

Seder N'tilat Lulav

(That's what it is called, even though Lulav is only one of the Four Species - it is the most prominent one)

The mitzva of the Four Species (hereafter L&E) is performed while **STANDING**.

Following is an optional introductory passage to say before performing the mitzva of L&E. This can be said before taking L&E in hand, or while holding the Lulav-Hadasim-Aravot "bundle" (AGUDA) in your right hand and the Etrog in your left, but not yet joining them. Or by holding the Etrog pitma pointing down until after the brachot. Or holding everything and having specific KAVANA to not (yet) fulfill the mitzva. See further.

יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, ה' אֱלֹהֵי וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתַי, בְּפָרִי עֵץ הָדָר וְכַפּוֹת
תְּמָרִים וְעֵנַף עֵץ עָבוֹת וְעֵרְבֵי נַחַל, אוֹתֵיִת שְׂמֶךְ הַמִּיחָד תִּתְקַרֵב אֶחָד
אֶל אֶחָד, וְהָיוּ לְאֶחָדִים בְּיָדֵי, וְלִידַע אֵיךְ שְׂמֶךְ נִקְרָא עָלַי, וְיִירָאוּ מִנְּשֵׁת
אֵלַי, וּבְנִעְנוּעֵי אוֹתָם תִּשְׁפִיעַ שְׁפַע בְּרָכוֹת מִדַּעַת עֲלִיוֹן לְנוֹה אֶפְרַיִם,
לְמִכּוֹן בֵּית אֱלֹהֵינוּ. וְתֵהָא חֲשׂוּבָה לְפָנֶיךָ מְצוֹת אֶרְבָּעָה מִיָּמִים אֱלֹה,
בְּאֵלֹה קִנְיַתְיָהּ בְּכָל פְּרֻטְיָהּ וְשִׂרְשִׁיָּהּ וְתַרְיָנָה מְצוֹת הַתְּלוּוִים בָּהּ. כִּי
בּוֹנֵתִי לִיחָדָא שְׂמָא דְקַדְשָׁא בְּרוּךְ הוּא וְשִׁבְיַתְתָּהּ, בְּדַחֲלוּ
וּרְחִימוּ, לִיחָדָא שֵׁם י"ה בּו"ה בְּיַחְדָּא שְׁלִים, בְּשֵׁם כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל.
אָמֵן. בְּרוּךְ ה' לְעוֹלָם, אָמֵן וְאָמֵן.

The mitzva of L&E is to take the four species in hand together. Therefore, one gets ready to do the mitzva by taking the Lulav "bundle" in the right hand and the Etrog in the left, but does not hold them together, and preferably has specifically in mind NOT to fulfill the mitzva YET; then says the bracha (AND שהחינו the first time as well), and THEN holds the L&E TOGETHER and UPRIGHT with the intention of fulfilling the mitzva.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וְצִוָּנוּ עַל נְטִילַת לוּלָב.

This bracha is said at the first fulfillment of the mitzva only.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁהֲחִינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנָהּ הַזֶּה.

After the bracha/brachot and the joining of the L&E, the mitzva is done, but the custom is to wave the L&E in six directions. Keep the L&E upright; hold them close to the chest and then extend your hands forward. With the L&E in front of you, gently shake them. Bring your hands back to your chest. Repeat in the same direction two more times. Now do the same thing three times to the right. Then three times behind you.

Try not to turn too much in the direction of the NA'ANU'IM (waving); face front as best as possible and move the L&E in the different directions. Then to the left three times. Then up. Then down. Extend, shake, retract. Extend, shake, retract. Three times in each of the six directions. There are different customs as to the order of these NA'ANU'IM. Another custom is SOUTH, NORTH, EAST, UP, DOWN, WEST

