



# chanukah dreidel

The dreidel, also known as a *s'vivon* in Hebrew, is a four-sided spinning top traditionally used in a game played during the Jewish festival of chanukah.

Each side of the dreidel is marked with a Hebrew letter, and these letters together form an acronym that stands for "Nes Gadol Haya Sham," which translates to "A great miracle happened there."

The letters are Nun (נ), Gimel (ג), Hey (ה), and Shin (ש).

In Israel, the last letter is sometimes changed to Pey (פ), and the acronym becomes "Nes Gadol Haya Po," meaning "A great miracle happened here."

## how to play the game

- Dreidel, a cherished chanukah game played worldwide in Jewish homes, features variable rules. To engage in the basic dreidel game:
- Any number of participants can join.
- Players start with an equal number of game pieces (approximately 10-15), like coins, gelt, nuts, or chocolates.
- At each round's onset, each player contributes one piece to the central "pot." If the pot is empty or has only one piece, everyone adds one.
- Spin the dreidel on your turn. Based on the outcome, give or take pieces from the pot:

**Nun (נ) - "Nisht" or "nothing" (no action).**

**Gimel (ג) - "Gantz" or "everything" (take all from the pot).**

**Hey (ה) - "Halb" or "half" (take half the pot).**

**Shin (ש) - "Shtel" or "put in" (add a piece to the pot).**

- If you run out of pieces, you're either "out" or can request a "loan" from another player.
- The round concludes when one player accumulates all the pieces.