

**Shavuot Custom:
Flowers and Wheat**



Shavuot is also known as the *Chag HaKatzir*, the holiday of gathering the crops, since it celebrates the reaping of new crops in the harvest cycle of the year. In addition, there is a tradition that *Har Sinai*, where the Jewish people received the Torah, was covered in flowers and beautiful greenery.

Today, to celebrate both of these, many people decorate their homes and synagogues with both wheat stalks (to commemorate the harvest) and flowers and greenery (to remind us of *Har Sinai*).

**Shavuot Custom:
All Night Learning**



Shavuot is known as *Zman Matan Torateinu*, the time that the Torah was received by the Jewish people at *Har Sinai*.

To commemorate this, many people today study Torah throughout the night on Shavuot.

**Shavuot Custom:
Eating Dairy Products**



On Shavuot, there is a custom to eat dairy products, and it has become traditional to eat cheesecake as a festive holiday dessert.

There are many different traditions as to how this custom came about, including that Shavuot was the time that the Jewish people began to start keeping kosher, which includes the law of separating meat and dairy.

**Shavuot Custom:
Reading *Megillat Rut***



Megillat Rut, the Book of Ruth, is a Biblical story that tells the tale of Ruth the Moabite, who bravely leaves her own hometown to follow her mother-in-law to the land of Israel and become a part of the Jewish nation.

As Shavuot is the holiday that marks the receiving of the Torah, we read about Ruth who chose the Torah and the Jewish people in the text of the *megillah*.



**Shavuot Custom:
The Ten Commandments**



The Ten Commandments, *Aseret Hadibrot*, were given to the Jewish people on *Har Sinai*.

Many people study the Ten Commandments in preparation for the holiday, and the Torah portion of the Ten Commandments is read in shul on the holiday.

