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Eight days of Hanukkah songs to listen to

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Christmas songs get all the shine, but here are 20 Hanukkah songs to illuminate your celebration of the Jewish holiday

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By Andrew Frisicano and Ro Samarth

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Photograph: Shutterstock

It's no secret that many of the best Christmas songs (<https://www.timeout.com/newyork/music/the-50-christmas-songs-you-really-will-love>) are written by Jewish songsmiths ("White Christmas," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Let It Snow," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "Santa Baby") with Jewish artists churning out album after album of Christmas classics (we're thinking of Neil Diamond, Barbra Streisand, Sammy Davis Jr.). So it makes a little bit of sense that some of our favorite Hanukkah songs are sung by gentiles: Take Sharon Jones (<http://www.timeout.com/newyork/music/sharon-jones-interview-retreat-took-on-a-whole-other-meaning>)'s soulful Hanukkah jam for example. Regardless of denomination, here are the best modern Hanukkah tunes: Have a listen then head to one of the city's best kosher restaurants (<https://www.timeout.com/newyork/restaurants/best-kosher-restaurants-and-cafes-in-new-york-city>) or New York delis (<https://www.timeout.com/newyork/restaurants/best-new-york-delis>) for a holiday fest.

RECOMMENDED: Full guide to Hanukkah in NYC (<https://www.timeout.com/newyork/hanukkah>)

Hanukkah playlist on Spotify

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	8 Days of Hannukah Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings Best Hanukkah songs by timeout	
1	8 Days of Hannukah Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings	3:42
2	Chanukah (Shake It Off) Six13, N/A	3:37
3	The Hanukkah Song Too \$hort	2:08
4	Hanukkah Dance Woody Guthrie	1:25
5	Miracle Matisyahu	3:07
6	Hanukkah Blessings Barenaked Ladies	3:27
7	Rock Of Ages (2012)	4:08

Best Hanukkah songs

1 Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings, "8 Days (Of Hanukkah)"

Jones and her Brooklyn soul crew pull off the seemingly impossible feat of making a modern Hanukkah song you'd actually want to listen to. As per usual, the band's Motown-infused gospel sound is warm and lived in, while Jones enumerates a holiday-appropriate activity for each night. Sharon, we applaud your soulful, nonannoying interpolation of the "Dreidel" song, your pronunciation of Pesach, the whole schmear.

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Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings "8 Days (Of Hanukkah)" Lyric Video



(/newyork/music/dont-tell-mama)
Sponsored listing

2 PS22 Chorus, "Maoz Tzur"

The students of Staten Island's PS22 deliver an adorable, youthful version of the Hanukkah classic.

PS22 Chorus "MAOZ TZUR" Chanukah Song



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3 Six13, "Chanukah (Shake It Off)"

Here's proof that even Taylor Swift's pop smash can be reworked to tell the story of the Maccabees.

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