

A Bat Mitzvah at Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad

According to Jewish tradition, a Bat Mitzvah reflects a major turning point in the life of a Jewish girl and as such, we believe very strongly that every girl should celebrate this milestone in a meaningful and traditional manner.



The Bat Mitzvah girl should certainly feel a sense of relevance and connectedness to this auspicious threshold in her life. She should take pride in her Jewish identity and be filled with enthusiasm to take her place as a full fledged member of the Jewish nation.

We are proud to present to you a variety of options to personalize your service and make this day, one to remember for years to come. Every one of these options can be customized to meet your needs during your consultation with the Rabbi.

STUDYING

The Pre-Bat Mitzvah “curriculum” serves as a forum for discussion and discovery, encouraging the Bat Mitzvah girls to learn more about this unique time in their lives.

The Bat Mitzvah girl will be paired up with a special teacher who will cover the following syllabus:

- In depth learning of her Torah portion including selected commentaries
- Comprehensive review of the Haftorah and that historical period
- Famous Biblical Women (- *will compile a booklet with details from their lives and lessons that can be learned from them*)
- Jewish Life Cycles (*unless that has been covered in her Jewish schooling*)
- Translation and history of her favourite prayer

After the majority of the studying has been accomplished, the Bat Mitzvah girl will prepare speeches and select verses to read and explain from her Torah and Haftorah portions, and practice the reading of selected prayers.

BAT MITZVAH SERVICE

The following is a sample description of a typical Bat Mitzvah service, which are approximately fifty-minutes long. The ceremony includes Hebrew and English Torah and Haftorah readings, as well as selected prayers and Psalms. The Bat Mitzvah girl will deliver a speech with reflections on the meaning of this important milestone, her path in reaching it and lessons from the Torah portion. Nine months of practice is typically necessary.



Welcome & Introduction

Hiney Ma Tov

Prayers led by Bat Mitzvah girl

D'var Torah on Parsha and Haftorah

(includes readings of selected verses)

Rabbi's Comments

Parents' Greeting

Parental Blessing

Candy Throw and Congratulations from Everyone

Mazel Tov sung and played by _____.

Adon Olam

Oseh Shalom

Reception (optional)

Optional Candle Lighting Ceremonies: The Bat Mitzvah girl may choose to honour family members and friends by inviting them to light a candle. She may have as many as 13 candles.

Optional Wine Blessing Ceremony: The Bat Mitzvah girl may choose to honour family members and friends by inviting them to bless her on one of the cups of blessings.

Ceremony Options

HAVDALAH SERVICE

The service can begin anywhere from one hour after Shabbat ends. The Bat Mitzvah girl welcomes everyone and speaks about the Havdalah ceremony. She honours close family members by having them participate in parts of the service. The Bat Mitzvah girl recites special Saturday night prayers. The ceremony continues as described on page one.

This service only takes place after nightfall. Thus, this option only works in the Fall and Winter months.



SUNDAY MORNING OR EVENING CEREMONY

A Sunday Bat Mitzvah takes place as described on page one. The service can be followed by a brunch or a reception.

FRIDAY NIGHT CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE

In a Friday evening service, the Bat Mitzvah girl leads the women and girls in the candle lighting and blessing. In the winter the candle lighting will be at the very beginning of the ceremony (as detailed on page 1), and in the summer, the candle lighting will be after the Bat Mitzvah ceremony. Please remember that videos and cameras are only allowed **until** the Candle lighting service. The family of the Bat Mitzvah girl then hosts either a dinner or Kidush reception.

Mazal Tov on your upcoming simcha!
If you have any other questions feel free to call Dina 613.823.0866