



Yom Tov Blessing -

Welcoming the Holiday with Candle Lighting

וְשִׂמְחָתָּ בְּחֻגְךָ אַתָּה וּבִנְךָ וּבִתְּךָ וְעַבְדְּךָ וְאֹמֶתְךָ וְהַלְוִי וְהַגֵּר
וְהַיְתוּם וְהָאֲלֵמָנָה אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ:

*You shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter,
your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner,
the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. - Deut 16:14*



LIGHTING CANDLES on the eve of a holiday is similar to the Shabbat candle lighting blessing, except that *Halakhah* (Jewish law) states that the source of the fire must come from a pre-existing flame and that the candles must be lit *after* sundown (unless the holiday occurs on Shabbat). The general blessing is as follows:



בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

ha'olam me-lekh elo-hei-nu Adonai at-tah ba-rukH
the universe king (of) our God Lord are you Blessed

אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק

le-hadlik v'tsivanu be-mits-votav kid-de-sha-nu a-sHer
to kindle and with his sanctified us who
commanded us commandments

נֵר שֶׁל (שַׁבָּת וְשֶׁל) יוֹם טוֹב.

tov yom v'shel shabbat shel ner
the holiday (and of of sabbath) the candles of

Blessed art thou, Lord our God, Master of the universe, who sanctifies us with Your commandments, and commanded us to kindle the light (of shabbat and of) the holiday.

*Barukh attah Adonai eloheinu melekh ha-olam,
asher kideshanu be-mitzvotav ve-tsivanu lehadlik
ner shel (shabbat v'shel) yom tov.*

Note that if the holiday occurs on Shabbat, you insert "Shabbat v'shel" before the ending to yield:
"...Shabbat v'shel yom tov."