

Just Simchas

Jewish celebrations are not just about individuals — they are about family, community, and, by extension, our world. A simcha is a great time to take a step back and consider:

- How can I celebrate in a way that is **true to my Jewish values**?
- How can I **uphold Torah ethics in the choices I make** while planning for this simcha?
- What **meaning** do I want this milestone to have in my life or the life of my child?
- How can I make this important moment in my life have a **positive impact not just on the people present, but also the world beyond our celebration**?

Use the following as inspiration when making choices about your simcha:

CATERING & FOOD

- Choose a kosher caterer that has been certified with the **Tav HaYosher Ethical Seal**, which ensures that the food workers have fair pay, fair time, and a safe work environment. Go to utzedek.org/tav-hayosher for a list of certified caterers and restaurants. If an establishment is not certified, you can leverage your order to encourage them to get certified.
- **Donate** leftover food. Feed the hungry and prevent waste.
- Consider having a **vegan** celebration. Reduce your environmental impact and protect animals.

LOCATION

- Choose a venue where **workers are unionized**.

APPAREL

- Choose clothing from **Fair Trade Certified** manufacturers. Fair Trade certification ensures: safe working conditions, sustainable pay, and meaningful environmental protection measures. "Fair trade is a way to make a conscious choice for a better world." -FairTradeCertified.org

KIPPOT

- Choose **fair trade** kippot. Search online for "fair trade kippot" for a full list of current sellers.

RINGS

- Choose **conflict-free diamonds**.

INVITATIONS

- Go **paperless**. Try PaperlessPost.com.
- Use **recycled** paper and **soy-based** ink.

GIFTS

- Ask for **donations** to tzedakah instead of gifts.
- Ask for **fair trade** (or otherwise ethically produced) gifts.



Imbue your celebration with additional meaning
by choosing to make your celebration a Just Simcha.