

The Learner's Guide to Blessings
Rabbi Michael Lotker

1. The opening...

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם...

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam...

Blessed are You, Yahweh/My Lord/Adonai/Ha-Shem, Our God, King of the Universe...

2. For a mitzvah.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר

קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ...

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, a-sheer ki-d'sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav

v'tzi-va-nu...

Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, who has made us holy with His commandments and commands us to...

3. Foods-bread

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמוֹצִיא

לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ.

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, ha-mo-tzi le-chem min ha-a-retz.

Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

4. Foods-wine

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי

הַגֶּפֶן.

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, bo-ray p'ri ha-ga-fen.

Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, creator of the fruit of the vine.

5. Foods-other

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַכֹּל

נִהְיָה בְּדַבְּרוֹ.

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, she-ha-kol nee-h'yeh beed-va-roh.

Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, whose word caused everything into being.

6. Witness: Natural Phenomena

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, עֹשֶׂה מַעֲשֵׂה
בְּרֵאשִׁית.

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, o-seh ma-a-say v'ray-sheet.
Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, who performs the work of creation.

7. The *Shehekiyanu*: On a special event, new clothes, furniture, seeing a friend after a
lapse of 30 days, a holiday, etc.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁהַחֵינוּ
וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעַנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, she-hech-hey-ya-nu
v'key-y'ma-nu v'hee-gee-ya-nu laz-man ha-zeh.
Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, who has kept us alive, and
sustained us and enabled us to reach this occasion.

8. Mitzvot. Lighting Shabbat (or Chanukah) Candles

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר
קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל שַׁבָּת
(חֲנֻכָּה).

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher ki-d'sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav
v'tzi-va-nu l'had-lik ner shel Shabbat (Cha-nu-kah).
Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, Who has made us holy with
His commandments and commands us to light the lights of Shabbat (Chanukah).

9. Mitzvot: For Studying Torah or any Jewish Texts:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר
קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְעִסוֹק בְּדַבְּרֵי תוֹרָה.

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher ki-d'sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav
v'tzi-va-nu la-a-sok b'div-rey Torah.
Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, Who has made us holy with
His commandments and commands us to occupy ourselves in words of Torah.

10. Before putting on a Tallit

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר
קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהִתְעַטֵּף בְּצִיצֵת.

Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher ki-d'sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav
v'tzi-va-nu l'hit-a-tayf bah-tzee-tzeet.
Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, Who has made us holy with
His commandments and commands us to enwrap ourselves with the fringes.