



Candle Lighting

It is customary to give a few coins to charity before candle lighting.

To inaugurate the Sabbath, the woman (or a man if no woman is present) lights two candles.

She waves her hands three times above the candle, covers her eyes, and says the following blessing:

**Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam, asher kiddeshanu be'mitzvotav
ve'tzivanu le'hadlik ner shel Shabbat**

She says 'Shabbat Shalom' or 'Good Shabbos' to everyone, and they say the same to each-other. In some homes, the mother lights a candle for each child. The blessing is a little different for festivals.

Candles should be lit at least 18 minutes before sunset.

All Shabbat preparations must be finished before candle lighting