

Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Day

Guidelines for an abbreviated ceremony

- Moderator: Opening sentence. The audience is requested to stand.
- The flag is lowered to half standard.
The flag may be lowered either on the eve of Memorial Day or on the day itself.
- Lighting the memorial torch. A candle of remembrance, or memorial candles, may be used.
- Recitation of "Yizkor."
- Moderator: The audience is requested to be seated.
- "Kaddish" for the assembly.
- The "El Maleh Rahamim" prayer.
- The reading of psalms from Chapter 119 that begin with the initial letters of "yitzhak nishama," or paragraphs from the Mishnah.
- The placing of a wreath or wreaths.

Guidelines for a full ceremony

- Moderator: Opening sentence. The audience is requested to stand.
- The flag is lowered to half standard.
The flag may be lowered either on the eve of Memorial Day or on the day itself.
- Lighting the memorial torch. A candle of remembrance, or memorial candles, may be used.
- Recitation of "Yizkor."
- Moderator: The audience is requested to be seated.
- "Kaddish" for the assembly.
- The "El Maleh Rahamim" prayer.
- The reading of psalms from Chapter 119 that begin with the initial letters of "yitzhak nishamah," or paragraphs from the Mishnah.
- The placing of a wreath or wreaths.
- Reading of a Biblical text.
- A musical segment (may also be inserted at the beginning, or between any of the elements above).
- Addresses by senior representatives of public bodies: Mayors, school principals, commanding officers.
- Readings interspersed with music, singing, film, artistic performance, connecting segments.
- Hatikvah.

Recommended aspects to consider in preparing the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial ceremony

- The length of the ceremony should not exceed 45 minutes.
- Representatives of all the population sectors attending should be involved.
- The ceremony is held in mid-Heshvan (early November). If it is held outdoors, the possibility of rain or wind interfering with the proceedings should be considered.

- Decorations or backdrop: Several permanent elements may be used, such as the flag, candles, flowers, a picture of Yitzhak Rabin, a torch or a place for memorial candles to be lit by the audience as they enter or during the ceremony, or any visually artistic display that the organizers of the ceremony choose to use as a backdrop onstage.
- Technical aids to be used should be tested in advance. In the event of any suspected fault, they should not be used.
- The audience should be requested to dress appropriately.
- The readings must be brief and presented fluently and clearly.
- A pause should be made between readings and singing or artistic performance.
- Connecting segments between the elements of the ceremony should explain these elements or provide additional information. The connecting segments should be brief and clear.
- Should someone in the community sponsoring the ceremony wish to speak about Yitzhak Rabin personally, time should be granted if he/she is capable of speaking in public.
- A timely topic about the country or the community may be inserted in the ceremony.