

ט"ו בשבט



When Is It?

- This Year (5775 / 2015), ט"ו בשבט, the New Year of the Trees, falls on Wednesday, February 4, 2015.
- As all Jewish holidays do, ט"ו בשבט begins sundown and ends at nightfall



15

What Is It?

טו

- שבט is the name of the month when the holiday is celebrated
- " ט"ו " is the way to say the number 15 when it is spelled out (the letter "ט" and the letter "ו")
- ט"ו בשבט is on the 15th day of שבט
- It is the new year for the trees

Four New Years on the Jewish Calendar

1. The first of אלול: the beginning of the tax year for animals
2. ראש השנה (the first of תשרי): a religious and spiritual beginning
3. The first of ניסן: the "first month" in the Torah, freedom for the Jews when they left Egypt
4. ט"ו בשבט: the new year for trees in the time of the Torah, the beginning of the tax year for fruits and vegetables

Why in שבט ?

- By this time year, most of Israel's rainfall for the year has already fallen
- The trees have already started to grow
- This is the time when fruits begin forming on the trees
- In Israel, the 15th of שבט is the day when new sap starts to rise in the trees



How Do We Celebrate?

- Plant a tree
- Eat fruits and nuts that grow on trees (especially one that grow in Israel)
- Have a סדר לט"ו בשבט
- Eat a new fruit (that we have not eaten this year) so we can say שהחינו



סדר לט"ו בשבט

- One tradition is to eat twenty types of **fruit** and drink four cups of **wine** (or grape juice)
- These fruits can be divided into three groups:
 - 1) fruits with a peel and seeds you can eat (like **grapes and figs**)
 - 2) fruits with a peel you can eat but an pit you cannot eat (like **olives and dates**)
 - 3) fruits with peel you cannot eat, and only the inside is eaten (like **pomegranates and nuts**)

The Seven Species :

(As listed in the
Torah)





1. חיטה (wheat)



2. שעורה (barley)



3. גפן (grapes)



4. תאנה (fig)



5. **רימון (pomegranate)**



6. זית (olive)



7. תמר (date)

Happy ט"ו בשבט!

