

Celebrating Purim



[Source](#)

In 2025, Purim starts on the evening of Thursday, March 13, and lasts until Shabbat, Friday March 14.

Five Fun Facts about Purim?

Purim is a joyous Jewish festival.

1. It is observed annually in the Hebrew calendar on the 14th of Adar, which falls in late winter or early spring. [Source](#)

Purim Is a Persian Word

2. Purim means “lots” in ancient Persian.

[Why Purim Has a Persian Name](#)

3. The story of Purim, recounting how Queen Esther of Persia rescued her people from peril, is narrated in the Book of Esther, which is referred to as the Megillah in Hebrew. [Source](#)

4. There Are Four Commandments or Mitzvot

- **Reading the Megillah:** The story of the Purim miracle is read aloud, once on the eve of Purim and again the next day.
- **Giving to the Poor:** Monetary gifts are given to at least two people in need.
- **Sending Food Gifts:** At least one person receives gifts of two different types of food.
- **Festive Feast:** A celebratory meal is enjoyed, often featuring wine or other alcoholic drinks. [Source](#)

5. Observers Wear Masquerade on Purim

- Masquerading also ties into the theme of hidden identity that runs through the Purim story. The Book of Esther, one of only two books in the Hebrew Bible that does not mention God's name, portrays God as playing no overt role in the salvation of the Jews during the Purim miracle. On Purim, nothing is as it seems.

[Source](#)

- [Why Do Jews Wear Costumes on Purim?](#)

Holland Bloorview Resources

The Jewish ERG was established at Holland Bloorview in December 2023. This group serves as a platform for education, resilience building, and community-driven support, both within and outside the ERG framework. It is designed to be a safe space for members of the Jewish community and a source of positivity and empowerment. For more information, contact:

JewishERG@hollandbloorview.ca

[Discrimination, Racism and Harassment Reporting Process \(HB Connect\)](#) - An independent and confidential process is available for reporting workplace discrimination, racism, and harassment.



[Source](#)

This resource was co-created with the Jewish ERG and the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Anti-Racism Office (IDEAA). If you have any comments or would like to suggest additional resources, please e-mail ideaa@hollandbloorview.ca