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.

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