



HaGafen -

Traditional Blessing Over the Wine / Grape Juice

תַּעַרְךָ לִפְנֵי שֻׁלְחָן נֹגֵד צָרָרִי דִשְׁנָתָּ בְּשִׁטְנֵן רֵאשִׁי כּוֹסֵי רִוּיָהּ:

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. - Psalm 23:5

WINE REPRESENTS JOY and the full cup marks our appreciation of the bounty we enjoy. There are many ceremonies that include the use of wine. In each case, the core blessing recited is as follows:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
בוֹרֵא פְרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

Blessed art Thou, LORD our God, King of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.



Kiddush Cups

In a Jewish home Kiddush is recited at the beginning of each Shabbat and Holiday meal. Kiddush cups, available in practically any material, make wonderful housewarming gifts. A Bar or Bat Mitzvah is also an excellent time to give a commemorative Kiddush cup. Many Kiddush cups include the last three words of this blessing written on them, as in the example shown above.

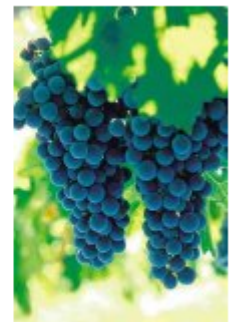
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

ha'olam me-lekh e-lo-heinu Adonai atah barukh
the universe King of our God Lord are You Blessed



בוֹרֵא פְרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

hagafen peri bore
the vine. fruit of Who creates



*Barukh attah Adonai eloheinu melekh ha-olam,
borei peri hagafen.*