

CHANUKA: CANDLES: WHO SHOULD LIGHT

Chanuka: Candles: Who May Light

Anyone in the household who has reached *bar* or *bat mitzva* age can light Chanuka candles, thereby fulfilling the *halachic* requirement that one candle per household per night must be lit.

Chanuka: Candles: Light for Yourself

Light Chanuka candles for yourself, even if there are no other people around. If there are other people asleep in the house who have not fulfilled the *mitzva* of lighting Chanuka candles, you should wake them so they can see the candles. **Do not wake children below gil chinuch.**

Chanuka: Candles: Obligation for Women To Light

Women, like men, are required to light Chanuka candles or have them lit for them.

NOTE It was not traditionally customary for women and girls to light when men were present. The custom is that in a house in which the husband lights Chanuka candles, the wife does not also light. However, a wife is required to light if her husband is not present, and girls (above 12 years old) are required to light if no men are present.

Chanuka: Candles: Wife May Light for Husband

A wife may light Chanuka candles for her husband if he is not home.

NOTE If your wife lit for you and you return late at night, you do not need to light for yourself.