



IPF ATID

Additional information & resources: israelpolicyforum.org/onetable



Hosting your Shabbat

✓ HOSTING CHECKLIST & POINTERS

- 1 Make sure you've got the basics: candles, lighter/matches, wine/grape juice, challah, plates, silverware, cups, napkins, food, and beverages.
- 2 Prepare some appetizers and drinks for people to have when they arrive.
- 3 Let people know where they can put their jackets, bags, and other items once they arrive. Welcome them to your home!
- 4 Ask for help if you need it.
- 5 Share the love! If appropriate, post your pictures using the hashtags #IPFAtid and #myonetable and #Israel70Shabbat

ICEBREAKERS

- If you could be any kitchen utensil or appliance, what would you be and why?
- Describe your most memorable experience in Israel or abroad.
- Tell about a unique or quirky habit of yours!
- If you could do anything without failing, what would you do?
- What are you most passionate about?
- If you could fill a bathtub with anything, what would yours be filled with?
- Who is your hero?

RITUAL



ברוך אתה אדוני אלהינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו
במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של שבת

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher
kidshanu b'mitzvotav vitzivanu l'hadnik ner shel Shabbat*

**Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, who makes us holy
through actions and honors us with the light of
Shabbat.**



ברוך אתה אדוני אלהינו מלך העולם בורא פרי הגפן

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam borei p'ri
hagafen*

**Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, creator of the
fruit of the vine.**



ברוך אתה אדוני אלהינו מלך העולם המוציא לחם מן
הארץ

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam
ha'motzi lechem min ha'aretz*

**Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, who
brings forth bread from the earth.**



Framing your Shabbat



TIPS & POINTERS

The goal is not to achieve total agreement.

Provide the space and opportunity for everyone's perspective to be shared openly and respectfully. It's best to begin the conversation not with any specific question, but for each guest to describe their background and how it leads them to their current perspective on matters pertaining to Israel. Civil disagreement is healthy, but disrespect and attacks on another guest's personal character are not.

You are not expected to be the expert.

These conversations can challenge your table emotionally - as well as your knowledge and historical background. If necessary, you are encouraged to state, "I don't know the exact details on that one. We can check for more information after Shabbat..."

Periods of silence are not to be feared!

There are always going to be moments of pause and silence, as guests (and you, the host) gather your thoughts and reactions. Do not feel the need to rush the conversation into new directions simply due to silence. If you think it's appropriate, call on a particular guest to share their thoughts or return the conversation to a previous talking point.



OTHER BEST PRACTICES

- A co-facilitator can be a helpful resource for your conversation.
- Establish the spirit of the conversation from the onset.
- Let your guests do most of the talking.
- Encourage the participation of all your guests.
- When appropriate, allow guests to speak more intimately with the person next to them on a specific topic.



SUGGESTED FLOW AND 'OUTLINE'

- 1** Host welcomes guests and conversation introduction
- 2** Attendee introduction: "Why I'm Here"
- 3** Host reviews conversation guidelines and begins main facilitation:
 - "I chose this topic because..."
 - Conversation begins with general topic and thought-provoking questions.
 - Host (and co-facilitators) take conversation into specific subtopics, issues, or people's reactions to topics, as guests contribute to conversation
- 4** Concluding thoughts from host and guests:
 - "Where can we go from here to improve the community's discourse?"
 - "How can we - as individuals and a community - better support efforts for peace, security, and dignity for all in the region?"



Crafting your Shabbat



SUGGESTED TOPICS AND FOCUSES

Israel's Security at 70

In what ways is Israel more secure than it once was? Are there any existential threats facing Israel today? Why or why not? How are they being dealt with currently by Israel, the U.S., and other players? Is it appropriate to include internal threats to Israeli democracy and its core liberal values in this debate? What are the current threats posed from Gaza in the South and Syria (and Iran) to the North?

The Viability of the Two-State Solution - The policy plans of Israel Policy Forum and its partners

In the absence of an active peace process, what specific policy mechanisms can Israel take in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip to advance a two-state reality? What would the long-term security situation look like for Israel and the Palestinians in a permanent status two-state solution? What role does the Arab Peace Initiative play in the viability of two states?

Middle East Geopolitics

Is the importance of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict waning in light of other regional issues? What options exist for countering the spread of Iran's influence? Is the Sunni-Shia divide the dominant regional paradigm? Is it more political than religious? What shifting roles can regional actors play in solving long-standing conflicts? What non-political avenues exist to improve human rights and conflict resolution in the region?

The U.S.-Israel Relationship

What is the history behind the U.S.-Israel relationship? Do you believe it is more based on shared values, or mutual strategic interests? How has the Jewish community worked to advance - or disrupt - a strong U.S.-Israel relationship? Are you optimistic or concerned about the future of this relationship? Is support for Israel bipartisan and if so, are you concerned that it won't remain that way? What can American Jews be doing to promote this relationship and what benefits does each country stand to gain from it?

Current Events: Discussing the Headlines

Which pressing development is the most interesting to you and your guests?



Once you select your topic, IPF Atid's staff will work with you in selecting relevant news articles, analysis, and other online content to distribute to guests and to help frame your conversation.



ISRAEL POLICY FORUM'S PARTNERS

Commanders for
ISRAEL'S SECURITY

A 280-member movement of retired generals advocating steps for a secure separation from the Palestinians as the basis for an eventual two-state solution.

www.en.cis.org.il



Center for a
New American
Security

A DC-based independent, bipartisan, nonprofit organization that develops strong, pragmatic, and principled national security and defense policies.

www.cnas.org

