

A&S Mezuzot

Congratulations!

You have purchased a mezuzah that is certified Kosher by a qualified scribe!

WHO requires a mezuzah on their doorpost?

Any Jewish person. (Ideally, placement should be by an adult male)

WHAT is a mezuzah?

A mezuzah is handwritten parchment scroll containing the Shema prayer (Deuteronomy 6).

The scroll is placed in a case to protect it from damage.*

WHERE is a mezuzah placed?

A mezuzah is placed in any living, office, or storage space.

A mezuzah is placed:

- ✓ On doorways (with or without a door)
- ✓ Archways that divide a room
- ✓ Hallways

(bathrooms are exempt while rooms under 6' x 6' may be exempt **)

WHEN is a mezuzah placed?

A mezuzah is placed when taking occupancy of a new home/ office space or rental upon occupancy/ownership.

(in a rental outside of Israel there may be a leniency for the first 30 days*)

WHY?

To remember G-d when entering and exiting a room. It also serves as a protection against evil.

(The outside of the scroll contains a Divine name and mystical incantations associated with protection)

HOW is a mezuzah placed?

A mezuzah is placed on the top third (ideally the beginning) of the doorpost on the right side of the entrance.**

(the letter Shin should be on top)

If the doorway is very tall it may be placed at shoulder height.**

Sefardim place the mezuzah in an upright position.

Ashkenazim place the mezuzah at an angle with the top pointed inwards.



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Maintenance

A mezuzah needs to be checked twice in seven years. In the interim, care should be taken that it should not face direct sunlight and high water-splash areas. Silver cases should not be spritzed with silver polish.

Hanging the mezuzah

When placing the parchment in a clear case be sure that the G-d's name faces outward. The mezuzah case should be affixed to the post with any material which will fasten it firmly to the doorpost.

While holding the case in place, but before affixing it the blessing should be recited. The blessing is only recited by an opening that has a door. One blessing suffices for many doorways.

Blessing

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר
קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְקַבּוֹעַ מְזוּזָה

*Baruch ata Ado-n-oy Elo-he-nu melech
haolam asher kideshanu b'mitzvotav
vtzivanu likboa mezuzah*

Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the Universe,
Who sanctified us with His mitzvot, and commanded
us to affix a mezuzah.

* Clear cases are preferable for high -sanctity places (synagogue or library).
A mezuzah placed within master-bedrooms should be double wrapped.

** A rabbi who is knowledgeable in these laws should be consulted.

*** Only entrances require a mezuzah - dedicated exits (such as fire exits) are exempt. Complicated scenarios (porches, poolhouses, large walk - in closets etc) should be directed to a rabbi who is knowledgeable in these laws.