

# HOW TO RUN A MITZVAH DAY PROJECT

Thank you for choosing to be part of Mitzvah Day, a Jewish-led day of social action. It's important that you support something you care about, get hands-on with the social action, have fun and thank everyone profusely! Here are our four top tips and guidelines for getting started or doing your Mitzvah Day better.

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## CHOOSING YOUR PROJECT

1. Start with the causes your community cares about – pick a charity you already engage with, or try something new.
2. Consider practicalities
  - Match the skills and numbers of volunteers with the task.
  - Ensure it's something the charity really needs – speak to them first.
  - Check if it can be done in the time... and that it is also 'doable-againable'.
  - Make it fun or at least satisfying.
  - Who is paying for materials, travel or any other costs? Please make sure it's affordable.
3. Identify the type of project you want to do:
  - Collections – know that the items you collect are wanted, know where it is going and how they will get there.
  - Go Greener– you need the right equipment, skills and permissions.
  - Cooking - Ensure that safeguarding and health, and safety are paramount.
  - Entertain at Care Homes or similar - perfect for multi-generation, but remember food safety and safeguarding. – Check that proper safeguarding is in place.
  - Donate Blood - Look at what blood drives are happening near you.
  - Make- knit, crochet or get crafty for a local charity or care home.
4. Don't forget to thank your volunteers and ensure they feel appreciated.

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## REACHING OUT TO OUR NON-JEWISH NEIGHBOURS

If you wish to reach out and connect to your non-Jewish neighbours on Mitzvah Day, it can be done simply and meaningfully.

Two easy ways to get started are:

First, reach out to a non-Jewish charity and offer to support their work—this builds real connections and shows shared values.

Second, plan and run a joint project with another faith group, working together with them as partners. See the tab called "How to Reach out to your Neighbours" under the Resource tab.

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## THE ESSENTIALS OF INSURANCE, SAFEGUARDING, AND DATA MANAGEMENT

- Check that your synagogue/school/chosen charity has systems in place (most do).
- If in doubt, ask, and don't ignore this!

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## INDIVIDUALS LOOKING FOR A PROJECT

While most Mitzvah Day projects are organised by synagogues, schools, offices, and other community groups, there are plenty of ways for individuals, families, or groups of friends to get involved too:

- Join an existing local project – Sign up to take part in a project run by your local synagogue, school, or community group.
- Take part in a public event – Send us an email, and we can put you in touch.
- Run your own project – It's easy to get started! Check out our Simple Project Ideas on the website for inspiration and guidance, get a group together, give it a name, register and go for it..