

Blowing the Shofar

This year the shofar is blown on the both days of Rosh Hashanah, Tuesday 7 September and Wednesday 8 September, at any time during the day. On Rosh Hashanah we only blow for the Mitzvah, not for practice.

Practicing

Before Rosh Hashanah practice blowing the Shofar. The smaller hole should ideally be at the right side of your mouth and the large opening pointing upwards.

Blow the Shofar like you would play a horn. Your lips should be tightly sealed, try not to blow from a puffed-up cheek. You should only be able to blow out air into the mouthpiece of the Shofar from the hole made by tightening your lips, air should not come out from the sides. You may wish to place your finger over your mouth to block air from exiting there.

Shofar blowing tips and video tutorials are at ChabadHouse.org.au/4869345.

The Shofar Sounds

- Tekiah – one long blast.
- Shevarim – 3 medium length sounds.
- Teruah – a staccato multi-note blast, comprising at least 9 sounds.

Each of the Shofar sounds (i.e. each Tekiah, Shevarim and Teruah) must be blown in one breath. One must breathe between each of the Shofar sounds except between the 3 Shevarim-Teruah's (in stanza 1, see below) where there should be a slight pause between them but no breath.

The Order

STANZA 1 Repeat 3 times	Tekiah*	_____	Breath
	Shevarim- Teruah	_____ pause (no breath) _____	Breath
	Tekiah*	_____	Breath
STANZA 2 Repeat 3 times	Tekiah	_____	Breath
	Shevarim	_____	Breath
	Tekiah	_____	Breath
STANZA 3 Repeat 3 times	Tekiah	_____	Breath
	Teruah	_____	Breath
	Tekiah	_____	Breath

*Sound should last the same length as Shevarim-Teruah combined



The Blessings

If the blower already fulfilled the Mitzvah of Shofar that day, a listener should recite the Brachot.

When blowing for several people, one of the males present may make the Brachot on behalf of the others.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲ-דֹנָי אֱ-לֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ
לְשִׁמּוֹעַ קוֹל שׁוֹפָר.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲ-דֹנָי אֱ-לֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁהֲחַיְנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעַנוּ לְזִמְן הַזֶּה.

Baruch Ata Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech Haolam
Asher Kid'shanu B'mitzvotav V'tzivanu
Lishmoah Kol Shofar.

Baruch Ata Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech Haolam
Shehecheyanu V'kimanu V'higi-anu Lizman
Haze.

In the merit of our blowing Shofar may Hashem blow the giant Shofar of our deliverance and send us Moshiach speedily.