

KABBALAT SHABBAT

WHEN TO SAY KABBALAT SHABBAT

Start Kabbalat Shabbat Ideally before Sunset

Kabbalat Shabbat should ideally be started before sunset, and you should ideally get to bo'i challa at about sunset time. But you may start Kabbalat Shabbat after sunset and even after dark.

Latest Time To Say Kabbalat Shabbat

The latest time to finish saying Kabbalat Shabbat is before daybreak on Saturday morning.

Kabbalat Shabbat and Jewish Festivals

Kabbalat Shabbat is mostly omitted when Shabbat falls on:

- Jewish festivals,
- Chol ha'moed, and
- Right after the last day of a Jewish festival.

On these days, only Mizmor shir... and Adonai malach... are said.

LECHA DODI

Directions for Lecha Dodi

When saying Lecha Dodi:

- Face your normal direction for the first stanzas;
- For bo'i v'shalom, ideally, face the entrance to the synagogue (but the common practice is to face away from the aron kodesh).

VAYECHULU

Saying VaYechulu with Others

Friday night, it is a nice custom for men to say va'yechulu with at least one other man. It is best (but not required) to say va'yechulu with the entire minyan.

REASON The idea is that we are attesting (with other people, as in a court) to God's having created the world.