

Let's Play Dreidel!

A Hanukkah spinning-top game for 2 or more players.



How to play

- 1 Give each player the same number of game pieces: pennies, raisins, buttons or chocolate coins (gelt). 10 each is a good start.
- 2 Everyone puts one piece in the middle. That's the pot.
- 3 Take turns spinning the dreidel. When it falls, the letter facing up tells you what to do:



Nun

Yiddish “nisht” = nothing
Nothing happens. Pass the dreidel to the next player.



Gimel

Yiddish “gants” = all
Yay! Take ALL the pieces in the pot.



Hey

Yiddish “halb” = half
Take HALF the pot. If the pot has an odd number, take the extra one too.



Shin

Yiddish “shtel” = put in
Put ONE of your pieces into the pot.

- 4 When the pot is empty (or has just one piece left), everyone puts one piece in again.
- 5 If you run out of pieces, you're out. The last player with pieces wins, or stop whenever you like and count up!



Did you know?

The letters stand for **Nes Gadol Hayah Sham**: “A great miracle happened there.” In Israel, dreidels have נ (Pe) instead of ש (Shin): “A great miracle happened **here**.”



Color the Menorah

9 branches: 8 candles plus the raised helper candle in the middle.



The tall middle candle is the shamash ("helper"). Each night it lights one more candle, for 8 nights.

