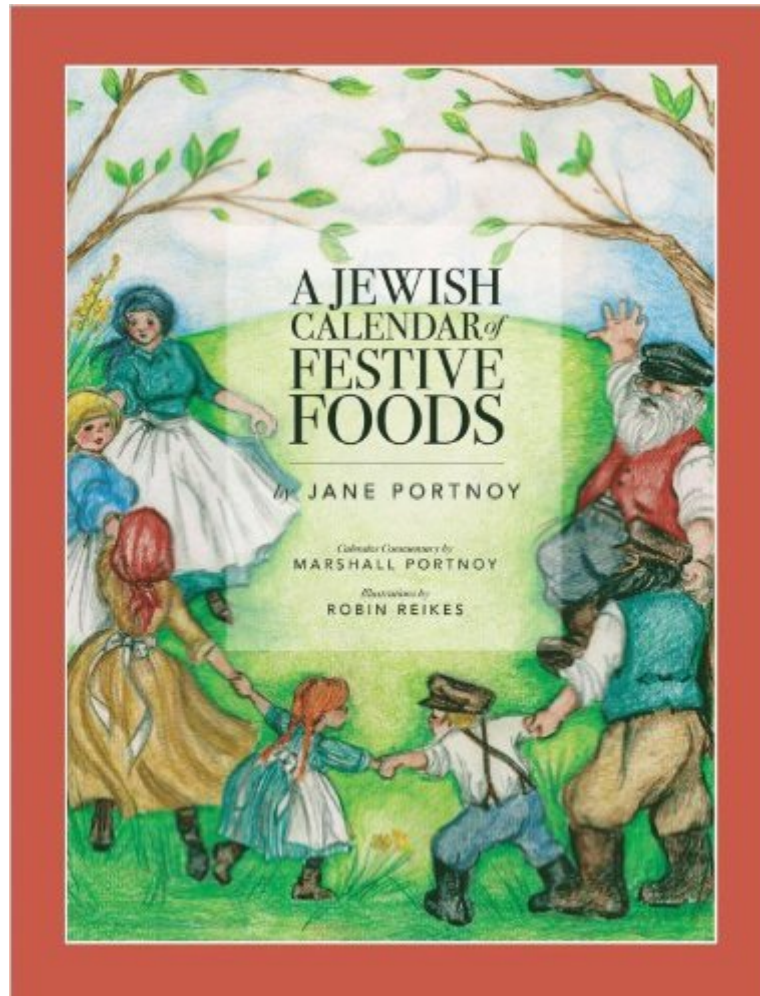


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# A Jewish Calendar Of Festive Foods



## Synopsis

First Horizon Award Winner Each observance on the Jewish calendar is celebrated with a full menu of treasured recipes in this new approach to a holiday cookbook. Organized in sequence, the menus are suitable for all skill levels, from novice cooks making Seder for the first time to accomplished chefs looking for new meals for Break the Fast. Traditional foods such as schnecken and matzah balls are balanced by modern culinary creations that are sure to become new favorites. A calendar commentary runs throughout the year, explaining the meanings and traditions behind each holiday, including a special chapter devoted entirely to Thanksgiving. Illustrations of a Shtetl family accent the book with charm and nostalgia, while an appendix with notes on dietary laws rounds out the collection.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Each observance on the Jewish calendar is celebrated with a full menu of treasured recipes in this unique approach to a holiday cookbook. Traditional foods such as schnecken and matzah balls are balanced by modern culinary creations that are sure to become new favorites. The pages are color coded for each holiday period / chapter. For TISHRI, the recipes include items for Rosh Hashanah (1-2), Yom Kippur (Tishri 10), and Sukkot and Simchat Torah (Tishri 15-22/23). Items range from Chopped Liver to a BBQ Brisket, and from Schnecken and Coconut pound Cake to Eggplant Bake and Rick's Noodle Kugel. Her Tuna Salad for Sukkot includes pickle relish and lemon juice; the pumpkin cranberry bread uses pumpkin puree (not pie filling); and the artichoke quiche includes

cheddar cheese. For Cheshvan there are 7 recipes for Shabbat, including one for Kentucky Cumberland Chicken and a Rice and Noodle Kugel (uses a cup of rice, onion soup mix, mushrooms and noodles); and 10 recipes for American Thanksgiving. Chapter 3 for Kislev and Tevet has recipes for the first and the final days of Chanukah, including latkas, cucumber salad; and rib roast beef. For Tu b'Shevat there are six recipes, including an heirloom marble cake, carrot ring, and coconut panko fried fish with pineapple salsa. For the month of Adar and the Purim holiday, there are 4 recipes, including ones for Coq Au Vin; poppy seed ring cookies; and hamantaschen. Eleven recipes are provided for Nisan and Passover; and six are listed for Iyar (Lag B'Omer, Independence Day, Remembrance Day, and Jerusalem Day). Sivan and Shavuot's chapter (can be for a bris also) has recipes for cheese blintzes, poached salmon, and cheesecake. The final chapter includes the months of Tammuz, Av, and Elul. It includes very simple recipes for sliced fish, corn pudding, and heirloom tomato salad. Jane Portnoy is a practicing eye physician and surgeon at the Scheie Eye Institute of the University of Pennsylvania (You may recall her article on Pupillary Afferent Defect in Amblyopia). Marshall Portnoy is the cantor of Main Line Reform Temple and was awarded a doctor of music from JTS. He is the coauthor of *The Art of Torah Cantillation*. Robin Reikes is a freelance artist and art educator who has conducted workshops on such topics as Hebrew illuminations and the role of Jewish writers and illustrators in the comic book and graphic novel. Dr. Portnoy went to Louisville for Med School, and Ms. Reikes lives in Louisville, and thus we get a recipe for Cumberland style chicken. Colonel Sanders better not borrow it.

This is truly a beautiful product - from start to finish. It is not only the food aspect - the art, the design and entire presentation is gorgeously laid out.

I just used this book for Mother's Day, mixing and matching break fast and Shavuot recipes. And let me tell you, I wish I had owned this book years ago. On my own, I have a tendency to choose labor intensive recipes that are stressful and not necessarily universally appealing when I entertain. You can tell this book began as a project an experienced hostess wrote for her kids. It's filled with the kind of recipes a lot of us grew up enjoying at big get-togethers. These recipes work, they taste great, and you won't spend two hours on each. The authors set menus work and appeal as-is, but it's not hard to mix and match according to your own tastes. Vegetarians will find many recipes they can use, and many others those with experience can adapt. My Mother's Day brunch yesterday was easy to prepare, heavy on items I could prep the day before, and was gobbled up enthusiastically by the crowd. My mother declared the sweet kugel recipe the best she's ever tasted. Readers will

enjoy the lovely illustrations, the cute motherly jokes, and the modern updates and additions to solid Jewish classics. There are bigger and more specialized Jewish cookbooks out there, and they have their place, but I know I'll be coming back to this one any time I'm expecting a crowd.

This isn't your typical Jewish cookbook. Sure it includes recipes for brisket and apple cake, but it also tells the story of each holiday in the Jewish Year with complete menus and unexpected, seasonal dishes such as Coconut Panko Tilapia with Pineapple Salsa and Peaches & Cream Panna Cotta!!! Don't be misled by the folksy cover illustration. This isn't a children's book. It's a treasure for young brides, college grads and anyone looking for a new way to turn traditional family dinners into a very special occasion.

I gave my mother A Jewish Calendar of Festive Foods as a gift recently and she was thrilled, to say the least. I'm not very aware of what cookbooks have to offer, other than recipes of course, but she told me that this one had so much more cultural significance than any other book she had in her collection and thanked me for such a unique gift... Now I get to taste these delicious recipes every time I visit my parents for the numerous Jewish holidays. Many thanks to the chef/author!

An excellent addition to any kitchen. Recipes here make every day and any day festive days of home, family, and friends.

## EXCELLENT UNBELEIVABLE BARGAIN

wonderful recipes and easy to follow. Pretty coffee table book. I liked it so much that I gave one to each of my daughters and granddaughters. It is a perfect gift.

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