

Jewish Festivals: Evening Kiddush

To fulfill the two requirements for Jewish festival evening kiddush:

1. Make Kiddush

Say, or hear, the three Jewish festival evening kiddush blessings/segments:

1. Borei pri ha'gafen (if on wine or grape juice—preferred option), OR Ha'motzi (on two challot if you have no wine or grape juice, since no chamar medina is allowed for Jewish festival evening kiddush; see Jewish Festivals: Kiddush: Challot for Kiddush) AND
2. Asher bachar banu mi kol am.... mekadeish Yisrael v'hazmanim, AND
3. She'hecheyanu on all Jewish festival nights, except the last two nights of Passover. So say she'hecheyanu on:
 - Both nights of Rosh Hashana (in or outside of Eretz Yisrael),
 - First two nights of Passover (1 night in Eretz Yisrael),
 - Both nights of Shavuot (1 night in Eretz Yisrael),
 - First two nights of Sukkot (1 night in Eretz Yisrael), and
 - Nights of Shmini Atzeret and Simchat Torah (same day in Eretz Yisrael).

NOTE There is never any requirement on an individual to drink kiddush wine (except at the Passover seder), but the kiddush wine must be drunk by one or more persons.

NOTE A woman who had said she'hecheyanu when she lit the Jewish festival candles does NOT say she'hecheyanu again if she makes kiddush for herself, even when making kiddush at the Passover seder.

NOTE There is no need to eat a new fruit after saying she'hecheyanu on the second night of Shavuot, Passover, or Sukkot. This is not comparable to Rosh Hashana, since the second festival night was instituted due to uncertainty of the actual date of the holiday, while Rosh Hashana is considered to be one single, long day.

2. Establish a halachic “meal” (kovei'a se'uda).

For how to establish a halachic meal, see Introduction to Jewish Festival “Eating a Meal” Requirements.

NOTE For evening kiddush, the custom is to go straight to the meal without delay (with no mezonot or snacking first). B'di'avad if you snacked, it is still OK.

NOTE At night on Jewish festivals (or Shabbat), you may not say kiddush at a place where you will not eat your evening meal (even if you will hear or say kiddush again at the place where you will eat the meal).