

# Rosh Hashanah

## What is Rosh Hashanah?

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year.

It is a two day celebration.

It is in September or October.

## The Meaning of Rosh Hashanah

For Jews, it is one of the holiest times of the year.

It is a time when people think about the last year.

They think about how they were good and how they were bad.

They ask God to forgive them for anything bad.



**They say “L’shanah tovah” which means ‘for a good year’.**

## Traditions

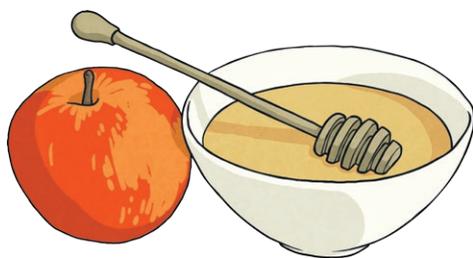
Jewish people spend lots of time at the synagogue.

A ram’s horn is blown at the service.

It is called a shofar.

After the service there is a special meal.

They eat apples dipped in honey, challah bread and a pomegranate.



# Questions

1. Rosh Hashanah is the new year celebration for which people? Tick one

Christians

Jewish

Muslims

2. Where do people go at Rosh Hashanah? Tick one

church

mosque

synagogue

3. Rosh Hashanah is always in September.

true

false

4. Tick two foods which may be eaten at Rosh Hashanah.

pomegranate

sausages

apples

5. What is the ram's horn called?

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# Answers

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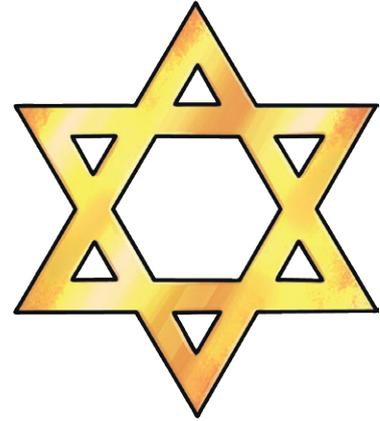
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**It is called a shofar.**

# Rosh Hashanah

## What is Rosh Hashanah?

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year. It is also known as 'the head of the year'. It is a two day celebration which falls between the 5th September and 5th October.



## The Meaning of Rosh Hashanah

Jews celebrate their belief in God's creation of the first man and woman. They were called Adam and Eve.

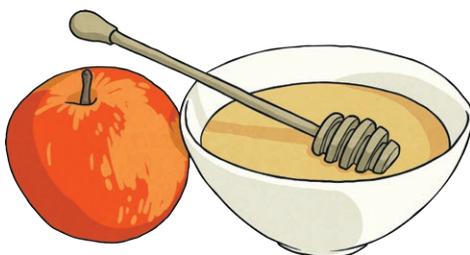
At this time, people think about the past year and the next year. Jewish people believe that God will judge them on the good and bad things they have done. They ask God for forgiveness and to have a fresh start.

## Traditions

During Rosh Hashanah, Jewish people spend a lot of time at the synagogues. This is where they ask God for forgiveness. At the synagogues, a ram's horn known as a shofar can be heard.

After the synagogues service, there is a special feast. Foods eaten include:

- apples dipped in honey as a symbol of a sweet new year.
- challah bread in a round loaf representing the circle of life.
- a pomegranate because it is believed they have 613 seeds one for each of the Jewish commandments.



# Questions

1. What is Rosh Hashanah also known as?

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2. How often does Rosh Hashanah happen?

monthly

yearly

every two years

3. In the following sentence. What does the word judge mean?

Jewish people believe that God will judge them on the good and bad.

form an opinion

choose

praise

4. Find and copy the name of the ram's horn blown at the synagogue?

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5. Apples in honey are eaten because they are sticky.

true

false

# Answers

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**shofar**

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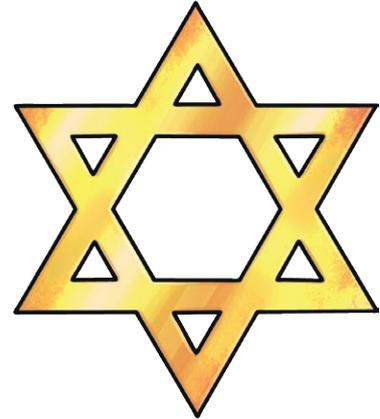
true

false

# Rosh Hashanah

## What is Rosh Hashanah?

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year festival which lasts for two days. It is also referred to as 'the head of the year'. The celebration dates vary each year but always fall between 5th September and 5th October.

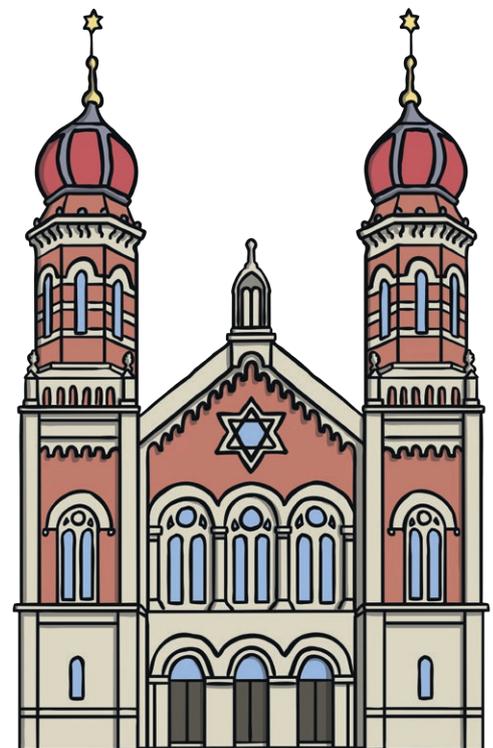


## The Meaning of Rosh Hashanah

Rosh Hashanah is a time when Jews commemorate their belief in God's creation of the earth and the first man and woman. Their names were Adam and Eve.

It is a time for reflection, considering the past year and the next year. Jewish people believe that God will judge them on the good and bad deeds they have done. They ask God for forgiveness which then allows them to become a better person and begin the new year without any burdens.

## During Rosh Hashanah



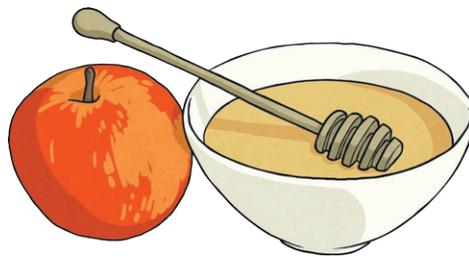
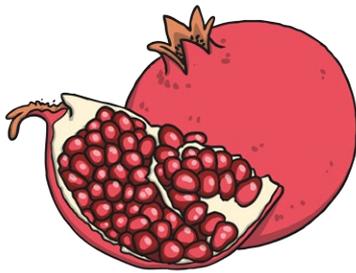
During Rosh Hashanah, Jewish people spend the majority of time at the synagogue, praying for forgiveness and reflecting on their lives.

The sound of the Shofar – a ram's horn – can be heard as it is blown as part of the festival rituals during the service. One hundred notes are blown each day of the festival.

After the synagogue service there is a special feast. Foods eaten include:

# Rosh Hashanah

- apples dipped in honey as a symbol of a sweet new year which each Jewish person hopes for.
- challah bread in a round loaf representing the circle of life and of the year.
- a pomegranate because it is believed they have 613 seeds, one for each of the Jewish commandments that a person try to should keep.



# Questions

1. Find and copy one sentence which states that the date of Rosh Hashanah changes every year.

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2. Give two reasons why Rosh Hashanah is celebrated.

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Jewish people believe that God will judge them on the good and bad deeds they have done.

The word '**judge**' has another meaning. Write a definition below.

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3. Why do Jewish people ask for forgiveness at Rosh Hashanah?

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4. How do people spend a lot of their time at Rosh Hashanah?

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In your opinion, how does a round loaf of challah represent the circle of life?

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# Answers

1. Find and copy one sentence which states that the date of Rosh Hashanah changes every year.

**The celebration dates vary each year but always fall between 5th September and 5th October.**

2. Give two reasons why Rosh Hashanah is celebrated.

**Rosh Hashanah is celebrated because it commemorates when God created the world.**

**It also marks the time when the first man and women were created.**

3. Jewish people believe that God will judge them on the good and bad deeds they have done.

The word '**judge**' has another meaning. Write a definition below.

**A judge is the name of somebody in a court. (Accept other relevant answers)**

4. Why do Jewish people ask for forgiveness at Rosh Hashanah?

**At Rosh Hashanah Jewish people ask for forgiveness because of any bad deeds they may have done in the last year.**

5. How do people spend a lot of their time at Rosh Hashanah?

**At Rosh Hashanah, people spend a lot of time at the synagogue praying.**

6. In your opinion, how does a round loaf of challah represent the circle of life?

**Accept various answers which relate to the fact that the circle of life is continuous.**