



# How to play DREIDEL!



1. Everybody puts an ante into the pot before each spin (pennies, nickels, candy, etc.)
2. Each person spins the *dreidel*. Results are determined by the face-up side of the *dreidel*.



**GIMMEL**

take all the pot



**HEY**

take half the pot



**NUN**

take none



**SHIN**

put two in

3. When one person has won all the coins or candy, the game is over. That's right, winner takes all in the high-stakes, cut-throat game of *dreidel*!

## What it means?

Traditionally, the letters on the dreidel became an acronym for the Hebrew phrase *nes gadol hayah sham* ("A great miracle happened there").

Here's a Humanistic version, modified from a suggestion by Rabbi Adam Chalom: *hava na'ase shalom gadol* – ("Let us make peace. Awesome!").

**Hanukkah** celebrates the victory of the Maccabean rebellion in 164 BCE against the Seleucid (Syrian-Greek) Empire, which led to independent Jewish rule in Israel for the first time in almost five centuries.

Hanukkah means "rededication," which the Maccabees did to the Temple in Jerusalem after its recapture. The *Hanukkiyah* (Hanukkah menorah) commemorates that rededication. Here's a Humanistic version of a candle-lighting blessing:

**Blessed is the light of the world.**  
**Blessed is the light within humanity.**  
**Blessed is the light of Hanukkah.**

**Barukh-ha-or ba-olam.**  
**Barukh ha-or ba-adam.**  
**Barukh ha-or ba-Hanukkah.**



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