

How To – Affix a Mezuzah

You will need: Mezuzah Case, Mezuzah Scroll, Screws and Screw driver or Nails and Hammer

Information: A mezuzah is a container which is placed on the the doorposts of traditional Jewish homes. It is a constant reminder of G-d's presence and G-d's mitzvot. The words of the Shema are written on a tiny scroll (Mezuzah Scroll) of parchment, along with the words of a companion passage, Deuteronomy 11:13-21. On the back of the scroll, a name of G-d is written. The scroll is then rolled up and placed in the case, so that the first letter of the Name (the letter Shin) is visible (or the letter Shin is written on the outside of the case). Each doorway of a Jewish house must have a mezuzah (with some exceptions such as closets and bathrooms). Every time you pass through a door with a mezuzah on it, you touch the mezuzah and then kiss the fingers that touched it, expressing love and respect for G-d and his mitzvot and reminding yourself of the mitzvot contained within them. It is proper to remove a mezuzah when you move, and in fact, it is usually recommended. If you leave it in place, the subsequent owner may treat it with disrespect, and this is a grave sin.

Instructions:

Step 1: Place the Mezuzah scroll in the Mezuzah case and hold the Mezuzah case against the doorpost where one plans to affix it. The Mezuzah should be affixed at the lowest point of the upper-third of the right-side (as one enters the room) of the doorpost (about shoulder height) angled in toward the room.

Step 2: Perform the Chanukat HaBayit (dedication of the house) over the first mezuzah by reciting the following blessings.

Blessed are you, Hashem, our G-d, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and has commanded us to affix a mezuzah

Step 3: Affix the mezuzah to the doorpost

Step 4: Recite the Shehecheyanu blessing

Blessed are you, Hashem, our G-d, King of the universe, Who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season