Holiday Calendar 2011-2012

August 2011

1, Monday - Islamic Holiday: Ramadan - Begins a month of fasting.

30, Tuesday - Islamic Holiday: Eid-Ul-Fitr - The feast marking the end of fasting.

September 2011

5, Monday - Labor Day – Federal and state agencies closed.

First Day of School: (Dorchester and Prince George's Counties opens August 22); (Talbot County opens August 23); (Allegany, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Charles, Garrett, St. Mary's, Washington Counties opens August 24); (Baltimore City/County, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester Counties opens August 29); (Carroll County opens August 30)

28, 29, 30 - Rosh Hashanah (Wednesday Evening) Thursday and Friday (Jewish New Year) Begins the Jewish year 5772.

October 2011

2, Sunday - Tzom Gedaliah - Commemorates the start of Babylonian exile of the Jewish people. (Fast begins first morning light)

7, 8 - Yom Kippur (Friday Evening) Saturday (Day of Atonement) Most holy of Jewish holidays, devoted to prayer, fasting and repentance.

10, Monday - Columbus Day - Federal and state agencies closed.

12, 13, 14 - Sukkot (Wednesday Evening) Thursday and Friday (Feast of Tabernacles) - First day of festival of harvest, thanksgiving and remembrance of the Jewish wandering in the wilderness and living in booths or tabernacles after the exodus from Egypt.

19, 20 - Shemini Atzeret (Wednesday Evening) Thursday (Eighth Day of Assembly) - Marks the climax of the Jewish holy season.

20, 21 - Simchat Torah (Thursday Evening) Friday (Rejoicing in the Law) - Reading of the Torah is completed and begun anew in the synagogue.

21, 22 - Friday and Saturday - Maryland State Teachers Association Convention - Schools closed Friday.

24, Monday - United Nations Day

31, Monday - Reformation Day - Observed by Protestant groups to mark the beginning of Protestant Reformation in 1517.

November 2011

1, Tuesday - All Saints' Day - Christian holy day of obligation commemorating all saints.

2, Wednesday - All Souls' Day - Roman Catholic day of remembrance for friends and loved ones who have passed away.

11, Friday - Veterans Day - Federal and state agencies closed.

13 to 19 - American Education Week (This year marks the 88th annual American Education Week.)

6, Sunday - Islamic Holiday - Eid-Ul-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice).

24, Thursday - Thanksgiving Day - Federal and state agencies closed. **Schools closed on the 23 through 25**: Anne Arundel, Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Howard, Kent, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Talbolt, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties. **Schools closed on the 24 through 25:** Baltimore City/County, Frederick, Harford, Montgomery, and Washington Counties. **Schools closed on the 24 through 28:** Allegany and Garrett Counties.

25, Friday - American Indian Heritage Day

26, Saturday - Islamic Holiday - Al Hijira - Islamic New Year. Marks the migration of the Prophet Mohammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina.

December 2011

8, Thursday - Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Catholic holy day celebrating the privilege of freedom from sin.

10, Saturday - Human Rights Day - Marks U.N. adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.

20, 21 - 28 - Chanukah (Tuesday Evening) (Festival of Lights) - Eight-day festival marking the first recorded battle for religious liberty and rededication of the Temple by the Maccabees.

15, Thursday - Bill of Rights Day - Marks ratification of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1791.

25, Sunday- Christmas Day - Federal and state agencies will be closed December 26. **Winter School Vacation: schools closed from December 19 through January 2:** Talbot County. **Schools closed from December 22 through January 2:** Caroline, Charles, Dorchester, St. Mary's, and Worcester Counties. **Schools closed from December 23 through January 2:** Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City/County, Calvert, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Kent, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Washington, and Wicomico Counties. **Schools closed from December 26 through January 2:** Carroll, Howard, Montgomery.

26, Monday - Kwanzaa (First Fruits of the Harvest): African-American holiday that celebrates family, community and culture. It is celebrated for seven days, December 26-January 1.

January 2012

1, Sunday - New Year's Day - Schools closed. Federal and state agencies closed. Schools re-open Monday, January 2, 2012, after winter break.

5, Thursday - Asarah B'tevet - (Fast of Tevet-which begins morning light) Commemorates the beginning of the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem (6th Century BCE).

16, Monday - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. (b. 1929). Schools closed. Federal and state agencies closed.

February 2012

All February - African-American Heritage Month

8, Wednesday - Tu B'shevat - New Year for Trees

12, Saturday - Lincoln's Birthday (b. February 12, 1809.)

20, Monday- Presidents' Day - Celebrates the birthdays of George Washington (b. 1732) and Abraham Lincoln (b. 1809). Schools closed. Federal and state agencies closed.

22, Wednesday - Ash Wednesday - Opens Lenten Season

March 2012

17, Saturday - St. Patrick's Day

7, Ta'Anit Esther Wednesday (Fast of Esther) – Commemorates the fast of Queen Esther (Fast begins Thursday morning).

8, Purim Thursday- Jewish day of merry-making, marking defeat of Persian tyrant, Haman.

25, Sunday - Maryland Day - Commemorating the arrival of Lord Baltimore's first settlers in Maryland in 1634. (State will observe on Monday, March 26).

April 2012

1, Sunday - Palm Sunday

5, Thursday - Holy Thursday - Christian holy day marking The Last Supper.

6, Friday - Good Friday

7, Saturday - Holy Saturday

6, 7, 8 - Pesach (Friday Evening) Saturday and Sunday - First two days of *Pesach* (Passover), Jewish festival marking deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

8, Sunday - Easter/Eastern Orthodox Easter

Spring School Vacation: Schools closed on the March 30 through April 9: Queen Anne's County. **Schools closed - 2 through 9:** Anne Arundel, Baltimore City/County, Calvert, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's Counties. **Schools closed - 4 through 9:** Cecil, Harford, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties. Schools closed on the 5 through 9: Allegany, Dorchester, and Washington Counties. Schools closed - 5 through 10: Kent, Somerset, and Talbot Counties. **Schools closed on the 6 through 10**: Caroline County.

12, 13, 14, Pesach (Thursday Evening) Friday and Saturday - Concluding days of *Pesach* (Passover).

19, Thursday - Yom Hashoah - (Holocaust Remembrance Day) - Memorializing the six million martyrs who died in the Holocaust, 1939-1945.

25, Wednesday - Yom Hazikaron - Israel's Memorial Day.

26, Thursday - Yom Ha'atzmaut - Israel Independence Day.

May 2012

10, Thursday - Lag BaOmer the 33 day of the counting of the Omer.

17, Thursday - Ascension Day - Christian holy day marking Jesus' ascension 40 days after the Resurrection.

20, Sunday - Yom Yerushalayim - Anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 Six-Day war.

26, 27, 28 - Shavuot (Saturday Evening) Sunday and Monday - Marks giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai.

28, Monday - Memorial Day (observed) - Schools closed. Federal and state agencies closed.

June 2012

14, Thursday - Flag Day - to commemorate the United States flag's adoption.

July 2012

4, Wednesday - Independence Day

8, Shiva Asar B'Tammuz Sunday - (Fast of the 17th of Tammuz) Commemorates the breach of the walls of Jerusalem by the besieging ancient Romans.

29, Tisha B'Av - (official Day of Mourning)

BALTIMORE JEWISH COUNCIL

THE ASSOCIATED

Use of Holiday Calendar 2011-2012

This calendar has been prepared and designed primarily to assist teachers and school administrators in planning and scheduling special events and activities such as examinations, assemblies, field trips, graduations and other school-related programs. Federal, state, county, and city government agencies, legislative bodies, and courts, as well as private employers, may also find this calendar helpful.

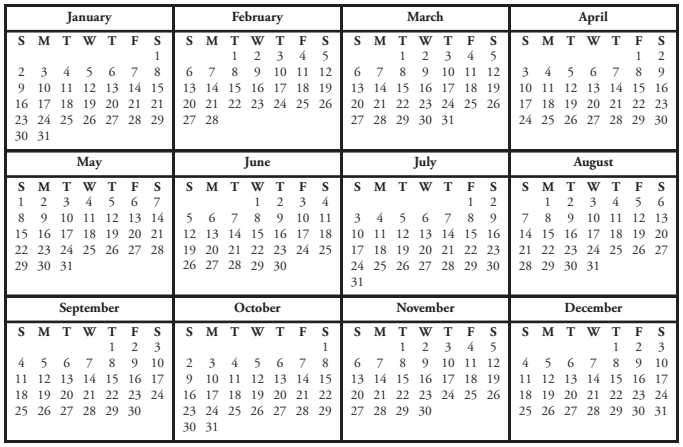
ALL Jewish holidays are set according to the Hebrew lunar calendar, so that they begin at sundown on the preceding evening and conclude at sundown on the dates noted. The Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday evening and concludes at sunset on Saturday. During these observances, work is traditionally prohibited. As a result, Jewish individuals may be absent from both school and places of employment.

No person should be penalized for his/her religious observances or beliefs.

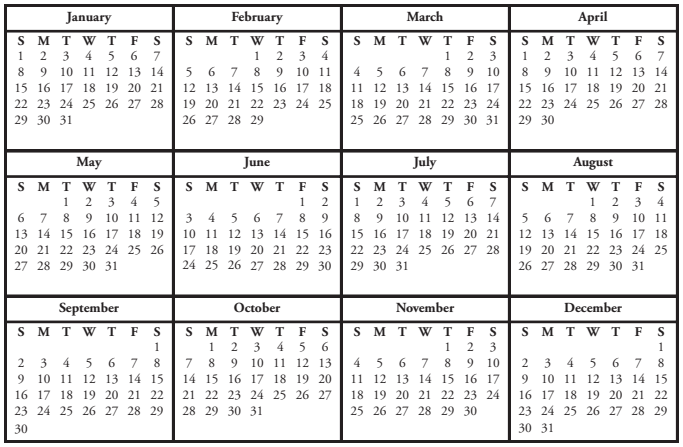
5-Year Calendar of Major Jewish Holidays

Holiday	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Pesach *(Passover)*	April 19, 20 Tues. & Wed.	April 7, 8 Sat. & Sun.	March 26, 27 Tues. & Wed.	April 15, 16 Tues. & Wed.	April 4, 6 Sat. & Sun.
Concluding days of Pesach	April 25, 26 Mon. & Tues.	April 13, 14 Fri. & Sat.	April 1, 2 Mon. & Tues.	April 21, 22 Mon. & Tues.	April 10, 11 Fri. & Sat.
Shavuot *(Receiving of the Torah)*	June 8, 9 Wed. & Thurs.	May 27, 28 Sun. & Mon.	May 15, 16 Thurs. & Fri.	June 4, 5 Wed. & Thurs.	May 24, 25 Sun & Mon.
Rosh Hashanah *(New Year)*	Sept. 29, 30 Thurs. & Fri.	Sept. 17, 18 Mon. & Tues.	Sept 5, 6 Thurs. & Fri.	Sept 25, 26 Thurs. & Fri.	Sept. 14, 15 Mon. & Tues.
Yom Kippur *(Day of Atonement)*	Oct. 8 Saturday	Sept. 26 Wednesday	Sept. 14 Saturday	Oct. 4 Saturday	Sept. 23 Wednesday
Sukkot *(Feast of Tabernacles)*	Oct. 13, 14 Thurs. & Fri.	Oct. 1, 2 Mon. & Tues.	Sept. 19, 20 Thurs. & Fri.	Oct. 9, 10 Thurs. & Fri.	Sept. 28, 29 Mon. & Tues.
Shemini Atzeret *(Eighth Day of Assembly)*	Oct. 20 Thursday	Oct. 8 Monday	Sept. 26 Thursday	Oct. 16 Thursday	Oct. 5 Monday
Simchat Torah *(Rejoicing of the Law)*	Oct. 21 Friday	Oct. 9 Tuesday	Sept. 27 Friday	Oct. 17 Friday	Oct. 6 Tuesday
Tisha B'Av *(Official Day of Mourning)*	August 9 Tuesday	July 29 Sunday	July 16 Tuesday	August 5 Tuesday	July 26 Sunday

2011



2012



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