef", 4772 (1012).

The **Ba'al Shem Tov** was told that the redemption would come when "his wellsprings would spread forth" 5507 (1746).

The Daf Yomi was initiated by **R. Meir Shapiro** of Lublin, 5683 (1923).

Tishrei 2/September 17/Sunday
2nd Day Rosh HaShanah

Yartzeit of **Rebbetzin Sheina**, youngest daughter of the Friediker Rebbe, killed in Treblinka 5702, 1941. The Rebbe always said Kaddish for her.

Adam HaRishon created fire on Motzoei Shabbos from two stones (Midrash Socher Tov 92) which we commemorate every Motzoei Shabbos.

Ezra gathered the people a second time to teach them the laws of Sukkos. (Nechemiah 8:13)

Tishrei 3/September 18/ Monday-Tzom Gedaliah

Gedaliah ben Achikam, the last Jewish Governor of Israel, was assassinated, 3339 (423 BCE) All the remaining Jews in Eretz Yisroel fled. (Melachim II 25:25)

Mentioning HaShem's name in legal documents was stopped by the Chachamim. (Megillas Ta'anis 7, Rosh HaShanah 18b)

The **Kohen Gadol** would separate from his household, moving into the Beis Hamikdash for seven days to prepare for the Yom Kippur Service. (Yoma 2a)

Yartzeit of **Rebbetzin Devorah Leah**, daughter of the Alter Rebbe, mother of the Tzemach Tzedek, who sacrificed her life for the Alter Rebbe, 5553 (1793).

Tishrei 5/September 20/ Wednesday
Rabbi Akiva was arrested by the Romans, 3894 (133). (Megillas Ta'anis 19a)

Tishrei 6/September 21/Thursday
Yom Yud Gimmel Midos

Yartzeit of **R. Aryeh Leib of Shpola**, "The Shpolar Zayde", 5572 (1811).

Yartzeit of **Rebbetzin Chanah**, mother of the Rebbe, 5725 (1964).

Tishrei 8/September 23/Shabbos

Dedication of the first Beis Hamikdash. (Divrei Hayamim II, 7:10, Rashi)

Yartzeit of **R. Baruch**, the Alter Rebbe's father, 5552 (1791).

Rabbi Boruch lived in the city of Liozna, and he could not contain his embarrassment over the fact that his son, who held him in great

esteem, would rise to his feet whenever he passed, feeling driven to protest: "How can one who speaks with the voice of prophecy rise for the likes of me?!"

He decided to leave Liozna and become a wanderer, until he arrived in the town of Selesz, in Hungary, where he then settled for the remainder of his days. After his passing, many newborns in Selesz were given the name of Boruch. (Days of Chabad)

Tishrei 9/September 24/Sunday
Erev Yom Kippur

Birthday of **R. Yehudah Hanasi**, 3895 (135). (Seder Hadoros)

R. Akiva was executed in Caesaria, 3895 (135). (Semachos 8)

"When R. Akiva died, R. Yehudah Hanasi was born." (Kiddushim 72b)

Yartzeit of **R. Avraham Gumbeiner**, author of Magen Avraham on Shulchan Aruch, 5443 (1682).

"...as is well known, that the Alter Rebbe very much esteemed his rulings..." (Sichah, Purim, 5716)

"...(The Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch) was based on the authorities, Early and Later, and at their head, the Magen Avraham." (Introduction of the Alter Rebbe's sons to his Shulchan Aruch.)

Tishrei 10/September 25/Monday
Yom Kippur

HaShem completely forgave the Jewish people for the sin of the golden calf; therefore, this day was established for forgiveness, additionally, **Moshe Rabbeinu** came down with the Second Luchos from Har Sinai.

Avraham Avinu had his Bris. (According to Pirkei D'Rabi Eliezer 29.)

Birthday of **Rivkah**. (B'reishis Rabah 57)

Yartzeit of **Bilhah**. (Bereishis Rabah 57) (Shemos 34:29-30, Rashi) (Rashi to Devarim 9:18)

HaShem forgave **Dovid HaMelech** for the sin of Bassheva, 2913. (Shmuel II 11:26-12:14, Introduction to the Zohar)

Dedication of First Beis Hamikdash continued on Yom Kippur.

Yechezkel prophesied the future Beis Hamikdash, 3352 (410 BCE). (Yechezkel 40)

Execution of some of the **Asara Harugei Malchus**, commemorated in the Piyut "Eileh Ezkerah", in Musaf of Yom Kippur, 3895 (135).

Tishrei 11/September 26/Tuesday
This day is called "**G-tt's Nomen**" ("HaShem's Name"). There's a custom to rise early to Shacharis today (so the Accuser can't accuse us of inconsistency in our resolve to do Teshuvah). (Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch Orach Chaim: 642)

On the day day after Yom Kippur, Moshe Rabbeinu gathered all the Jews together to request contributions for the Mishkan (Shemos 31:18, Rashi), taught the laws of Shabbos, (Shemos 35:1, Rashi) and opened the first judicial session. (Shemos 18:13-23, Rashi)

Yartzeit of **Mar Bar Rav Ashi**, one of the last editors of the Talmud Bavli, 4226 (466). (Igeres Rav Sherira Gaon)

The **Alter Rebbe** brings his grandson, the **Tzemach Tzedek**, to **Cheeder** for the first time.

After the passing of his daughter, Rebbetzin Devorah Leah (see Tishrei 3), the Alter Rebbe took over the care of her little son, strongly focusing on his education.

After davening the Alter Rebbe had the Tzemach Tzedek wrapped in a Tallis. He took his grandson and along with other members of the family and many Chassidim,

they went to the gravesite of Rebbetzin Devorah Leah. There the Alter Rebbe said: "Mazel Tov! Devorah Leah, daughter of Shterna. Today I am bringing your son, Menachem Mendel, son of Devorah Leah, into the world of Torah. Come bless him, that just as he has entered into a life of Torah, so may he come to chuppah, good deeds and length of days."

After this, all present said "Amen." Then the child was taken to Shul where Reb Avraham, the melamed, taught him the first parsha of Sefer Vayikra. When the child asked his grandfather why the Aleph in Vayikra is small, the Alter Rebbe answered him and said that it corresponds to Moshe Rabeinu who was very humble. (see *Likutei Sichos, volume 17, Parsha Vayikra*)

Tishrei 12/September 27/Wednesday

Jews continued to bring material for the Mishkan. (Shemos 35:21, Shemos Rabbah 5)

Yartzeit of **R. Avraham "The Malach"**, son of the Mezritcher Magid, author of Chesed L'Avraham, 5537, (1776).

Of Rabbi Avraham's holiness, the Tzemach Tzedek remarked: "When 'The Malach' came to the blessing Yotzer Ohr, so great was his fervor that one could light a sliver of wood by its fire! And this is no exaggeration,"

The Alter Rebbe named one of his sons Avraham after 'The Malach,' later the name Chaim was added to this son. (See *Sefer HaMa'amorim of the Friediker Rebbe p. 90*)

Tishrei 13/September 28/ Thursday

Yartzeit of our holy Master and Teacher, **R. Shmuel, "the Rebbe MaHaRaSh"**, 5643 (1882). "...His life and work is best summarized by his saying, "The world says if you can't go under an obstacle,

you have to go over, and I say —go over in the first place." The simple meaning of this is that in Torah and Mitzvos we have to "go over in the first place": not make calculations, and when that's not enough, and you have to go above measure and limit, you go "over" —the Rebbe MaHaRaSh said "go over in the first place", in a way that's above calculations and limits." (Sichah, Tishrei 13, 5739).

Yartzeit of **R. Akiva Eiger**, outstanding Talmudic authority, 5598 (1837). The Mitteler Rebbe was close with him, and said for him the Ma'amar, "Al Tatzet Es Moav". (Beis Rebbe, Vol. II, P. 7)

Tishrei 14/September 29/Friday
Erev Sukkos

Shlomoh HaMelech finished dedicating the First Beis Hamikdash, 2936. (Divrei Hayamim II 7, Moed Katan 9a)

On this day they would whitewash the stones of the Altar in the Beis Hamikdash.

Yartzeit of **R. Yisroel, the Maggid of Kozhnitz**, student of the Mezritcher Magid, author of Avodas Yisroel, 5575 (1814).

Tishrei 15/September 30/Shabbos
First Day of Sukkos

Burial of **Ya'akov Avinu**, 2255 (Seder Hadoros, 2255), (and thus the day of the death and burial of Eisav). (Sotah 13a)

Construction of the Mishkan began.

Tishrei 16/October 1/Sunday
Second Day of Sukkos

Simchas Beis HaSho'evah (Ta'anis 3a)

Yartzeit of **R. Moshe Zacuto**, Kabbalist, author of Kol HaRaMaZ, on the Zohar. 5458 (1697).

Yartzeit of **R. Sholom Dov Ber of Retzitz**, grandson of the Tzemach Tzedek, 5669 (1908).

Tishrei 18/October 3/Tuesday

Yartzeit of **R. Nachman of Breslov**, author of Likutei MaHaRaN, 5571 (1810).

Yartzeit of **R. Eliyohu of Vilna**, known as the **Vilna Gaon**, 5558 (1797).

Tishrei 21/October 6/Friday

Hoshanah Rabba

Chagai prophesied about the Second Beis Hamikdash ("Greater will be the honor of this second House than the first") 3409 (Chagai 2, 1-9); he was one of the prophets who instituted the Striking of the Aravah on Hoshana Raba to commemorate the Beis Hamikdash. (Rashi to Sukah 44a)

Yartzeit of **R. Ya'akov Yosef**, author of Toldos Ya'akov Yosef, first printed book of Chassidus, student of the Ba'al Shem Tov, 5529 (1768).

Tishrei 22/October 7/Shabbos

Shemini Atzeres

Yartzeit of **R. Aharon Halevi Hurvitz of Streshel**, primary student of the Alter Rebbe, author of Avodas Halevi and Shaar Hayichud, 5589 (1829).

Tishrei 23/October 8/Sunday

Simchas Torah

Moshe fought Og. (Tanchuma, Chukas 24)

Shlomoh HaMelech dismissed the people at the end of the dedication of the Beis Hamikdash.

Tishrei 24/October 9/Monday

Isru Chag

Ezra gathered those returning from Bavel to do Teshuvah for intermarriage. (Nehemiah 9:1)

The **Alter Rebbe** was taken to Petersburg, 5559 (1798), and again in 5561 (1800).

Yartzeit of **R. Moshe Sofer**, author of Chasam Sofer, 5600 (1839).

The **Frierdiker Rebbe** left Russia, 5688 (1927).

Yartzeit of **Rebbetzin Rochel**, wife of R. Meir Shlomo Yanovsky, grandmother of the Rebbe. The Rebbe would say Kaddish for her. (Sefer HaSichos, 5749)

Tishrei 25/October 10/Tuesday

Yartzeit of **R. Levi Yitzchak of Berditchev**, author of Kedushas Levi, close associate of the Alter Rebbe, 5570 (1809).

Tishrei 27/October 12/Thursday

Yartzeit of **R. Yitzchok of Dampierre**, early primary Tosafist, 5000 (1240).

Tishrei 28/October 13/Friday

The **Mitteler Rebbe** was taken to Vitebsk, 5587 (1826).

Tishrei 29/October 14

Shabbos Bereishis

Shabbos Mevorchim Cheshvan

Erev Rosh Chodesh

Seven days after Sukkos: the last day that one must announce a lost article. (Baba Metzia 28a)

Yartzeit of **Shimon HaTzadik**, 3449 (Yoma 39b)

Yartzeit of **Don Yitzchak Abarbanel**, leader of Spanish Jewry, Tanach commentator, 5268 (1508).

Tishrei 30/October 15/Sunday

Rosh Chodesh MarCheshvan—Day 1

Cheshvan 1/October 16/Monday

Rosh Chodesh MarCheshvan—Day 2

*We wish you and all of
Klal Yisroel
A Kzivah Va' Chasima
Tovah!
For a Good and Sweet
year.*

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ROSH HASHANAH

Erev Rosh HaShanah
Friday, Elul 29, September 15

No Tachnun on Erev Rosh HaShanah.

We don't blow the Shofar.

After Shacharis we annul our vows. Our custom is to do it before a Beis Din of ten. If you don't understand Aramaic, say it in English. If ten are not available, it can be done with a Beis Din of three.

Pidyon Nefesh

We write a Pidyon Nefesh (pan) and send it to be read at the Ohel of the Rebbe, before Rosh HaShanah.

"... With regards to the writing of a pidyon, as is known among Chassidim that when one writes a pan and sends it to the Rebbe, it becomes effective even before the pidyon reaches the Rebbe - even before the Rebbe sees it with his physical eyes. The Chassid must do his part and devote himself to the Rebbe and trust in the Rebbe so that there are no obstacles on his part and the Rebbe, for his part, achieves the desired result.

Similarly, when a Chassid makes a request of the Rebbe, he must devote himself and trust in him so that from his part there are no obstacles and he then receives the "answer" of the Rebbe, even when the Rebbe does not say anything explicitly..." [Sicha of Shabbos Parshas Pinchas 5711]

Birthday of Tzemach Tzedek

" . . . Everyone is surely utilizing this day to add in Tzedakah and good deeds connected with the day, the Tzemach Tzedek's birthday, especially by learning his Torah and fulfilling his teachings. [Erev Rosh HaShanah, 5750]

We bathe and take haircuts in honor of Yom Tov, confident that HaShem will bless us with a good and sweet year. Men go to the Mikveh.

Buy fruit for "Shehechiyanu" and the special Rosh HaShanah foods: honey, apples, head of a fish, carrots, etc.

On Rosh HaShanah we don't eat foods containing vinegar, chrain or mustard, since they are sour and bitter and we are asking Hashem to bless with only sweetness in the upcoming year. We also don't eat nuts since they increase phlegm and coughing and it disturbs us in our davening.

" . . . We must provide all the Holiday needs for all who are needy, to properly celebrate Rosh HaShanah and the Tishrei Holidays". [Sichah, Shabbos Ki Savo, 5750]

It was the Rebbe RaShab's custom before every Rosh HaShanah to take on a new Hiddur. [Sefer Haminhagim, p. 56] Thus, it's proper for everyone to accept a new Hiddur (B'li Neder, without a vow). [Rosh HaShanah Second Day 5742, Likutei Sichos, Vol. II, p. 386]



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First Night of Rosh HaShanah ***Friday Night, Tishrei 1, September 15***

At Candle Lighting we say: LiHadlik Ner Shel Shabbos V'Shel Yom HaZikaron and Shehechyanu.

"...He who davens as Chazan for the Yomim Noraim should review the Tefillos, especially the Piyutim, to know at least the meaning of the words. Even if he did so a year ago, he should do so every year before going to the Amud as Chazan." [Likutei Sichos Vol 19, p. 462]

Before Ma'ariv we say Tehillim.

"...The Alter Rebbe would be involved in saying Tehillim from after Minchah Erev Rosh HaShanah until after Ma'ariv of the Second Night of Rosh HaShanah." [Sefer HaSichos 5702, p. 2]

"... In the two days of Rosh HaShanah from an hour before Minchah Erev Rosh HaShanah until Ma'ariv Motzoei Yom Tov, every one should be involved in saying Tehillim, for in these days we must be careful in the extreme about empty conversation, to minimize sleep and maximize prayer and supplications from the depths of the heart and in every available moment say Tehillim. Those who smoke the rest of the year as well as on Yom Tov do not do so now." [Letter of the Frieddiker Rebbe, Elul 13, 5697, printed in the back of the Tehillim]

"...The Tzemach Tzedek said, Today we must prepare ourselves to receive our Father, our King. A father loves a clean, pure heart; a king loves a clean garment. Silver and gold [love and fear], don't rust, only tarnish and they can be cleaned. This is the service of Rosh HaShanah; to be sure you have a pure heart and a clean garment..." [Sichah Erev Rosh HaShanah 5705 pg. 1]

We begin Ma'ariv with "Mizmor L'Dovid," and add Shabbos inserts in the Amidah.

In Kaddish during Aseres Yemei Teshuvah, we say "Oseh **Ha**-Shalom".

During Aseres Yemei Teshuvah add "Zochreinu", "Mi Kamocha" "Uch'sov" and "B'Sefer Chaim" in the Amidah. If you forget, don't repeat the Amidah.

We say "**HaMelech** Hakadosh" instead of "HaKeil HaKadosh" If you realize immediately (the time it takes to say "Shalom Alecha Rebbe") you can immediately say "HaMelech Hakadosh". If at "HaMelech Hakadosh" you don't realize immediately, or began the next B'rachah, repeat the Amidah, even if you finished it. [See Siddur]

"... [The Rebbe RaShaB said] the vessel for material blessings for the whole year is through two things: Kavanah in saying L'Dovid Mizmor the night of Rosh HaShanah, and extra joy in the Torah on Simchas Torah." [Sichah, Sukos, 5687]

After Ma'ariv we wish each other "L'Shanah Tovah Tikaseiv V'tichaseim" (to a man) or "L'Shanah Tovah Tikaseivi V'tichaseimi" (to a woman).

On the first night of Rosh HaShanah after Ma'ariv, the Rebbe RaShaB would say L'Shanah Tovah to everyone present. On his way home from Shul, he said L'Shanah Tovah to every person, even to very young children. [Sichos 5704, p. 2]

The Tzemach Tzedek said: Two angels escort a person. They listen to the L'Shanah Tovah he says to his friend with a pure heart; they go up to heaven and say good tidings and pray that the person have a good year. This causes HaShem to accept His coronation. [Sefer HaSichos 5705, p. 1]

"... The Rebbe MaHaRaSh said, "Hundreds of angels look forward on Rosh HaShanah for a Jew to say a good word about his friend, because HaShem desires to hear the praise of Israel more than the prayers of the righteous" [Addenda to Hayom Yom, No. 18]

Yom Tov Meal

"Sholom Aleichem," "Eishes Chayil," "Mizmor L'Dovid," and "Askinu Se'udossoh" are recited quietly before reciting the Kiddush for Rosh HaShanah. Kiddush begins with "Yom HaShishi...." Say Kiddush with Shabbos inserts.

We dip the Challah three times in honey instead of salt. We put salt on the table as usual. (Many have the custom to dip Challah in salt during the meal.) This applies any time we use honey.

After Hamotzi we dip a sweet apple in honey three times, say the B'rachah "Borei Pri Ha'etz" followed by "Yehi Ratzon" [see Siddur] and eat it. Even if there are dates and pomegranates being served, the b'rachah Ha'etz should be recited over the apple.

"...The Rebbe would take the apple, start to cut into the apple, say the Brocha "Borei Pri Ho'etz" and the "Yehi Ratzon" finish cutting it, dip a piece into honey, and eat it. At the end of the meal the Rebbe would eat the rest of the apple and did not make another "Ho'etz" on the fruit for the dessert..." [As heard from my brother Aba / and Otzer Minhagei Chabad]

It's customary to eat the head of a fish, (or ram, to

commemorate Akeidas Yitzchak). We eat pomegranates, carrots, meat and sweet foods. We do not say a “Yehi Ratzon” for these traditional foods.

I remember that when I was a Bochur, my father used to bring pomegranates to New York for the Rebbe to use upstairs. (There were no pomegranates available in New York.) A few times, my father brought us some of the head of the ram from the Rebbe’s meal - which we ate when he came back from eating with the Rebbe on the second floor of 770 in the Friediker Rebbe’s apartment. (From rabbi Raichik OB”M)

In Birchas HaM azon add “Retzei” and “Ya’aleh V’Yavo”, and הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב הוא יחדש עלינו את השנה הזאת לטובה ולברכה

If you forgot “Retzei”, repeat Birchas Hamazon whether it’s night or day.

If you forget “Ya’aleh V’yavo” at night, repeat Birchas HaMazon. During the day, you do not have to. If you remember before the fourth Brochah see Siddur.

In Birchas Hamazon we say “Oseh Shalom”, not “HAShalom”.

First Day of Rosh HaShanah Shabbos, Tishrei 1, September 16

Since it is Shabbos we do not blow Shofar and the Shofar is Muktzeh.

We don’t wear a kittel on Rosh HaShanah.

Throughout Aseres Y’mei Teshuvah we say “Shir Hamalos” [Tehillim: 130] after Yishtabach before Borchu.

Since Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur are days of judgment, we don’t say Hallel.

We daven Musaf for Rosh HaShanah with Shabbos inserts. During the repetition of Sh’moneh Esrei when the chazzan says Aleinu when the Aron Kodosh is open, we fall Koirim touching our heads to the ground. If someone is davening outside on cement or stone than he needs to put down a towel or a mat not to directly touch the ground.

At Kiddush during the day we say "Mizmor L'Dovid" until after "Al Kein" quietly and "Tiku BaChodesh" we say aloud.

It is not proper to sleep on Rosh HaShanah during the day. The two days of Rosh HaShanah should be

devoted to Prayer, Torah Study, and Tehillim.

After Minchah on the first day we don't do Tashlich since it is Shabbos. Tashlich is done on the second day.

Second Night of Rosh HaShanah Motzoei Shabbos, Tishrei 2, September 16

No preparations for the second day of Yom Tov may be done before nightfall.

Women who don’t daven Ma’ariv must say "Baruch Hamavdil Bein Kodosh L’kodosh" before lighting candles, or doing any preparations for the second day of Yom Tov.

In the ma’ariv Sh’moneh Esrei we say Vatodi’einu. (If you forget it, don't repeat Sh’moneh Esrei; just don't do any work permitted on Yom Tov until you say "Baruch Hamavdil Bein Kodosh L’kodosh").

Light candles from a pre-existing flame and say the B’rachos “L’hadlik Ner Shel Yom HaZikoron” and “Shehechyanu”.

Kiddush—Havdalah

Since Shabbos is over, we have to make Havdalah in Kiddush. The correct order to make Kiddush when Yom Tov follows Shabbos is as follows:

“YaKNeHaZ” is an easy way to remember the order:

Yayen (wine) 'Borei Pri Hagofen'

Kiddush - 'M'kadeish Yisrael V'yom HaZikoron'

Ner - 'Borei Me'orei Ha'eish' (Look at the candles when you say this one but not at your fingers.)

Havdalah - 'Hamavdil Bein Kodosh L'Kodesh'

Z'man - 'Shehechyanu'

Since there is a view that we don't say Shehechyanu on the second day, the custom is to have a new fruit on the table, or wear a new garment, at candle-lighting or Kiddush (when you say Shehechyanu). If you don't have them, you still say it. We eat the new fruit before washing for Challah.

"...On the Second Night of Rosh HaShanah those who eat a K'zayis of the new fruit (before washing for the meal) should say a B'rachah Achronah over the fruit, but not over the wine." [Sefer Hashichos, Rosh HaShanah Second Night, 5705]

“ . . . They saw the Rebbe, the Tzemach Tzedek, on the second night of Rosh HaShanah saying Tehillim all night, his holy eyes flowed with tears.” [Sefer HaSichos 5705]

Second Day of Rosh HaShanah ***Sunday, Tishrei 2, September 17***

It was the Friediker Rebbe's custom to say Yizkor quietly to himself after the Haftarah on the second day of Rosh HaShanah. He told me this, knowing that I would eventually publicize it. I am not going to establish a new custom; let everyone do as he feels proper. [Sichah, Tishrei 6, 5743]

After Kriyas HaTorah, and Maftir we prepare for Shofar blowing. The Ba'al Toke'ah says the Brochos with the intention that he is saying the Brochos and blowing the Shofar for all those who are listening. We have in mind, when hearing the Brocho and the blowing of the Shofar, that we are fulfilling the Mitzvah through him. Listen very carefully to the Brochos, and keep in mind to fulfill the Mitzvah. Don't answer "Baruch Hu Uvaruch Sh'mo" (Do say "Amen"). Since the B'rochos apply to the Tekios of the Amidah, we may not talk from this point until after the Shofar blowing after the Musaf repetition (unless it directly pertains to Shofar or Davening). We should make sure that children are quiet.

Our custom is not to announce the Tekios, rather to point to them for the Ba'al Toke'ah.

We say the "Yehi Ratzon" after the Tekios, as does the Ba'al Tekiah.

"According to the practices of Kaballah, after the Tekios, the Ba'al Toke'ah should go to his place and turn to face the Congregation and they should look at him". [Kuntres Limud HaChassidus, p. 11]

We blow the Shofar three times in the silent Amidah, three times in the Repetition, and in the Kaddish after Mussaf. If you're in the middle of the Amidah when the Shofar is blown, stop, listen and then continue davening. After Davening we blow another thirty blasts.

A Ba'al Tekiah (and those who blow Shofar on Mivtza'im and the one who points for the Ba'al Toke'ah) should be well versed in the laws of Shofar.

If you heard the Shofar, you may say the B'rochos for others and blow for them, but it's better that they say the Brochos. If you're blowing Shofar for women, THEY should say the Brochos.

"... In 5640 (1880), the Rebbe MaHaRaSh gave a message to the Chassidim, through R. Levi'k the Gabai: "That which is explained in Chassidus that the concept of Shofar is that we call out "Father, Father!", the main emphasis isn't on the "Father", but on the one calling out". It was a tumultuous Rosh HaShanah." [Addenda to Hayom Yom, No. 17]

Tashlich

After Minchah we go to a river that has fish (as a sign that we should multiply like fish) for Tashlich. After Tashlich, shake the corners of your Tallis Katan. **If you can't go on Rosh HaShanah, you may go throughout Aseres Y'mei Teshuvah.**

"...I suggest everybody connect the hours of Rosh HaShanah with the beginning of Motzoei Rosh HaShanah in the study of Chassidus..." (Letter of the Rebbe, of blessed memory, Sefer Haminhagim, p. 57)

We add Atah Chonantanu in the Amidah of Ma'ariv. If you forget, don't repeat the Amidah, but say "Baruch Hamavdil Bein Kodesh L'chol". Women who don't daven Ma'ariv must say Baruch Hamavdil Bein Kodesh L'chol before they can do any work.

At Ma'ariv on Motzoei Yom Tov remember to say "**HaMelech HaKadosh**" instead of "HaKeil HaKodosh" and "**HaMelech HaMishpat,**" instead of "Melech Oheiv Tzedakah U'Mishpat," as well as the other Aseres Y'mei Teshuvah inserts.

We say regular Havdala without a candle and b'samim.

ASERES Y'MEI TESHUVAH

Add Aseres Y'mei Teshuvah insertions in the Amidah.

"...Though repentance and calling out to HaShem are effective all year round, during the Ten Days between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur they are more effective and are accepted immediately, as it says [Y'shayahu 55:6] "Seek HaShem when He is to be found." [Rambam, Hilchos Teshuvah, 2:1]

We say "Avinu Malkeinu" at Shacharis and Minchah all of the Aseres Y'mei Teshuvah (unless we aren't saying Tachanun).

During these days, we're more scrupulous than usual, as we ask HaShem to deal with us with special kindness.

One who eats non-Pas Yisroel during the year, should be careful to eat only Pas Yisroel.

TZOM GEDALIAH

Tishrei 3, September 18, Monday

All able men and women fast; pregnant or nursing women don't.

The Chazan adds Aneinu in the repeated Amidah. We say Slichos and Avinu Malkeinu and read the Torah. Only those fasting have Aliyos.

At Minchah we read the Torah and Haftarah before

the Amidah. In the Amidah, those fasting say Aneinu in Shema Koleinu. If you forget it, don't repeat the Amidah. We say Tachanun and Avinu Malkeinu.

SHABBOS SHUVAH *Tishrei 8, September 23*

It was customary in the household of the Rebbeim to light a special candle on Erev Shabbos called the Teshuvah light. [See Sefer Haminhagim, pg. 58]

This Shabbos is "Shabbos Teshuvah" (or "Shuvah," based on its Haftorah "Shuvah Yisroel.") In "Magen Avos" say "**HaMelech HaKadosh**", instead of "HaKeil HaKadosh".

We don't say "Avinu Malkeinu" on Shabbos.

We don't say "Vihi Noam" and "Atah Kadosh" in Ma'ariv on Motzoei Shabbos. (It asks for blessing in the work of our hands in the coming week, and on Yom Kippur we won't be working.)

YOM KIPPUR

Erev Yom Kippur
Sunday, Tishrei 9, September 24

Kapporos

See Siddur. Men use a rooster and women use a hen; pregnant women use preferably a rooster and two hens. Give the value of the chicken to the poor. If you can't get a chicken, use money and say "Zeh Hakesef Yeilech Li'tzedakah".

Some do Kapporos during Aseres Y'mei Teshuvah.

During the Ten Days of Teshuvah we give Tzedakah liberally, and on Erev Yom Kippur even more so.

At Shacharis we don't say Mizmor L'sodah, Tachanun or Avinu Malkeinu. (Mizmor L'sodah is in place of the Korban Todah, which wasn't brought Erev Yom Kippur.)

We ask friends for Lekach (honey cake), and eat it. One reason for this custom is that, were it decreed upon us, Chas V'Shalom, to depend on the "gifts of flesh and blood", we discharge our "obligation" with this.

. . . My father-in-law, the Rebbe told: The Ba'al Shem Tov would say that giving Lekach (honey cake) on Erev Yom Kippur is an ancient custom, and when he gave it he would say, I give you Lekach, and may HaShem give you a good year, and my father [the Rebbe RaShaB] would add, 'a sweet year'... [Sichah, Erev Yom Kippur, 5711]

It's a Mitzvah to eat and drink on Erev Yom Kippur as if for two days. It is forbidden to fast. We eat two full meals for which we wash and eat Challah dipped in honey. One meal is before Minchah; Seudah HaMafsekes is after. We eat Kreplach. We don't eat eggs on Erev Yom Kippur.

It's an obligation to go to the Mikveh. Go before Minchah, after the first meal. (Some go again after Seudah HaMafsekes before sundown.)

If one can't go to the Mikveh, he can purify himself by pouring nine Kavim of water, approximately 3 and 1/4 gallons over his head and body. One can do this by standing directly under the water in the shower for three minutes.

Before Mikveh we have the custom of Malkos: receiving thirty-nine symbolic "lashes" to remember the need for Teshuvah. Both the one giving and getting Malkos say the thirteen words of "VeHu Rachum" three times, for a total of thirty-nine.

Yom Kippur doesn't atone for sins against ones fellow man, unless we appease him. If we've sinned against others, even if only with words, we're obliged to appease them. We must go to them personally. The injured party should forgive willingly and wholeheartedly.

Minchah

We wear Yom Tov clothes to Minchah. We give a lot of Tzedakah before Minchah. At the end of the Amidah, before "Elokai N'tzor" we say Viduy (see Siddur) in the silent Amidah, but not in the Repetition.

We don't say Tachanun (or Avinu Malkeinu).

After Minchah, we eat the final meal before the fast. We eat only easily digestible food, such as boiled chicken or soup. We don't eat or drink spicy or salty foods. Finish the meal while it's still daytime.

Many refined people use only one hand to eat at their meals. On Erev Yom Kippur, they would eat with both hands, (as I saw by my father). [Erev Yom Kippur, 5745, Likutei Sichos Vol. 29, p. 319]

The Frierdiker Rebbe said, The first time I was obligated to fast on Yom Kippur, I ate the Seudah HaMafsekes (the final meal before the fast) with my father. He said I should have some soup with Challah. He told me to pour a second and third spoonful (or three servings of soup). The soup was without salt; I wanted to pour some into my soup and began to reach for it but held back. My father saw this. He said there are many reasons we eat without salt on

Erev Yom Kippur and the simple reason is we shouldn't be thirsty, because on Yom Kippur we must not only not eat, but we should not even want to eat or drink. [Sefer HaSichos, Motzoei Yom Kippur, 5697]

If you finish quite early, and intend to eat or drink before the fast, make a declaration (or at least have in mind) before Birchas HaMazon, that you're not yet beginning the fast.

Parents bless their children before going to Kol Nidrei.

At candle-lighting we say "L'hadlik Ner Shel Yom HaKippurim" and "Shehechyanu". Although the fast begins at sundown, women and girls who light candles, start at the proper candle-lighting time.

We must add a few minutes to the beginning and the end of Yom Kippur; therefore don't delay candle-lighting or going to Mikveh.

Those saying Yizkor light a Neshamah Licht.

Every married man lights a 24-hour candle preferably in Shul besides the Yizkor candle. If you can't light it in shul, then light it at home. Especially if you're planning to make Havdalah at home.

It's proper to leave a light on in the master bedroom.

We must honor Yom Kippur with Yom Tov clothes, a Yom Tov tablecloth and candles.

Yom Kippur ***Tishrei 10, September 24-25, Sunday Night-Monday***

The fast of Yom Kippur is (in effect) twenty-six hours. The number of hours corresponds to HaShem's name (gematria twenty six). [Sefer HaSichos, 5705]

(Fasting) part of an hour is considered sufficient. Fasting over twenty-five full hours is adequate. [Likutei Sichos, Vol. 16, p. 522] (The normal schedule of Yom Kippur accomplishes this, since we begin fasting before sunset and continue until over an hour after candle lighting the next evening including Ma'ariv).

Married men after the first year of marriage wear a Kittel. A mourner also wears one. Since it's a garment for Davening, you should remove it before going into a bathroom.

Put on your Tallis and say its B'rachah before sunset. We say Viduy privately before Kol Nidrei. We say

nine chapters of Tehillim (115-123).

Three Sifrei Torah should be taken out if possible for Kol Nidre.

During Kol Nidre, the Rebbe would hold the first Sefer Torah.

During Kol Nidre, the Rebbe would wear the gartel of the Tzemach Tzedek.

After Kol Nidrei the Chazan and congregation say Shehechyanu for Yom Kippur. Begin the B'rachah with the Chazan and finish before him, so that you can answer "Amen". **Women and girls, who said Shehechyanu at candle lighting, don't say it now.**

Each time we say the Sh'ma during Yom Kippur, we say "Boruch Shem..." out loud.

After Ma'ariv we say the first four chapters of Tehillim, there's a custom to say the entire Sefer Tehillim. Even if the Minyan had finished saying Tehillim, the Rebbe would stay in shul till he himself finished it.

We don't say Tachanun or Viduy in Kriyas Shema before sleep. (Don't forget to say "Baruch Shem" out loud). Say nine chapters of Tehillim (124-132) after Kriyas Shema before "Hamapil".

Five principal restrictions apply on Yom Kippur:

1. Eating/Drinking:

All men and women (even pregnant and nursing) fast. A person who feels ill or requires medication should consult a Rav. Children under nine may not fast. Children nine and above, in good health, should be trained to fast a few hours beyond their regular eating time. Boys and girls eleven years of age and in good health, should fast the whole day. (Even children under nine should be trained to keep the other abstentions.)

2. Wearing shoes:

We may not wear shoes containing any leather or suede. (And thus, we won't say the B'rachah "She'asah Li kol Tzorki", the B'rachah regarding shoes, in the morning.) We may wear leather clothes.

3. Washing:

We may not wash, even with cold water. In the morning, for Negel Vasser, and after using the bathroom, we wash our fingers until the knuckles. If there's dirt on your hands you may wash it off.

4. Anointing:

We may not soak or anoint any part of the body with oil, lotion, perfume or cologne.

5. Family Relations:

Marital relations are forbidden. A couple should conduct themselves as they would during the Nidah time.

Yom Kippur Day

Tishrei 10, September 25 Monday

We wash Negel Vasser up to our knuckles. We don't say the B'rachah "She'asah Li Kol Tzorki". Don't forget to say "Boruch Shem" out loud in the Kriyas Shema before Davening and in Korbonos.

After Kriyas HaTorah is Yizkor. Those who have both parents leave the Shul. Someone who is in the first year of mourning, stay, but don't say Yizkor. (The mother's name is used.)

At Musaf we do Birchas Kohanim. Kohanim may have their hands washed to their wrists; a Levi whose custom is to wash his own hands before washing the Kohen, may do so.

After Musaf, after the daily Tehillim portion, say Tehillim: 133-141.

Chabad custom is to have a break of at least forty-five minutes between Musaf and Minchah.

We leave the Aron Kodosh open all of Neilah. After Neilah we say Tehillim 142-150, completing Sefer Tehillim.

Motzoei Yom Kippur

For Ma'ariv we still wear our Tallis and Kittel and put on a hat (instead of a Tallis over our head). Add Atah Chonantanu in the Amidah. If you forget, don't repeat the Amidah, but say "Baruch Hamavdil Bein Kodosh L' chol". Women who don't Daven Ma'ariv must say this before they can do any work.

Before Havdalah, wash both hands three times (Negel Vasser) without a B'rachah. (Even Kohanim who washed for Birchas Kohanim.) Wash your face and rinse your mouth.

The flame for Havdalah must have been lit before Yom Kippur (and not used for any other purpose). We may light a candle from a candle that was lit on Erev Yom Kippur.

After Ma'ariv and Havdalah, Kiddush Levana is said.

On Motzoei Yom Kippur we wish each other "Gut Yom Tov". We eat and rejoice. It's a partial festival. We dip Challah in honey.

We begin building, or at least discuss the building of the Sukkah.

The day after Yom Kippur is called "B'Sheim Ha-Shem". We rise early to go to Shul.

Shlomoh HaMelech dedicated the Beis HaMikdash between Yom Kippur and Sukkos. These are days of rejoicing; we don't fast, even on a Yartzeit, or say Tachanun.

SUKKOS

Building the Sukkah

It's a Mitzvah to build the Sukkah right after Yom Kippur; when you have an opportunity to perform a Mitzvah, don't let it wait. It's a Mitzvah to make your Sukkah yourself.

Build it completely under the open sky, not under overhanging tree branches, awnings, etc. Make the walls strong enough that the wind won't shake them. Chabad custom is to make four complete walls. Canvas walls should be tied down firmly to prevent them from moving (if they do, the Sukkah may not be kosher). Build the walls first, THEN place the S'chach. If you make the roof first and then set up the walls underneath, the Sukkah's not kosher.

The S'chach must have grown from the ground, be detached and be something that can't become Tameh (impure). Use enough S'chach to have more shade than sun. S'chach can dry out and become thinner; Make sure to use enough. You can add more during Chol HaMoed. Minhag Chabad is to use a lot of S'chach.

Chabad custom is not to decorate the Sukkah.

You can build a Sukkah during Chol Hamoed.

It's forbidden to use the materials of the Sukkah (walls or roof) until after Simchas Torah. When the Sukkah is dismantled and put away after Sukkos, be careful not to step on its parts, or treat them in a degrading way; they've been used for a Mitzvah.

The Four Types (Arba Minim)

Lulav, Esrog, Hadasim and Aravos

This is a short basic guide to the purchasing and use of the four Minim. They all constitute one Mitzvah, if any of the four aren't kosher, you didn't fulfill the Mitzvah. Buy them from a reliable dealer a G-d fearing person.

The Torah calls the Esrog "Pri Eitz Hadar", beautiful in appearance and growth. All four Minim are written in the same Pasuk, so all four should be beautiful in appearance and first choice in quality. Generally, the first thing to check is that top of each is intact

and not broken off.

Selecting a Lulav

The minimum size for a Lulav is four Tefachim (at least 13 inches, not counting the leaves extending above the spine itself). It should be fresh, green, and perfectly straight, without any bend or curve in any direction. The leaves shouldn't be separated from each other, but packed tightly together. The top double leaf shouldn't be split or separated. Minhag Chabad is not to have "Kneplach" (a bent tip). When checking the top leaf, follow the spine up with your finger and don't separate the leaves.

The Hadasim

The three branches of Hadasim (myrtle) must be minimally three Tefachim (at least 9.6 inches), not counting the top leaves. They should be fresh and green without any dryness or withering. The top of the branch should be whole and even the top leaves should be whole. The top three leaves, especially, should be fresh and green.

The Hadas grows as a woven network of leaves. It has three leaves growing near each other in a circle, no one leaf lower than the others (this is called M'shulash). Many myrtle branches grow with two leaves on the same level and a third above or below. This isn't a woven network but an unacceptable wild Hadas.

All three branches should be M'shulash the entire required length, or at least a majority of it. If a Hadas was M'shulash and a leaf fell off of each level, (leaving only two leaves on each level), it's still kosher.

The Aravos

The two branches of Aravos must be minimally three Tefachim (at least 9.6 inches) not counting the top leaves. The leaves should be long, the edges of the leaves smooth, and the twig red. The top of the twig and top leaf should be intact. All leaves should be fresh, without dryness or wrinkles. All leaves within the full Shiur of three Tefachim should be present, each leaf whole. If the Aravos are too long, you may cut them. Be careful to cut from the BOTTOM of the branch. If most leaves of the Aravah fell off within its Shiur of three Tefachim, the Aravah is Pasul.

The Esrog

The Esrog should be free of marks, especially the upper portion. The cleaner an Esrog the more Mehudar. It should have many bumps and not be smooth as a lemon. Its stem should be recessed, the Esrog growing around the stem, rather than the stem growing above the surface. Being round like a ball, takes away from its beauty. The stem and Pitum

should be on the axis; it shouldn't be curved or bent. An Esrog which grew without a Pitum is kosher, an Esrog whose Pitum fell off, isn't.

Minhag Chabad is to use "Yanover" (Genovese-Italian) Esrogim (they're grown in Calabria, and called "Yanover" since they're sent from the port of Genoa.)

" . . . (The Alter Rebbe said:) When Hashem said to Moshe, "Take for yourself a Pri Eitz Hadar", they put messengers on a cloud and sent them to bring Esrogim from Calabria (Italy)." [Sefer Haminhagim, p. 65]

The Shiurim are those of R. Avraham Chaim No'eh. Try to have all the Minim BIGGER than their minimum Shiurim.

Preparing The Lulav

We use one Esrog, one Lulav, at least three Hadasim and two Aravos. Some add more Hadassim. **[In 5752, the Rebbe said to add at least three more Hadassim, as a Hiddur Mitzvah].**

We use 5 rings. The Chabad Minhag is to bind the Lulav, Hadasim and Aravos with rings made from a Lulav, and not use a holder. Bind the Hadassim and Aravos to the Lulav with three rings. **All three rings** should be close together **within one Tefach** (a hand-breadth: about three inches). When binding the Hadasim and Aravos, be careful not to detach any leaves. Make sure the Hadassim and Aravos are right side up, the top of the branch towards the top of the Lulav.

Put the other two rings on the Lulav itself, covered by the Hadassim and Aravos (even the top ring, at least somewhat).

Take the Lulav with the spine facing you, place one Haddas and Aravah on the right side, one Haddas and Aravah on the left and one Hadas in the center (leaning slightly to the right). Place the Aravos behind the Hadassim so that they are not too conspicuous.

It's a custom to prepare the Lulav in the Sukkah on Erev Yom Tov. It's best to prepare your own Lulav personally.

Parents should train their children to do the Mitzvah of Lulav (and Na'anuim at Hallel) and if possible, try to buy them a Kosher Lulav and Esrog.

The Sukkah

The Mitzvah to dwell in the Sukkah is unique: it's the only Mitzvah, which wholly encompasses a person, from the top of his hat to the soles of his shoes. In the Sukkah you're halachically required to reflect on the Sukkah's meaning: It says "Dwell in Sukkos

seven days so that your generations know that I had B'nei Yisroel dwell in Sukkos when I took them out of Eretz Mitzrayim." [Vayikra 23:42-43] These Sukkahs were the "Clouds of Glory" which surrounded and shaded them from the scorching sun. HaShem commanded us to make Sukkos for shade, to remember His miracles. When sitting in the Sukkah, have in mind to fulfill the Mitzvah of HaShem to commemorate Y'tzias Mitzrayim: the awareness is part of the Mitzvah.

We eat, drink and live in the Sukkah all seven days and nights. Generally, consider the Sukkah as your house; whatever you'd normally do in your house, do in the Sukkah. Chabad custom is not to sleep in the Sukkah.

The Sukkah should be kept neat and clean.

Leisheiv BaSukkah

We say "Leisheiv BaSukkah" only when we eat a minimum of two ounces of bread, cake or foods, which are Mezonos.

If you forget to say "Leisheiv BaSukkah" before eating, say it when you remember, even if you finished the meal. (Just sit a few more minutes in the Sukkah.)

If you leave the Sukkah without having in mind to return within an hour or two, you must say the B'rachah before you eat again (even if you return immediately). If you go to another Sukkah, say "Leisheiv BaSukkah" again.

Even though only bread or cake must be eaten in the Sukkah, Chabad custom is to eat and drink (even water) only in the Sukkah, throughout Sukkos and Shemini Atzeres. Even small children should be taught to eat in the Sukkah.

Erev Sukkos—Erev Shabbos *Tishrei 14, September 29 Friday*

It's customary to give Tzedakah generously on Erev Sukkos. We should see to it that all are provided with the necessities of Yom Tov.

In the late afternoon don't eat a meal, so that you'll eat the meal in the Sukkah at night with a good appetite.

Men go to the Mikveh on Erev Yom Tov.

Check your Eruv before Sukkos. If your Sukkah is on shared property, be certain you have an "Eruv Chatzeiros".

First Night Of Sukkos

Tishrei 15, September 29, Friday Night

Women and girls light the candles in the Sukkah. It's important to put the candles in a safe place. (Especially on Shabbos, when they shouldn't be moved.) Say L'hadlik Ner Shel Shabbos V'Shel Yom Tov and Shehechyanu. If a family lights many candles and they are afraid that it may be dangerous in the Sukkah, before sunset someone, who did not bench light may take most of the candles into the house.

However, at least two candles should be left burning in the Sukkah.

Remember, safety comes first!

Davening begins with Mizmor L'Dovid and we include the Shabbos inserts in the Sh'moneh Esrei for Sholosh Regalim.

The table should be prepared so that as soon as you come home from Shul, you can say Kiddush in the Sukkah without delay.

Minhag Chabad is not to say the invitation for the Ushpizin.

"Shalom Aleichem," "Eishes Chayil," "Mizmor L'Dovid", and "Askinu Seudosoh" are recited quietly.

We say Kiddush for Yom Tov aloud beginning with Yom Hashishi and reciting all of the Shabbos inserts, followed by "Leisheiv BaSukkah" and "Shehechyanu". Wash and make Hamotzi immediately after Kiddush. (It's best to wash near the Sukkah.)

To fulfill the Mitzvah of eating in the Sukkah the first two nights, men must eat at least 1 ounce of Challah in the Sukkah (even if it's raining). This must be done after nightfall, even if you brought Yom Tov in earlier. (Women aren't obligated to sit in the Sukkah, but many have the custom to do so.)

We dip Challah in honey three times. We use honey on Yom Tov and Hoshana Rabah (some use honey on Chol Hamoed too). We put salt on the table; many dip Challah in salt during the meal.

If you forget Ya'aleh V'Yavo in Birchas HaMazon on Yom Tov (night or day), repeat it. If you remember in the middle of Birchas HaMazon, see Siddur.

*"...On the first night of Sukkos the Rebbe RaShaB would sit in the Sukkah and learn all night."
(Sichah 5694)*

Ushpizin

The Zohar says that the seven guests, Avraham, Yitzchak, Ya'akov, Moshe, Aharon, Yosef and Dovid, grace every Sukkah. They are our Seven Shepherds; each day they visit every Sukkah. Each day has a main guest (first day Avraham, second day Yitzchak, etc.), whom the others accompany.

The Frierdiker Rebbe explained that there are also the Chassidic Ushpizin, the Ba'al Shem Tov, Mezritcher Maggid, Alter Rebbe, Mittlerer Rebbe, Tzemach Tzedek, Rebbe MaHaRaSh, and the Rebbe RaShaB.

The first day, the guest is Avraham and the Chassidic guest is the Ba'al Shem Tov. The second day, the main guest is Yitzchak; the Chassidic guest is the Mezritcher Maggid. Each night of Sukkos, the Rebbe, would explain the connection between the Ushpizin of the Zohar and those of Chassidus to that day of Sukkos. From each Guest we learn a lesson in serving HaShem the entire year. You can find this in "Sichos in English".

"As we know, every night of Sukkos sees the arrival of the seven ushpizin. Both the ushpizin of the Zohar, and the Chassidic ushpizin that were revealed by our Rebbe. And as is known that this was in a (literal) manner so that "he would indicate with his finger" that here sat the Ba'al Shem Tov, and here sat the Maggid, etc. The reason for the past tense usage of "sat", is because they told of this after it happened. But as we are now sitting here on the first night of Sukkos, it is obvious that the ushpizin are presently here." (From a sicha of the first night of Sukkos, 5752)

Besides these spiritual guests, we should invite many physical guests to the Sukkah, especially people who are needy, or don't have a Sukkah.

First Day Sukkos

Shabbos, Tishrei 15, September 30

We do not bentsh the Lulav. The Lulav and Esrog are muktzah.

The whole Hallel is said during all of Sukkos and on Sh'mini Atzeres and Simchas Torah.

We say the Amidah for Shalosh Regalim with Shabbos inserts for Shacharis and Musaf. Hosha'anos are not said on Shabbos. We say Birkas Kohanim.

We say everything for Kiddush for Shabbos through "Al Kein..." quietly and then we say aloud "Eileh mo'adai" etc.

Second Night Sukkos

Motzoei Shabbos, Tishrei 16, September 30

Vatodi'ainu is said in the Sh'moneh Esrei of Ma'ariv.

Women who do not daven Ma'ariv or one who forgot Vatodi'ainu must say "Boruch Hamavdil Bein Kodesh L'Kodesh" before preparing for the meal or bentshing licht. No preparations for the second day of Sukkos may be done before nightfall.

Candle lighting is done in the Sukkah, from a pre-existing flame. Say: L'hadlik Ner Shel Yom Tov and Shehechiyanu.

Since Shabbos is over we have to make Havdalah in Kiddush. The correct order to make Kiddush when Yom Tov follows Shabbos is:

"YaKNeHaZ" is an easy way to remember the order:

Yayen (wine) 'Borei Pri Hagofen'

Kiddush - 'M'Kadeish Yisrael V'haZ'manim'

Ner - 'Borei Me'orei Ha'eish' (Look at the candles when you say this one but not at your fingers.)

Havdalah - 'Hamavdil Bein Kodesh L'Kodesh'

Z'man - 'Shehechiyanu'

Additionally, 'Leshev BaSukkah' is said

We must eat at least a k'zayis (1 ounce) of bread in the Sukkah.

SIMCHAS BEIS HASHO'EIVAH

"... Though it's a Mitzvah to rejoice on all the festivals, there was an additional celebration in the Temple on the festival of Sukkos . . . On the eve of the first day the festival, they set up a place in the Temple for women [to watch] from above, and men from below, so that they wouldn't intermingle.

The celebration would begin the night after the first day of the festival. Similarly, on each day of Chol Hamoed, after offering the daily afternoon sacrifice, they would begin to celebrate for the rest of the day and throughout the night.

. . . The flute would be sounded and songs played on the harp, lute, and cymbals . . . Each person would play the instrument he knew. Those who could sing would sing. They would dance and clap their hands, letting loose and whistling, each in the manner he knew. They would say words of song and praise.

"Whoever didn't see Simchas Beis HaSho'eivah has never seen rejoicing in his life! . . . There were golden menorahs . . . There wasn't a courtyard in Jerusalem that wasn't illuminated with the light of Beis HaSho'eivah.

"...The custom of the Rebbe the Tzemach Tzedek was that after Ma'ariv of the second night, he would begin to arrange Fabrengens with nigunim and dancing. He would dance so hard that even the young men couldn't keep up with him." [Sefer HaSichos, 5703, p. 10]

The Rebbe emphasized that participation in Simchas Bais Hoshoeva is for all Jews. Since it doesn't have the stature it had in the Beis Hamikdash, everybody can and must participate. Not only through seeing and hearing, but also with actual Simchah and dancing, every single Jew and even children. [Maayanei Hayeshua, p. 44]

Second Day Sukkos ***Tishrei 16, October 1 Sunday***

Rise early to do the Mitzvah of Lulav and Esrog, especially the first time. Men don't eat until they Bentch Lulav. We Bentch Lulav daily, except Shabbos. It's preferable to do it in the Sukkah. The first time, we add "Shehechianu".

On the first day, by Torah law, (and the second day by Rabbinic law), the four Minim must belong to you. If you borrow a Lulav and Esrog, the lender should say (or have in mind) he's giving it as a temporary gift.

Hold the Lulav in your right hand, the spine facing you. Remove any rings from your fingers.

Say the B'rachah "Al Netilas Lulav", then pick up the Esrog in your left hand, stem downwards. (The first time you say it say "Shehechianu".)

Bring your hands together so the Lulav and Esrog touch. (If you're left-handed, hold the Lulav in your left hand and pick up the Esrog with your right.) Make sure there's no separation between your hands and the Lulav and Esrog.

Na'anuim (Shaking of the Lulav)
Shake eighteen times, 3 times in six directions.

Here's how:
Face east.
Extend your arms to the right (southeast) and shake the Lulav slightly.
Bring the Lulav and Esrog back to your heart, extend them out and back another two times. Shake the Lulav slightly when you stretch out your arms.

Do this, extending and returning:
3 times to the left (northeast),
3 times forward (east),
3 times up,

3 times down (Lulav stem down)
3 times back (west) over the right shoulder,
Keep facing east and not the direction you're shaking.

Make sure the Lulav doesn't touch anything as you shake it so that you don't damage it.

The Gemara explains: "We wave them back and forth to He Who is Master of the four directions, up and down, to He Who is Master of heaven and earth . . . back and forth to restrain harmful winds, up and down to restrain harmful dews."

Hallel

During Hallel hold the Lulav in the right hand (left for lefties). Before the Naanuim, take the Esrog and hold them together. Do the Naanuim while saying:

1. Hodu LaShem Ki Tov . . .
2. Ana HaShem Hoshia Na
3. Ana HaShem Hoshia Na
4. Hodu LaShem Ki Tov . . . (first one only)

The first and fourth Pesukim have six words, (and HaShem's name). For each word, (except HaShem's name) shake the Lulav three times in each direction according to pattern. The second and third Pesukim have three words, (and HaShem's name). For each word, (except HaShem's name) shake the Lulav three times in each of two directions according to pattern.

If you said the B'rachah on the Lulav after the Amidah, make only three series of movements in Hallel, omitting the one at the repetition of Ana HaShem Hoshia Na.

Hosha'anos

After Hallel we say Hosha'anos. A Sefer Torah is taken out of the Aron Kodesh, which remains open. A designated person holds the Sefer Torah and stands at the Bimah. The Chazan says the Hosha'anos aloud from "Samech" or "Ayin". We circle the Bimah in a full circle, holding the Lulav and Esrog in both hands so that they touch. (A mourner doesn't circle.)

Before we recite the Hosha'anos of the second day we recite those of the first day (because there aren't said on Shabbos), but we only circle the Bimah during the Hosha'anos of the current day.

In the Beis Hamikdash, each day of Sukkos, they circled the altar once, carrying Lulavim, saying "Please, HaShem, save us. Please HaShem, grant us success." (Tehillim 118:25) On the seventh day they circled seven times. We circle the Bimah each day to commemorate what happened at the Beis Hamikdash.

At Kiddush by day (see Sidur), say "Leisheiv BaSukkah" after Kiddush.

We're obligated to rejoice on Yom Tov. We eat meat; men drink an extra cup of wine, in addition to Kiddush.

Regular Havdalah is said (without besomim or candles) in the Sukkah with "Leisheiv BaSukkah".

CHOL HAMOED

We change Aravos and Hadassim with fresh ones during Chol HaMoed. Make sure they remain kosher; they can be changed more than once.

We don't wear Tefillin. We Daven the weekday Amidah, with Ya'aleh V'yavo. We say Hallel and Hosha'anos, followed by K'riyas HaTorah.

In the Beis Hamikdash, different Korbonos were brought every day of Sukkos for a total of seventy. Thus, each day's Musaf has a different insert; follow the Siddur carefully.

We're obligated to rejoice on Chol HaMoed. We eat meat; men drink an extra cup of wine.

If you forget Ya'aleh V'yavo in Birchas HaMazon, don't repeat it. If you remember before the fourth B'rachah, see Siddur.

Sewing, laundering (except baby clothes), haircuts and nail cutting are forbidden.

During Sukkos it's appropriate to increase in our efforts to reach out to Jews, even those in distant places and share with them the Mitzvos and happiness of Sukkos (Sukkah, Lulav and Estrog, and Simchas Beis HaSho'eivah). [Tishrei 13, 5752]

HOSHA'ANA RABBA

Tishrei 21, October 5-6, Thursday Night - Friday

The world is judged for water on Sukkos, ending on Hoshana Raba. The Zohar describes it as a Judgment Day like Yom Kippur: The judgment of Yom Kippur is sealed, the parchments with the decrees are handed to the angels to deliver. Thus, it has special importance as a day of Tefillah and Teshuvah.

It's customary to stay up the night of Hoshana Raba and read Sefer Devarim. After midnight we say Sefer Tehillim with the Yehi Ratzon for Hoshana Raba in back of Tehillim. There's a custom for the Gabai to distribute apples and honey. We eat them after Tehillim in the Sukkah.

If you're up all night, wash Netilas Yodayim and say

Birchos HaShachar. [Igros Kodesh of the Rebbe, Vol. III: 409]

In the Beis HaMikdash every day of Sukkos, they brought willow branches, standing them with their tops bent over the altar. When they arranged them they blew the Shofar: Tekiah, Teruah, Tekiah. To commemorate this, the Prophets instituted taking a bundle of Aravos on Hoshana Rabba.

Everyone should get bundles of five Aravos for himself and his family. In the morning, before Hallel, remove the top two rings of the Lulav, leaving only the three binding the Hadassim and Aravos to the Lulav. In Shacharis, we say seven Hosha'anos (see Siddur) and circle the Bimah seven times to commemorate the Beis HaMikdash. We don't hold the Aravos when we circle. After Hosha'anos and Kaddish, strike the Aravos on the ground five times and say the Yehi Ratzon. The five strikes sweeten the Five Gevuros.

It's a custom to wash and eat a festive meal in the Sukkah today. It's the last day that we say "Leisheiv BaSukkah" and dip Challah in honey. It's also the last day we say "L'Dovid HaShem Ori".

SHEMINI ATZERES

Tishrei 22, October 6 - 7, Friday Night - Shabbos

At Minchah we begin with Pasach Eliyahu.

Candle lighting is in the Sukkah. Say: "L'hadlik Ner Shel Shabbos V'yom Tov and Shechehiyanu".

"... The Rebbe RaShaB said "We must treasure the forty-eight hours of Shmini Atzeres and Simchas Torah very much; with every moment we can gather barrels and kegs of physical and spiritual blessings. And this is done through the dancing." [Sefer HaMa'amarim, 5711 p. 79]

We do Hakafos at night.

"Sholom Aleichem", "Eishes Chayil", "Mizmor L'Dovid" and "Askinu Se'udosso" are recited quietly.

We say Kiddush for Yom Tov aloud beginning with Yom HaShishi followed by Shechehiyanu and reciting all of the Shabbos inserts (see Siddur).

Minhag Chabad is to eat in the Sukkah by night and day. *Don't* say "Leisheiv BaSukkah".

We dip Challah in *salt* and not honey.

Yizkor is after Kriyas HaTorah.

Before Musaf the Gabbai announces "Morid HaGeshem". If you say "Morid HaTal" instead of

“Mashiv HaRuach Umorid HaGeshem”, don’t repeat the Amidah. We say the Prayer for Rain in the Musaf repetition.

We say everything for Kiddush for Shabbos through "Al Kein" quietly, and then we say aloud the possuk "Eileh mo'adai..." etc.

On Shemini Atzeres we finish ChiTaS for V'zos HaB'rachah, and we're Ma'avir the Sedra.

Towards evening we eat in the Sukkah one last time. It's not our custom to kiss the Sukkah when we leave for the last time, nor do we say a Yehi Ratzon.

In terms of the Ushpizin of the Zohar, and the Chasidic Ushpizin, of the holiday of Sukkos, it follows that Shemini Atzeres is connected with Shlomo HaMelech and the Friediker Rebbe.

[Ma'ayanei Hayeshua, p. 201]

The Rebbe Just Thought of Me

Each year, when the month of Tishrei approached, Rabbi Pinchas Reizes would leave his home in the town of Shklov and travel to his Rebbe, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, the Alter Rebbe, to spend the festivals with him.

One year, Reb Pinchas was unable to make the trip due to ill health. As he sat in his Sukkah on Shemini Atzeres, he suddenly cried out, "Oi Rebbe!" To those present he explained, "The Rebbe just thought of me."

When the local chassidim who had made the trip to the Rebbe returned to Shklov, they reported that on Shemini Atzeret, as the Rebbe sat in the Sukkah, he suddenly mentioned Reb Pinchas and wished him a speedy recovery. Further investigation revealed that this was at the precise moment that Reb Pinchas had been aware that the Rebbe was thinking of him.

Reb Pinchas now faced serious charges. How dare a chassid presume to exhibit supernatural abilities?

"It's not me," explained Rabbi Pinchas. "The first time I came to the Rebbe, I gave him my nefesh (vital soul). The second time I came to him, my ruach (emotional soul). The third time, I handed over my neshamah (intellectual soul). It is not I who was aware of the Rebbe's concern for me – my entire self is there, by the Rebbe." (Told by the Rebbe on Tishrei 24, 5727 (October 8, 1966))

SIMCHAS TORAH NIGHT

Tishrei 23, October 7, Motzoei Shabbos

Vatodi'ainu is said in the Sh'moneh Esrei of Ma'ariv. Women who do not daven Ma'ariv or one who forgot Vatodi'ainu must say "Boruch Hamavdil Bein Kodesh L'Kodesh" before preparing the meal or bentching licht. No preparations for Simchas Torah can be done before nightfall.

Since Simchas Torah night is very hectic, one must be extra careful to remember and to remind others to bentch licht!

We make seven Hakafos. We don't read the Torah at night.

Since Shabbos is over we have to make Havdalah in Kiddush. The correct order to make Kiddush when Yom Tov follows Shabbos is "YaKNeHaZ". See page 7.

"...The time of Simchas Torah, particularly before Hakofos, was always an auspicious time for my sainted father-in-law, the Rebbe.

As such, also those who have several times asked for a particular brocho, for a need that has yet to be fulfilled, may now obtain its fulfillment.

Therefore, let them take mashke, and say "L'chaim" to the Rebbe, and take upon themselves a particular commitment to strengthen their ties with him, and through this all matters will be achieved. [From a Sicha of Simchas Torah 5711]

"... My father (the Rebbe RaShaB) said, "On Simchas Torah, every minute is a year." [Sefer HaSichos 5702, p. 9]

On Simchas Torah all the gates of heaven are open, the gates of light, blessing, success, and all other gates. And one receives from them through Torah. [Sefer HaSichos 5709, p. 59]

"... The Alter Rebbe said that the first time the Ba'al Shem Tov spoke with his students about Simchas Torah, he said: In general, on Simchas Torah, Jews sleep in a bit, because of the HaKofos and Seudas Yom Tov. The angels, however, don't have that Avodah, so they get up early, as usual. They want to sing the Shirah, but without Jewish souls they can't. They go to storm the Gan Eden.

Suddenly they find things there that they don't know what they are: shoes and slippers, and they're very surprised. They're used to Tzitzis, Tefillin —but not slippers. They go off to ask the Angel Michael, who answers that this is his merchandise: it's from Jewish dancing with the Torah. He starts counting slippers: these are from Kaminka, these are from Mezritch...

And in this the Angel Michael prides himself over the Angel Metatron, who ties crowns for his Creator from the prayers of Israel, while he, the Angel Michael, makes a better crown, from the torn slippers of Simchas Torah dancing.” [Sefer HaSichos 5701, p. 31-32. The Rebbe elaborated on this story thirty years later Shabbos Bereishis 2nd Farbrengen 5731.]

Simchas Torah Day

Tishrei 23, October 8, Sunday

We do Birchas Kohanim during Shacharis. Before Kriyas HaTorah we circle the Bimah three and a half times and say seven HaKofos. Everyone gets an Aliyah, even boys under Bar Mitzvah.

On Simchas Torah when we learn ChiTaS, we finish V'zos HaBrochah and we begin learning Bereishis through Shlishi.

On Simchas Torah, the Rebbe, stressed the importance of setting times for learning especially Rambam and ChiTaS, as we begin a new cycle of Chumash.

(In terms of the Chassidic Ushpizin of Sukkos, since Shemini Atzeres is connected with the Frierdiker Rebbe, it follows that Simchas Torah is connected with the Rebbe.)

“ . . . In Lubavitch they used to announce after Simchas Torah: “And Ya’akov went on his way”. [Likutei Sichos: Vol. 9, p. 398]

We don't say Tachnun for the rest of Tishrei.

Hakofos - With New Credit

On Simchas Torah, 5648 (1887) the Rebbe RaShaB was honored with the first Sefer Torah for the first Hakofah and the Rebbe said he was not yet ready. The Rebbe called over a chassid, Reb Ya’akov Schneur, who was a jobber, and he asked him, “How does jobbing work? And the chassid answered, “I supply merchandise on credit. I bring the merchandise from the big city and give it to the retailers “Behakofah”, on credit. Once they pay for the Frierdiker merchandise he gives them the new merchandise ‘Behakofah’.”

Then the Rebbe said, “After our payment with the service of the month of Elul, the days of Selichos, the two days of Rosh HaShanah, Aseres Yemei Teshuvah, Yom Kippur, Sukkos, Shemini Atzeres, etc... then we can go to Hakofos with new credit.” (Simchas Torah 5705 (1944) p. 57)

The Simchah of Simchas Torah

“Simchas Torah 5676 (1815) the Rebbe, the Tzemach Tzedek, danced a lot, and the healthiest of the young men couldn't keep up with him, many fell down, and my great-grandfather kept dancing and as he danced he would announce, “**Dance, Yidden, dance, enjoy yourselves with the Simchah of the Torah, and in its merit you will merit life, children and broad sustenance**”.”

Rebbetzin Chaya Mousia entered the room of her father the Mittler Rebbe and complained that he - the holy Tzemach Tzedek, her husband - was wearing out the Chassidim with his dancing. “You” - said she to her father, the Rebbe - “should have seen how he is out of himself. My grandfather - the Alter Rebbe - told me that he has broad senses (chushim) his intellectual powers are broad and great.”

The Mittler Rebbe answered her: “**By him** (the Tzemach Tzedek) - **is now illuminating the light of the simchah of the Torah like it shone in the Beis HaMikdash...**”.

The night after Simchas Torah the Tzemach Tzedek would change into another Kapote, because the first one was soaked with sweat and was torn. When the grandfather - the Tzemach Tzedek - would go into his special room, the Mittler Rebbe's great Chassidim would get pieces of the torn coat as a Segulah for success in Torah and Avodah.

(Sefer HaSichos 5703, p 11)

We need R' Levi Yitzchok's V'hu Rachum!

Once in Liozna Motzoei Simchas Torah they announced the time for Ma'ariv, and they started Vehu Rachum. The Alter Rebbe said that they should not start davening Ma'ariv, because his Mechutan (Rabbi Levi of Berditchev) had yet to finish Minchah, and in the Heavens they are waiting for Rabbi Levi's Vehu Rachum. Even though this is not our Seder, we have to start with my M'chutan's Vehu Rachum.

Simchas Torah 5705 (1944) p. 63)

SHABBOS BEREISHIS - SHABBOS MIVORCHIM Tishrei 29 - October 14

It's Shabbos Bereishis and Shabbos Mevorchim Marcheshvan. We say the Sefer Tehillim before Shacharis and bless the month. We don't say “Av Harchamim” before Mussaf or “Tzidkosecha” at Minchah.

“ . . . It's known the saying of the Rebbeim that the way we set ourselves up on Shabbos Bereishis goes the whole year”. [Likutei Sichos: Vol. 1, p. 1]

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Directives of the Rebbe for Tishrei - המעשה הוא העיקר

- Before or during Tishrei it is proper to give funds for Keren HaShanah—daily donations to charity—in multiples of the number of days in the year which are 383 for 5784. These funds should be forwarded to 770.
- Before Rosh HaShanah we write a Pidyon Nefesh and send it to be read at the Ohel of the Rebbe.
- Erev Rosh HaShanah is the birthday of the Tzemach Tzedek. We should give extra tzedakah and learn from his teachings.
- We must make sure that everyone is provided with what they need for Yom Tov.
- It is important for everyone to hear the Shofar.
- We should invite people into the Sukkah, providing them with the opportunity to Bentch Lulav and Esrog and make a brochah in the Sukkah.
- We should participate in Simchas Bais HaSho'eiva during Sukkos.
- On Shmini Atzeres we are Ma'avir Sedrah for V'zos HaBrochah.
- On Simchas Torah it is appropriate to go on Tahalucha to various shuls to participate in the Simcha of Hakofos.
- On Simchas Torah when we learn ChiTaS, we finish V'zos HaBrochah and we begin learning Bereishis.

This is a brief summary of the Halochos. If you have any questions please contact your local Rabbi.