

We will all certainly miss being together in person, with the majesty of large crowds standing close, singing in harmony all our familiar and moving tunes. This year, we have a unique opportunity to create a sacred space in our home—a mikdash m’at—for the High Holidays and beyond. These ten suggestions are meant to help you enhance the High Holiday experience at home, while creating a communal atmosphere for us all. Families can easily adapt these activities to involve children in making a special mikdash space. You can find good resources at <https://pjlibrary.org/rosh-hashanah> AND <https://reformjudaism.org/rosh-hashanah-family-activities>

Here are our ten suggestions for our upcoming High Holiday Zoom events. Please don’t be overwhelmed or hard on yourself if you cannot do all these suggestions. Do whatever is possible and comfortable for your own living situation. We all appreciate the time and effort it takes to make your mikdash m’at a reality. Think of it as a “work in progress!”

1. Choose your prayer space in advance, by spending a few moments of individual contemplation/family discussion. Look at any possible space and think about some ways to make it different and special.
2. Once you have chosen your space, say a blessing or kavannah (“intention”) over it to mark it as your mikdash m’at. Suggestions of verses and blessings are below.