



Traditional Hanukkah Song Lyrics

[Translations to Hebrew in blue]

I Have a Little Dreidel

I have a little dreidel,
I made it out of clay,
And when it's dry and ready,
Then dreidel I shall play.



Chorus: Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, I made it out of clay,
And when it's dry and ready, then dreidel I shall play.

It's got a lovely body,
With leg so short and thin,
And when it gets all tired,
It drops and then I win!

Chorus: Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel...

My dreidel's always playful,
It loves to dance and spin.
A happy game of dreidel,
Come play, now let's begin!

Chorus: Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel...

S'Vivon

*S'vivon, sov sov sov.
Hanukkah hu hag tov, 2x
S'vivon, sov sov sov.*

*Dreidel, spin and spin.
Hanukkah is a fun holiday.*

*Chag simcha hu la-am,
Neis gadol hayah sham, 2x
Chag simcha hu la-am.*

*What a joyous holiday for everyone!
A great miracle happened there!*

Maoz Tzur

*Maoz Tzur y'shuati
L'cha naeh l'shabei-ach
Tikon beit t'filati
V'sham todah n'zabei-ach.
L'eit tachin matbei-ach,
V'tzor ham-nabei-ach.
Az egmor, b'shir mizmor,
Chanukat hamizbei-ach.*

*Rock of Ages, let our song,
Praise your saving power.
You, amidst our raging foes
Was our sheltering tower.
Furiously they assailed us,
But your arm availed us.
And your word broke their sword.
When our own strength failed us.*

Hanerot Halalu (We light the candles)

*Hanerot, hanerot, hanerot halalu (2x)
Anu madlikin, anu madlikin
Hanerot halalu, anu madlikin.*

*The candles, the candles
We light the Hanukkah candles
[So we remember the miracles and wonders]*



Hanukkah, Oh, Hanukkah

Hanukkah, Oh, Hanukkah, come light the menorah.
Let's have a party, we'll all dance the hora.
Gather 'round the table, we'll give you a treat.
Dreidels to play with and latkes to eat.

And while we are playing
The candles are burning low
One for each night, they shed a sweet light
To remind us of days long ago
One for each night, they shed a sweet light
To remind us of days long ago



Hanukkah, Chag Yafeh Kol Kach (Hanukkah, Wonderful Holiday)

*Hanukkah, Hanukkah, chag yafeh kol kach.
Or chaviv, m'saviv,
Gil l'yeled rach.
Hanukkah, Hanukkah,
S'vivon sov, sov.
Sov, sov, sov! Sov, sov, sov!
Mah naim va tov!*

Hanukkah! What a wonderful holiday.
There are cheerful lights all around,
Children are playing.
Hanukkah! Hanukkah!
Dreidels are spinning,
Spinning and spinning,
What a good time!

Mi Y'Mallel

*Mi y'mallel g'vurot Yisrael,
Otan mi yimneh?
Hein b'chol dor yakum hagibor,
Go-eil ha-am.*

Who can retell the things that befell us?
Who can count them?
In every age a hero or sage,
Came to our aid.

*Shma! Ba'yamim ha'hem ba'zman ha'ze
Maccabi moshia u'fode
U'v'yameinu kol am Yisrael
Yitached yakum ve'yigael!*

Hark! Long ago in Israel's ancient land,
Brave Maccabeus led the faithful band.
But in our days it's up to you and me,
To stand together so we'll all be free!

Chiribim (Traditional Yiddish tune – words and nonsense syllables)

*Ich vell zinghen - Yerushalayim,
Zollts du zinghen - Chiri-biri-bim.
Ich vell zinghen - Ir Ha-kodesh,
Zollts du zinghen - Chiri-biri-bom.*

If I sing "Jerusalem"
You will sing "Chiri-biri-bim" (Ch as in cheery)
If I sing "The holy city"
You will sing "Chiri-biri-bom"

*Yerushalayim - Chiri-biri-bim.
Ir ha-kodesh - Chiri-biri-bom.
Yerushalayim, ir ha-kodesh
Chiri-biri, biri-biri, bom!*

Jerusalem – Chiri-biri-bim
The holy city – Chiri-biri-bom
Jerusalem, the holy city
Chiri-biri, biri-biri, bom!

*Chiri-bim, chiri-bom. }
Chiri-bim-bom, bim-bom, bim-bom. } 2x
Ay! Chiri-biri-biri, bim-bom-bom } 3x*

Chiri-biri, biri-BOM!