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Dreidel Riddles



30 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1. I have four sides and one point, and a letter on every side. Twist my handle, and I dance on one foot until I get dizzy and fall. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. A dreidel has the same number of sides as a square. How many sides is that?

   ANSWER _____

3. We're round and wrapped in gold foil. We look like money, but we're made of chocolate, and we're what players win in the dreidel game. What are we called?

   ANSWER _____

4. I'm the special candleholder that families light at Hanukkah. On the first night I hold just two flames, and by the last night I'm full and glowing. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

5. We're crispy pancakes made of grated potato, fried in oil until golden. We're a favorite Hanukkah food. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

6. Hanukkah is not one night long, like a birthday. It lasts for as many nights as a spider has legs. How many nights is that?

   ANSWER _____

7. A famous Hanukkah song goes, "I have a little dreidel, I made it out of..." what?

   ANSWER _____

8. We're tall and thin, with a string down the middle. At Hanukkah, one more of us is lit each night, and we slowly melt as we shine. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

9. I'm a round, puffy Hanukkah treat, fried in oil, dusted with powdered sugar and filled with sweet red jam. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

10. Hanukkah has a nickname because of all the candles that glow in the windows for eight nights. It's called the Festival of what?

    ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11. I'm the luckiest letter on the dreidel. When I land face up, you take everything in the pot. Which letter am I?

ANSWER _____

12. When I land face up, nothing happens. You don't win anything, and you don't lose anything. Which dreidel letter am I?

ANSWER _____

13. When I land face up, you take half of what's in the pot. Which dreidel letter am I?

ANSWER _____

14. Nobody cheers when I land face up, because you have to put one of your own pieces into the pot. Which dreidel letter am I?

ANSWER _____

15. I'm the helper candle. I'm lit first, I light all the others, and I stand a little higher or apart from the rest. What am I called?

ANSWER _____

16. A Hanukkah menorah holds one candle for each of the eight nights, plus one helper candle. How many candles can it hold altogether?

ANSWER _____

17. I'm the pile in the middle of the dreidel game. Everyone feeds me at the start of a round, and whoever spins gimel empties me. What am I called?

ANSWER _____

18. The Hanukkah story tells of a tiny jar of me that was only enough to keep the Temple's lamp burning for one day, yet it burned for eight. Latkes and doughnuts are fried in me to remember it. What am I?

ANSWER _____

19. I'm made from cooked, mashed fruit that grows on trees. Many people spoon me, sweet and cool, on top of a hot latke, while others choose sour cream. What am I?

ANSWER _____

20. Many families put their lit menorah in a spot where people walking by outside can see the lights. Which part of the house do they put it in?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

21. The four dreidel letters, nun, gimel, hey and shin, are the first letters of four Hebrew words: "Nes gadol haya sham." "Nes" means miracle, "gadol" means great, "haya" means happened and "sham" means there. What does the whole sentence say in English?

ANSWER _____

22. On dreidels made in Israel, the last letter is different, because there the saying ends with "here" and not "there." The Hebrew word for "here" is "po." Which letter replaces shin?

ANSWER _____

23. On the first night of Hanukkah you light 1 candle plus the helper candle. On the second night you use 2 new candles plus a new helper, and so on for all eight nights. How many candles do you need for the whole holiday?

ANSWER _____

24. In 2026, the first Hanukkah candle is lit on the evening of Friday, December 4. On which date is the eighth candle lit?

ANSWER _____

25. The pot holds 10 chocolate coins. Ari spins hey and takes half. Noa spins shin and puts one in. Then Eli spins gimel. How many coins does Eli take?

ANSWER _____

26. We were a small band of Jewish fighters, led by Judah, who won back the Temple in Jerusalem more than 2,000 years ago. Hanukkah celebrates how we made the Temple ready for prayer again. Who were we?

ANSWER _____

27. I'm a holiday with eight nights and more than one correct spelling in English. Sometimes I start with H and sometimes with Ch. Which holiday am I?

ANSWER _____

28. Hanukkah doesn't begin in the morning. Like every day in the Jewish calendar, it begins in the evening, at the moment the daylight ends. What is that moment called?

ANSWER _____

29. A dreidel is fair if every side is equally likely to land face up. On a fair dreidel, what is the chance of spinning gimel?

ANSWER _____

30. Four players each start a dreidel game with 10 nuts. After an hour of spinning, taking and putting in, nobody has eaten or lost any. How many nuts are in the game, counting every player's pile and the pot?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Dreidel Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. **A dreidel**
2. **Four**
3. **Gelt**
4. **A menorah**
5. **Latkes**
6. **Eight**
7. **Clay**
8. **Candles**
9. **A jelly doughnut.** In Hebrew, they're called sufganiyot.
10. **Lights**
11. **Gimel**
12. **Nun**
13. **Hey**
14. **Shin**
15. **The shamash**
16. **Nine**
17. **The pot**
18. **Oil**
19. **Applesauce**
20. **The window**
21. **A great miracle happened there**
22. **Pey**
23. **44 candles. 36 + 8 = 44.**
24. **December 11.** It is a Friday too, exactly one week later.
25. **6 coins. 10 − 5 = 5, 5 + 1 = 6, and gimel takes them all.**
26. **The Maccabees**
27. **Hanukkah.** It's a Hebrew word, so English has several spellings, like Chanukah.
28. **Sundown**
29. **1 in 4.** There are four sides and only one gimel.
30. **40 nuts. 4 × 10 = 40, and spinning only moves them from place to place.**

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at **riddlepedia.com/dreidel-riddles/**, where you can also play them as a game.