

# TZITZIT WORKSHOP

This is a really nice Father/Grandfather activity that can be run for year 4 upwards. The programme ideally should be led by the Rabbi/Youth Director, and is an opportunity to learn about Tzitzit. It could also be a session as part of a Bar Mitzvah programme.

## **Costs:**

It costs around £10 per child to run this session. You probably want to pass on the entire costs to participants

## **Suggested age: Year 4 upwards**

### **Part 1: Teach about Tzitzit**

Using the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph of the Shema, go through and explain the origin of Tzitzit. Explain the reasons for the mitzvah:

- 1) To remember Hashem and the need to keep the mitzvot.
- 2) Explain that the main mitzvah is to wear them during the day

### **Part 2: Make Tzitzit:**

Demonstrate how to make Tzitzit (see below) and then let the pairs make a complete set.

There are 2 options that you may wish to consider: **1)** Buy begadim and tzitzit separately. This is more authentic and certainly the best option. It can be a little bit more expensive and does require you to order the sets in advance.

**2)** Buy already tied Tzitzit (size 4 for children) and then undo the corners (this can take a few minutes for each Tzitzit).

Once complete, the children can then decorate (depending on age) using sharpies.

Top Tip: The adult should hold down the garment and the child do the tying



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## HOW TO MAKE TZIZIT:

1. You should have 16 Strings in total (4 for each corner) included in the 16 strings you will notice 4 strings which are a little longer in size. These 4 strings are known as the "Shamas" strings and will be used to tie around the 3 remaining strings for each corner.
2. First step is to push three regular strings and one "Shamas" string through a corner of the garment. Does not matter which one you start with.
3. Make sure that they are all equal in length, with the "Shamas" string being a longer at one end.
4. Say 'Lshem Mitzvat Tzitzit'
5. Tie a double knot with the strings.
6. Take the "Shamas" string and wrap it around the remaining strings 7 times.
7. Tie a double knot.
8. Now going further up. Wrap the "Shamas" around the other strings 8 times.
9. Tie a double knot.
10. Wrap "Shamas" 11 times.
11. Tie a double knot.
12. Wrap the "Shamas" around 13 times.
13. Tie a double knot.
14. You should now have one corner of your garment complete. The strings should be hanging loose, with 5 knots and wraps at 7,8,11 and 13.

