



## PLAYING DREIDEL



**Hebrew Letter:** Nun  
**Hebrew Word:** Nes  
**English Word:** Great  
**Yiddish Word:** Nit (Nothing)  
**Game Rule:** Win nothing



**Hebrew Letter:** Gimel  
**Hebrew Word:** Gadol  
**English Word:** Miracle  
**Yiddish Word:** Gantz (All)  
**Game Rule:** Win all the coins in the pot



**Hebrew Letter:** Hey  
**Hebrew Word:** Hayah  
**English Word:** Happened  
**Yiddish Word:** Halb (Half)  
**Game Rule:** Win half the coins in the pot



**Hebrew Letter:** Shin  
**Hebrew Word:** Sham  
**English Word:** There  
**Yiddish Word:** Shtell (Put)  
**Game Rule:** Put one coin in the pot

# THE DREIDEL GAME IS A CHANUKAH TRADITION

A dreidel is a four-sided top that is spun to win prizes. Each side contains a Hebrew letter representing words from the sentence, "A great miracle happened there." In Israel, however, the letter for "there" is replaced with a letter for "here" – a great miracle happened here.

Players begin with a stash of chocolate coins. They contribute to a central pot and take turns spinning the dreidel. When the dreidel falls, the letter landing face up indicates what the player wins or must do.

Each letter also represents a Yiddish word that indicates an action in the game. When the pot is empty, players each put another coin in the pot. The game is over when one person has all the coins.