

Cardboard Hanukkah Menorah

Hanukkah, a “festival of lights” is a Jewish celebration over eight nights that celebrates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem during the second century B.C.E. According to the Talmud a miracle enabled one jar of oil to light the Temple’s menorah for eight days. Many Alexandria families celebrate Hanukkah together at home by lighting a menorah – follow the instructions below to make a menorah with materials you may already have at home.

What you will need:

Menorah

- 8 cardboard toilet paper tubes
- 1 cardboard paper towel tube
- Paint, tissue paper, or construction paper
- Optional: stickers, glitter, markers



Flames (choose option 1 or 2)

- Option 1:
 - Yellow and/or orange tissue paper
- Option 2:
 - Yellow and/or orange construction paper or cardstock
 - 9 wood craft sticks



Materials from Home

- Scissors
- Glue, glue stick, or tape

Make your Hanukkah menorah!

1. Cut the paper towel tube shorter so it is just higher than the toilet paper tubes.
2. Paint tubes or wrap them in tissue paper or construction paper and glue. Let dry.
3. Add optional decorations to your “candles” – add a different color paint, markers, stickers, glitter or whatever you’d like.
4. Now make your flames:
 - Option 1: Tissue paper flames
 - Cut yellow or orange tissue paper into quarters.
 - Crumple into flames and tuck tissue paper inside the tubes so it is not visible at the top.
 - Option 2: Craft stick flames
 - Cut out nine flame shapes from yellow, orange, or white construction paper or card stock. If needed, color the flames with crayons or markers.
 - Glue or tape each flame onto the end of a wood craft stick. Place these near your menorah until the first night of Hanukkah.



Learn more about Hanukkah Menorahs

A Hanukkah menorah candelabra has eight candles and the shamash, a “helper candle” set higher than the other candles. The shamash is lit first and used to light all the others. A new candle is placed on the menorah each night from right to left; the menorah is lit left to right, so that the newest candle is lit first. Blessings are said as the candles are lit after sundown each night.

In 2020, the first night of Hanukkah is December 10; the eighth and final night is December 18. If your menorah uses wood craft stick flames, tape a flame stick to the inside of a short tube each night. If yours has tissue paper flames, pull tissue paper out of one tube each evening and tuck it back into the top so each flame is visible. A Hanukkah menorah is intended to spread light to others – is there a place in your home where your menorah can be seen from outside?

