

## Chanukah Songs



DIY JEWISH

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### OY, CHANUKKAH

O Chanukkah, O Chanukkah,  
come light the menorah  
Let's have a party, we'll all dance the horah  
Gather 'round the table, we'll give you a treat  
Sivivon to play with and latkes to eat  
And while we are playing, the candles are burning low  
One for each night, they shed a sweet light, to remind us of days long ago  
(2x)

Oy Chanukah, Oy Chanukah a yontif a sheiner  
A lustiker a freylicher nito noch a zeyner  
Alle nacht in dreydlech shpiln mir  
Zudik hesse latkes essen mir  
Geshvinder tsindt kinder  
Di Chanukkah lichtelech on  
Zol yeder bazunder bazingen dem vunder  
Un tantzen freylech in kohn (2x)

### MAOZ TZUR

*Maoz tzur y'shuati  
l'cha na'eh l'shabeiach  
Tikon beit t'filati  
v'sham todah n'zabeiach  
L'eit tachin matbeiach  
mitzar hamnabeiach,  
az egmor,  
b'shir mizmor,  
Chanukat hamisbeiach (2x)*

מְעוֹז צוֹר יְשׁוּעָתִי  
לְךָ נֶאֱחָה לְשַׁבְּחָךְ,  
תִּכּוֹן בַּיִת תִּפְלָתִי  
וְשֵׁם תְּנוּדָה נִזְבַּחַךְ,  
לְעֵת תִּכּוֹן מִטְבְּחֶךָ  
מִצָּר הַמְּנַבְּחָךְ,  
אֲזֵ אֶגְמֹר  
בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר  
חֲנֻכַּת הַמְּנֻבָּחָךְ.

Rock of Ages sing our song, praise Your saving power  
You, amidst the raging foes, were our shelt'ring tower  
Furious, they assailed us  
But Your arms availed us  
And Your word broke their sword when our own strength failed us (2x)

**CANDLES BURNING ALL NIGHT LONG** (sung as round)

Candles burning all night long- Chanukkah, oh chanukkah

Judah, Judah Macabee-fought the Greeks to set us free

Me-no, Me-no Meno-no-rah (repeat)



**Mi Y'Maleil?/Who Can Retell?**

Hebrew: Music by Menashe Ravina; words: unknown

English: B.M. Edidin, Judith K. Eisenstein and others

מי ימלל גבורות ישראל  
אותן מי ימנה  
הן בכל דור יקום הגיבור  
גואל העם

*Mi y'maleil g'vu-rot Yisraeil? Otan mi yim-neh?*

*Hein b'chol dor ya-kum ha-gi-bor go-eil ha-am*

Who can retell the things that befell us? Who can count them?

In ev'ry age a hero or sage came to our aid (repeat)

שמע  
בימים ההם בזמן הזה  
מכבי מושיע ופודה  
ובימינו כל עם ישראל  
יתאחד, יקום ויגאל

*Sh'ma! Bayamim ha-heim bazman hazeh*

*Makabi moshia ufodeh*

*Uv-yaminu kol am Yisraeil, yit-acheid yakum l'hi-ga-eil.*

Hark!

In days of yore in Israel's ancient land

Brave Maccabeus led the faithful band

But now all Israel must as one arise

Redeem itself through deed and sacrifice.

## S'VIVON

סְבִיבוֹן סוֹב סוֹב סוֹב  
חֲנֻכָּה הוּא חַג טוֹב  
סְבִיבוֹן סוֹב סוֹב סוֹב  
חֲנֻכָּה הוּא חַג טוֹב

חַג שְׂמֵחָה הוּא לַעֲמ  
נֵס גְדוֹל הָיָה שָׁם  
נֵס גְדוֹל הָיָה שָׁם  
חַג שְׂמֵחָה הוּא לַעֲמ

*S'vivon sov, sov, sov,  
Chanukkah hu chag tov  
S'vivon, sov, sov, sov  
Chanukkah hu chag tov*

*Chag simchah hu la am  
neis gadol haya sham  
Neis gadol haya sham  
chag simcha hu la am*

Dreidel: SPIN! SPIN! SPIN!  
Hanukah is a great holiday!  
It is a fun holiday for our People!  
A great miracle happened there!

### Not By Might, Not By Power

(Words and Music by Debbie Friedman based on Zechariah)

**Not by might and not by power,  
but by spirit alone shall we all live in peace. (2x)**

The children sing,  
the children dream,  
and their tears may fall,  
but we'll hear them call  
and another song will rise,  
another song will rise,  
another song will rise!



**LIGHT ONE CANDLE** written by Peter Yarrow

Light one candle for the Macabe Children  
With thanks their light didn't die.  
Light one candle for the pain they endured  
When their right to exist was de-nied.  
Light on candle for the terrible sacrifice  
Justice and freedom demand.  
Light one candle for the wisdom to know  
when the peace makers time is at hand.



**CHORUS**

Don't let the light go out.  
It's lasted for so many years.  
Don't let the light go out.  
Let it shine through our love and our tears.  
Don't let the light go out.  
It's lasted for so many years.  
Don't let the light go out.  
Let it shine through our love and our tears.

Light one candle for the strength that we need  
To never became our own foe.  
And light one candle for those who are suffering  
Pain we learned so long ago.  
Light one candle for all we believe in.  
Let anger not tear us a-part.  
And light one candle to bind us to-gether  
With piece as the song in our hearts.

**CHORUS**

And what is the memory that's valued so highly  
That we keep it alive in the flame?  
What's the commitment for those who have died  
We cry out they have not died in vain?  
We have come this far, always believing  
That judgement will somehow prevail.  
This is the burden! This is the promise!  
and this is why we will not fail!

**CHORUS**

Let it shine through our love and our tears.  
Don't let the light go out!  
Don't let the light go out!  
Don't let the light go out!

## **Judah Maccabee**

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### CHORUS:

In The window, shining so bright  
I can see the Hanukkah Light  
And it gives me such a warm, friendly glow  
When I think of Judah Maccabee, so long ago

A long time ago, in the land of Modin  
Lived a young man named Judah - brave and serene.  
When Antiochus the tyrant said the Jews could not be free  
He didn't count on Judah - the one called Maccabee

Now Judah and his brothers said it wasn't right  
to take away their freedom - they knew they had to fight  
They fought three long years till the kind could take no more  
they rebuilt the holy temple, its beauty they restored

Now when the Temple was restored, they searched and searched in vain  
for oil to light the lamps, but not enough remained  
Except for one small vial, enough to last one day  
but instead it burned for eight - they proclaimed a holiday

Tonight we light our lamps, sing our songs and play our games  
we remember that great miracle hidden in the flames  
And today throughout the world we rejoice that we are free  
to carry out the mission of Judah Maccabee

## **The Dreidel Song**

I have a little dreidel  
I made it out of clay  
And when it's dry and ready  
Oh dreidel, I shall play

Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel  
I made you out of clay  
And when you're dry and ready  
Oh Dreidel we shall play

Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel  
I made you out of wood  
And when you are all ready  
I'll play you when I could

Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel  
I made you out of glass  
And when you are all ready  
I'll play you on the grass

Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel  
I made you out of gold  
And when you are all ready  
I'll play you in the cold

*Now make your own verses....*