

Tzitzit Making: Learn to Tie Your Own Set

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SUMMARY: In this session we will learn the how & why of the *mitzvah* of Tzitzit and tie your own!

GOALS:

- Participants will be able to tie and repair their own set of Tzitzit and learn how to tie their own according to the classic Ashkenazik tradition
- Participants will know the source and intention behind the commandment of Tzitzit

AUDIENCE: All ages, 30 max

TIMING: 45 minutes

MATERIALS:

- Tzitzit “begged” / Garment with no strings attached (1 per participant)
- Set of thick tzitzit strings (1 per participant)

SET-UP: Room with enough tables and chairs for each participant to have a personal workspace

SESSION TIMELINE

- 00:00-00:05 – Intro and Explain source
- 00:05-00:45 – Creating Tzitzit

SESSION OUTLINE

00:00-00:05 – Intro and Explain source

Explain source (3rd paragraph of the *Shma*) and the concept of creating this garment is a mitzvah and must be done with intention – *Kavvanah*. With each knot completed one should recite “*l’shem mitzvah Tzitzit.*”

00:05-00:45 – Creating Tzitzit

The remainder of the time the group works on their sets. Give instructions and wait/assist as needed.

Encourage participants to at least do the first knot of each of the 4 corners before leaving so they can finish on their own time.

Instructions:

- use four strings, one which is longer, to wrap around the others
- tie the four ends together to ensure that each string will end up with one end on each side.
- insert the strings into the hole and be sure to say "*Le'shem mitzvat Tzitzit.*"
- tie a double knot
- wind the longer string around the others 7 times
- tie a double-knot, and wind the longer string around the others 8 times
- tie a double-knot, and wind the longer string around the others 11 times
- tie a double-knot, and wind the longer string around the others 13 times
- tie a (fifth and final) double-knot

BRINGING IT TO YOUR CAMP

This can be a great bonding exercise for a bunk to participate in together. The Tzitzit can be used throughout the summer in a variety of settings.