Dorm/Dirah CANDLELIGHTING SAFETY

DOs

- Ensure a working, non-expired fire extinguisher, fire blanket, and smoke detector are visible and easily accessible in the candlelighting area.
- Familiarize yourself with the dorm's/*dirah's* fire evacuation plan and routes.
- If there is a fire, once you are in a safe area, call **102**.
- Use tea lights instead of candles since they are small, can be easily lit, and are less of a fire and burn hazard.
- Set up tea lights on a sturdy, nonflammable surface, such as tin, marble, stone, or aluminum trays, or cover the surface with aluminum foil.
- Space tea lights two inches apart to prevent the wicks from igniting a more significant fire. Set the tea light wicks to stand upright to minimize the risk of burns.
- If the table or counter becomes overcrowded with tea lights, set up another lighting station.
- Keep tea lights at least 12 inches away from anything that can catch fire, such as curtains, blinds, flowers, or coats.
- Avoid using short matches or matchbooks.
- Light the tea lights at the back of the table first.
- Be mindful of loose clothing, sleeves, ties, and hair when lighting.
- Ensure matches are fully extinguished after you use them unless it is *Yom Tov* or if extinguishing them is not your *minhag*.
- If possible, periodically place used matches into a metal tray or container to prevent them from reigniting.

DON'Ts

- Do not light tea lights on a wood or Formica surface or a table covered with a plastic or fabric tablecloth.
- Do not place tea lights under or near flammable surfaces such as cabinets, bookshelves, or walls.
- Do not place more than 48 tea lights on a 26" x 18" sheet pan, and make sure the pan is not placed too close to the edge of the table.
- Do not pass lit matches from person to person.
- Do not reach across or near lit tea lights.

For a large or uncontained fire:

- Get yourself and others out of the dorm/ *dirah* immediately and close the door to the room and the building.
- If there is smoke, get as low to the ground as possible and cover your mouth with clothing or a towel.
- If any part of you or your clothing catches fire, do not run or try to put out the fire with your hands. Cover your face with your hands and STOP, DROP, AND ROLL.
- Call **102** once you are in a safe area, and do not re-enter the dorm/*dirah* until authorized.

For a small, contained fire use the acronym PASS to remember the four steps of how to use a fire extinguisher.



1. **PULL:** Pull the pin at the top of the extinguisher, breaking the seal.



2. AIM: Approach the fire at a safe distance and aim the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the fire.



3. **Squeeze:** Squeeze the trigger



4. **Sweep:** While squeezing the trigger, sweep the extinguisher from side to side to cover all areas of the fire.





In addition to the DOs and DON'Ts listed above, follow these tips when lighting the menorah:

- Only use menorahs that are non-flammable and not made of wood or plastic.
- When using oil, ensure the oil cups are securely fitted into the menorah.
- When lighting on a windowsill, make sure the menorah completely fits on the windowsill and there are no flammable items sitting below the windowsill.
- Pull back and securely fasten any curtains or blinds near the menorah to prevent them from catching fire.
- Don't set the menorah in a place where it can be easily knocked over, for example, by someone walking by or a gust of wind.
- Never leave a lit menorah unattended.
- Don't leave matches, lighters, candles, wicks, or oil near the menorah.
- Don't move the menorah while the candles are still burning.



Chanukah candles need to be lit to last for half an hour after night. You are allowed to put them out after half an hour if a danger exists or if you have to leave the candles unattended.

RAV MOSHE HEINEMANN, SHLIT"A

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In loving memory of



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