

# Use of Jewish Holy Day Planning Calendar

This calendar is for teachers and school administrators to use in scheduling examinations, tests, assemblies, field trips, graduations and other school related programs.

Jewish holy days are major religious observances. A three year calendar of Jewish Holy Days is listed below to assist you in planning your school's calendar. During these observances, work is traditionally prohibited. As a result, some Jewish individuals may be absent from both school and work.

Although this calendar differentiates between holy days and high holy days, all dates listed below are major religious observances.

NO PERSON SHOULD BE PENALIZED FOR HIS/HER RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES OR BELIEFS.

## Three Year Calendar of Jewish Holy Days

**Holy days begin at sundown on the evening preceding the first day and conclude at sundown on the days noted.**

*Dates in blue are High Holy Days - You can expect virtually all Jewish students will be absent.*

*Dates in green are Holy Days - You can expect that some Jewish students will be absent.*

	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013	2013 - 2014
ROSH HASHANAH (New Year)	September 29, 30 Thursday, Friday	September 17, 18 Monday, Tuesday	September 5, 6 Thursday, Friday
YOM KIPPUR (Day of Atonement)	October 8 Saturday	September 26 Wednesday	September 14 Saturday
SUKKOT (Feast of Tabernacles)	October 13, 14 Thursday, Friday	October 1, 2 Monday, Tuesday	September 19, 20 Thursday, Friday
SHEMINI ATZERET - SIMCHAT TORAH (Rejoicing in the Law)	October 20, 21 Thursday, Friday	October 8, 9 Monday, Tuesday	September 26, 27 Thursday, Friday
PESACH (Passover)	April 7, 8, 2012 Saturday, Sunday	March 26, 27, 2013 Tuesday, Wednesday	April 15, 16, 2014 Tuesday, Wednesday
Concluding Days of PESACH	April 13, 14 Friday, Saturday	April 1, 2 Monday, Tuesday	April 21, 22 Monday, Tuesday
SHAVUOT (Feast of Weeks)	May 27, 28 Sunday, Monday	May 15, 16 Wednesday, Thursday	June 4, 5 Wednesday, Thursday

Prepared by the Jewish Community Relations Council

1100 West 42nd Street · Indianapolis, Indiana 46208 · (317) 926-2935 · Fax (317) 926-2952 · [www.indyjrc.org](http://www.indyjrc.org)

# 2011 – 2012 Holy Day Planning Calendar

All dates in blue are High Holy Days - You can expect virtually all Jewish students will be absent.

All dates in green are Holy Days - You can expect that some Jewish students will be absent.

Holy Days begin at sundown on the evening preceding the first day and conclude at sundown on the days noted.

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## SEPTEMBER

29, 30 . . . . .THUR., FRI.

**ROSH HASHANAH (JEWISH NEW YEAR)**

Beginning of Jewish New Year 5772.

## OCTOBER

8 . . . . .SAT.

**YOM KIPPUR (DAY OF ATONEMENT)**

Most holy of Jewish holidays devoted to prayer, fasting and repentance.

13, 14 . . . . .THUR., FRI.

**SUKKOT**

First two days of festival of harvest.

Commemorates the Jews wandering in the wilderness and living in booths or tabernacles after the exodus from Egypt.

20 . . . . .THUR.

**SHEMINI ATZERET**

Marks the closing of the Jewish High Holy Day season.

21 . . . . .FRI.

**SIMCHAT TORAH (REJOICING IN THE LAW)**

Reading of the law (Torah) is completed and begun anew in the synagogue.

## NOVEMBER

*No holy days observed*

## DECEMBER

21-28. . . . . WED.-WED.

**CHANUKAH (FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS)**

Eight-day celebration marking the rededication of the Temple. Commemorates the Maccabean victory over Antiochus, who sought to suppress freedom of worship.

## JANUARY 2012

*No holy days observed.*

## FEBRUARY

*No holy days observed.*

## March

8 . . . . .THUR.

**PURIM**

Marks the rescue of Jews in Ancient Persia from annihilation.

## APRIL

7, 8 . . . . .SAT., SUN.

**FIRST TWO DAYS OF PESACH (PASSOVER)**

Jewish festival celebrating deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

13, 14 . . . . .FRI., SAT

**CONCLUDING DAYS OF PESACH (PASSOVER)**

19 . . . . .THUR.

**YOM HASHOAH**

Holocaust Remembrance Day.

26 . . . . .THUR.

**YOM HA'ATZMA'UT**

Israeli Independence Day. Holiday marking the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

## MAY

27, 28 . . . SUN., MON.

**SHAVUOT (FEAST OF WEEKS)**

Marks the giving of the law (Torah) on Mount Sinai.

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