

Judaism — Hanukkah



Dreidel Game

Dreidels are similar to dice, but they have a handle on the top and come to a point at the bottom. They have four sides, on each of which is a Hebrew letter.

To play the game, each player needs 10 tokens – coins, counters or even raisins. To start with, each player puts one token into the pot.

Players take it in turns to spin the dreidel, winning or losing tokens as below. The winner is the first player to get all the tokens.

gimmel – Ganz (All)

Win all the tokens in the pot. Each player then puts one token in the pot.

heh – Halb (Half)

Win half the tokens in the pot. If this empties the pot, each player puts one token in.

shin – Shtell (Put)

Put one token into the pot.

nun – Nichts (Nothing)

You get nothing, but you also lose nothing.

