

טלית

Tallit

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו
במצותיו וצונו להתעטף בציצית

The Tallit (the Ashkenaz call it a “Tallis”) is a prayer shawl—a special cloth made beautiful with the tzitzit tied onto each of the four corners, and a beautiful collar called the ‘*atarah*’ (עטרה) or “crown” on which is often embroidered the blessing said when the tallit is put on. It is called the ‘*atarah*’ (crown) for a number of reasons. First, often the tallit is put over the head when praying so as to block out all distractions. When we pray, we want to have our full attention to be given to HaShem! So when the tallit with the ‘*atarah*’ is put over the head, it is like a crown. And maybe that will help us remember that when we pray, we’re praying to our King. What is more, it is when we humble ourselves in prayer that we gain strength to live as HaShem has commanded us. If we want a crown on our head, the best way is to pray. Secondly, we have the ‘*atarah*’ on our tallit because it reminds us of the wise saying: “Grandchildren are the crown of old men, and the glory of children is their fathers.” (עֲטָרָר זְקֵנִים בְּנֵי זָמִיר וְהַפָּאֶרֶת בְּנִים אֲבוֹתָם), Prov 17:6). Did you ever consider that children are the crown on their father’s head? What kind of crown are you?

Since prayer is so important to us, we are careful with our Tallit. We fold it nicely when we’re finished, and put it in a special bag to keep it clean. We respect the Tallit and the *tzitzit* on it. We don’t let the *tzitzit* drag on the ground or floor, and we take the Tallit off when we go to use the bathroom. When we put the Tallit on, first we cover ourselves with it, recite the blessing along with Psalm 36:7-10, and then carefully put the Tallit around our shoulders. We remember that HaShem Himself is covered with shining light like a Tallit (Is 6:1), and that we share the splendor of His glory when we talk with Him in prayer. When we cover ourselves with the Tallit, it is as though we’re in our very own place, alone with HaShem, talking to Him.

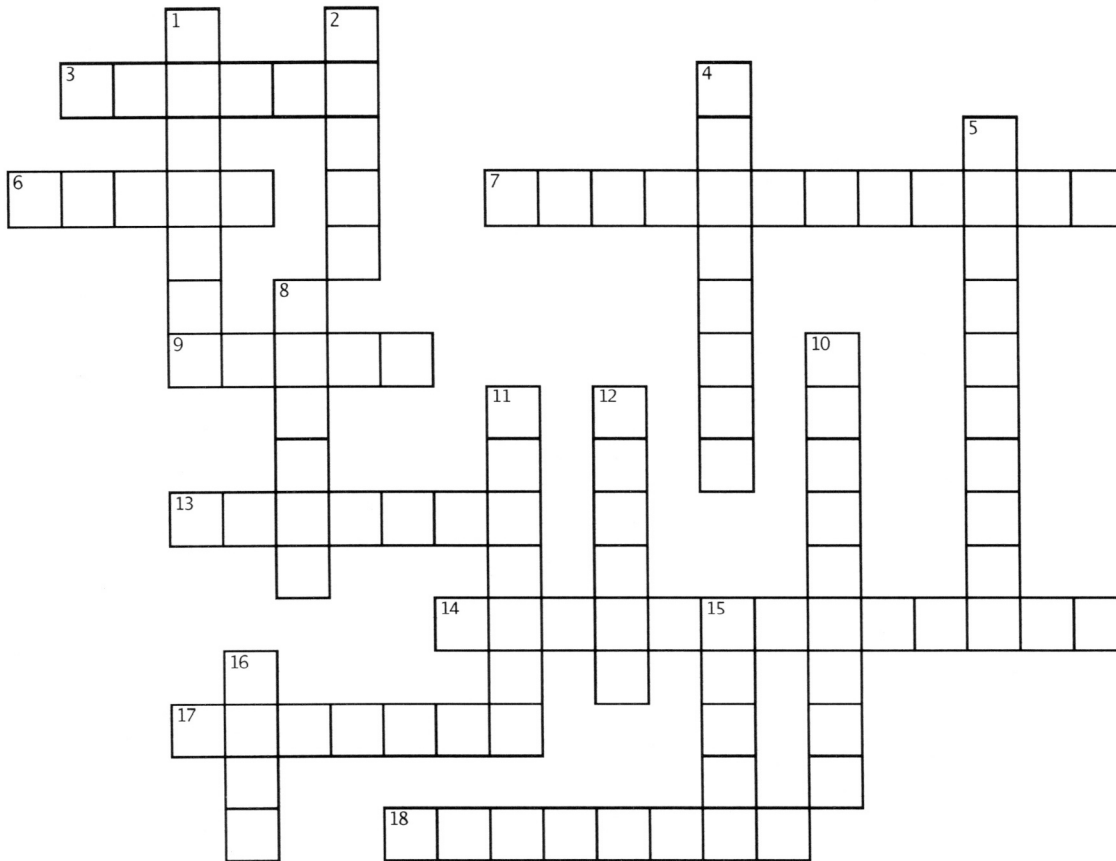
It is our tradition to wear the Tallit to all day-time services. The only evening service we wear the Tallit is *erev* Yom Kippur, at the Kol Nidrei service.

Here’s how the blessing for putting on the tallit goes (the Hebrew text is at the top of the page):

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha’olam asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav
v’tzivanu l’hit-‘a-teif b’tzitzit

(Blessed are You, Adonai our God, King of the Universe, Who sanctified us with His commandments
and commanded us to wear tzitzit)

The Tallit



Across

3. A Tallit worn during times of _____
6. Traditionally, a Tallit is not worn at _____
7. Putting the Tallit over the head when praying helps to block out _____
9. A tallit is a prayer _____
13. We tie _____ and the four corners of the Tallit
14. _____ are the crown of old men (Prov 17:6)
17. Traditionally, a person does not wear a Tallit for prayers until they have reached the age of a Bar or Bat _____
18. Before the Tallit is worn, we say a _____

Down

1. The glory of children is their _____ (Prov 17:6)
2. Often the blessing is embroidered and attached to the edge of the Tallit. We call this the _____
4. The Hebrew word for blessing is _____
5. The one night we do wear a Tallit is on erev _____
8. Ashkenazic Jews pronounce tallit as _____
10. We make the Tallit _____ by tying tzitzit to its four corners
11. The Hebrew word this crown is _____
12. When we wear a Tallit, we are careful not to let the tzitzit drag on the _____
15. We are careful to keep the Tallit _____
16. Wearing a Talit when we pray helps us remember that we are praying to our _____

The Tallit

G P F R F D X K K G R A N D C H I L D R E N C S Y
I E V P O R P X N M E H H O T S R E H T A F Z Z Y
Y V O O R D M R P H M S W X I T M I T Z V A H I V
P Z R T E U S B T T Y J K E X O L S T D D N D R J
M X G T A Z P U V I L R H A C P B U U K S H Q H O
Y K A I D L Y P I X Z X E J Y S C E F T I Z T C S
H H Y Z T K L R P Y W T I Y F T H X R I M D C T H
B H S K I A N I G I A Q I U A N K A N A T Y T V E
' L L L S W F P S M K D N Z I R W C W B C U G Y X
A T E G D E A G M W J M I P T I P N R L C H A A L
T I N S Z A V L M F Q Z O B P P N L H P S B A E G
A N U U S N P I D B H B R Y Q C O C B R D L M H B
R H T N L I B I B T J Y J R Z X L Z L K V N N M H
A A H A G W N A R S J P E G Y G Y C T E X U W S X
H K G E S U L G S N O I T C A R T S I D A J O J A
X V I L M C H B D N U O R G U T Y G G N I K R F R
N M N C F F Z Y E J R Y A D N E R Y N X H T C K L

SHAWL

TALLIS

TZITZIT

BLESSING

BERACHAH

CROWN

'ATARAH

GRANDCHILDREN

FATHERS

PRAYER

GROUND

NIGHT

YOMKIPPPUR

MITZVAH

BEAUTIFUL

DISTRACTIONS

CLEAN

KING



TET

1: Tennis. 2: Tractor. 3: Telephone.
4: Cook. 5: Pilot. 6: Hike.