



CKIDS MEZUZAH BANK
MEZUZAH
GUIDE

1 Things You Will Need

To properly affix the Mezuzah to the doorpost of your child's bedroom you will need:

- A measuring tape and pencil to mark the spot on the doorpost where the Mezuzah is to be affixed.
- 2 screws and a drill or screwdriver, or 2 nails and a hammer, or Enough long lasting, industrial-strength double-sided tape or glue to cover the back of the Mezuzah case.
- The instructions and blessing contained in this guide.



2 Does My Child's Bedroom Require a Mezuzah?

In most cases, the answer will be yes. A Mezuzah is affixed to every doorway in a Jewish home or office that leads into a proper

room, except for a bathroom, a shower room and the like, or a room used exclusively for garbage. What qualifies as a proper "room"? Any enclosed space that is at least about 75 inches by 75 inches (or the equivalent of 39.6 square feet in any shape). This includes foyers, hallways, large walk-in closets, etc.

If there are several doorways leading into a room, each doorway requires its own Mezuzah. Doorways without doors (like archways between rooms) also require a Mezuzah. If you would like to get Mezuzahs for additional doorways in your home, please visit: www.ckids.net/mezuzah





3 Who Should Affix the Mezuzah?

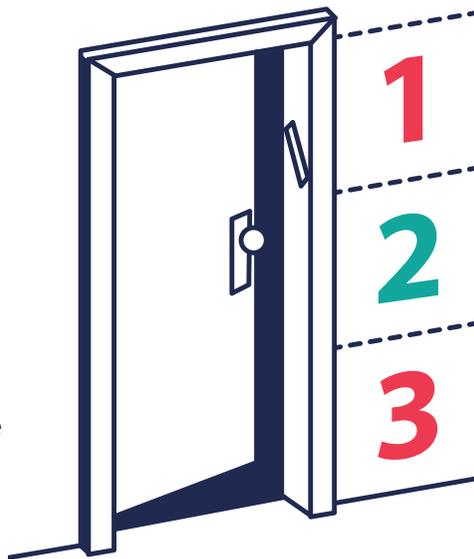
It is best for the homeowner to affix the Mezuzah and say the blessing. If that is not possible, any Jewish adult (including boys from the age of 13 and girls from the age of 12) who understands the proper procedure may affix the Mezuzah on the homeowner's behalf.

4 Where to Place the Mezuzah

A Mezuzah is affixed on the right doorpost. For the front door, that's the doorpost to the right of the person entering the

home. In internal doorways, like the entrance to your child's bedroom, it's the doorpost to the right of a person going in the direction towards which the door swings open. If there is no door in your child's bedroom doorway, the Mezuzah should usually be placed on the right of the person entering the bedroom. However, if your child's bedroom has multiple entrances, please consult your Rabbi regarding which side of each doorway is considered the right side.

The Mezuzah is affixed at approximately the bottom of the top third of the doorpost. To determine the proper height at which to affix the Mezuzah, use a measuring tape to get the total height of the doorpost. Then, divide the total height by three, and measure that amount from the top of your doorpost. Use a pencil to mark the spot, towards the outer edge of the doorpost. The bottom of the Mezuzah should sit at the outer edge of the doorpost, above the mark you made – on a vertical slant, with the top of the Mezuzah pointing towards the inner edge of the doorpost. On a wide doorpost, the entire Mezuzah should be in the outer 8 cm (or 3.15 inches) of the doorpost.



5 The Blessing

The blessing recited before putting up a Mezuzah is only said if the Mezuzah is being affixed to a doorway that has a door. When putting up Mezuzahs on multiple doorways one after the other, the blessing is recited only once, before putting up the first Mezuzah on one of the more important doorways in your home (such as your bedroom), specifically one that has a door. As you recite the blessing, keep in mind that it applies to all the Mezuzahs you will presently affix in your home.

We refrain from talking, or other interruptions, until all the Mezuzahs are mounted. So, before reciting the blessing, stand by the doorway, hold the Mezuzah, and have the necessary supplies and tools within reach. If using double-sided tape, apply the tape to the back of the Mezuzah case, before reciting the blessing. When you are ready, recite the blessing once in the original Hebrew (if you understand Hebrew) or in English:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה
אֱ-לֹהֵינוּ
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ
לְקַבֵּץ מְזוּזָה

BARUCH ATAH
ADO-NAI ELO-HEINU
MELECH HA-OLAM
ASHER KI-DESHANU
BEMITZVOTAV
VETZIVANU
LIKBO-AH MEZUZAH.

Blessed are you,
L-rd our G-d, King of
the Universe, Who has
made us holy with His
commandments and
commanded us to
affix a Mezuzah.

6 Affix the Mezuzah

Immediately after reciting the blessing, position the Mezuzah (as described) above the one-third mark you've made, and affix the Mezuzah in a strong, permanent manner with the screws, nails, tape or glue that you have prepared. If you are using screws or nails, make sure to fasten one in the hole at the top of the Mezuzah case, and one in the hole at the bottom. If you are using double-sided tape, make sure to firmly press all of the tape to both the Mezuzah and the doorpost. When putting up Mezuzahs on multiple doorways, remember to affix each Mezuzah according to the above-mentioned specifications.

7 Regular Checkups

You have now affixed your Mezuzah(s). Your home proudly displays its Jewish identity, and you've tapped into this unique spiritual connection. But you're not finished yet. The Mezuzah is a holy object that must be properly maintained.

At least twice in seven years, we take down our Mezuzah scrolls and have them professionally checked to ascertain that they are intact. An expert scribe examines them to ensure that no letters have been cracked or erased and that the Mezuzah is still valid. Our vigilance keeps our Mezuzahs performing their function: bringing holiness, protection and merit to our homes.



If you have any questions, please contact your Rabbi
or the CKids Mezuzah Bank:

www.ckids.net/mezuzah

The CKids Mezuzah Bank is a joint
project of CKids and Yad Menachem

