

# Jingle Bells

The instantly recognizable “Jingle Bells” has become a wildly popular Christmas carol despite not mentioning Christmas or any other holiday. Written by New England native James Lord Pierpont, “Jingle Bells” is commemorated with plaques in two different cities, each of which claims to be the place where Pierpont wrote the song in the 1850s. One plaque is in Medford, Massachusetts, where Pierpont is said to have written the song from a tavern while watching sleigh races taking place outside. The other plaque is in Savannah, Georgia, where locals believe Pierpont wrote the lyrics prior to leading a sing-along of the song at a local church in 1857.



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## “Jingle Bells” (Extended version)

Dashing through the snow  
In a one-horse open sleigh  
O'er the fields we go  
Laughing all the way

Bells on bobtail ring  
Making spirits bright  
What fun it is to ride and sing  
A sleighing song tonight! Oh,

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh. Hey!

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago  
I thought I'd take a ride  
And soon, Miss Fanny Bright  
Was seated by my side,  
The horse was lean and lank  
Misfortune seemed his lot  
He got into a drifted bank  
And then we got upstot.

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh. Hey!

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago,  
The story I must tell  
I went out on the snow,  
And on my back I fell;  
A gent was riding by  
In a one-horse open sleigh,

He laughed as there I sprawling lie,  
But quickly drove away.

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Now the ground is white  
Go it while you're young,  
Take the girls tonight  
and sing this sleighing song;  
Just get a bobtailed  
Two forty as his speed  
Hitch him to an open sleigh  
And crack! you'll take the lead.

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
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Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Lyrics written by  
James Lord Pierpont  
Lyrics courtesy of Digital Music



While some traditions, such as the lighting of the Chanukah menorah, are familiar, others may not be as widely known — especially to those outside of the faith. Here's a look at a select few.

## Lesser known Chanukah traditions

Chanukah is a relatively modern holiday in regard to the Hebrew calendar. Unlike Yom Kippur or Passover, which are steeped in rich traditions, there are few Chanukah customs.

Chanukah celebrants still participate in various customs each year, some of which are customized according to family preferences. While some traditions, such as the lighting of the Chanukah menorah, are familiar, others may not be as widely known — especially to those outside of the faith. Here's a look at a select few.

• **Saying the Shehechyanu blessing:** Traditionally, there are two blessings that some people say each night while lighting the candles. The first is recited while holding the lit shamash, and the second is said while lighting the candles. Another blessing, known as the “Shehechyanu,” is said the first night. According to 18Doors, a resource on the Jewish faith, it's the same blessing traditionally said on the first night of all Jewish holidays and other special occasions.

• **Display or use of the shofar:** A shofar is a type of instrument made from a ram's horn. It is a symbol of the ram that Abraham offered as a sacrifice in place of his son Isaac, exemplifying heroic faith of the fathers of the Jewish people. The shofar also serves as a reminder of the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, and calls people to strive for Israel's

renewal and fellowship with God.

• **Singing “Ma'oz Tzur”:** Chanukah songs may not be as numerous or as widely sung as Christmas carols during the holiday season, but there are a select few that are part of the festivities. “Oh Chanukah Oh Chanukah” and “The Dreidl Song” are some of the most widely known songs, but some people also follow the custom of singing “Ma'oz Tzur (Rock of Ages)” around the menorah. The words were composed in the 13th century, and the song summarizes historical challenges faced by the Jewish people that were overcome with God's help.

• **Use of oil in Chanukah feasts:** It's well known that latkes, or fried potato pancakes, are served around Chanukah. The reason is due to the oil used to fry them, which traditionally is olive oil. Fried foods call to mind a specific Chanukah miracle. After the Greeks destroyed the sanctuary and defiled what was thought to be all of the oil, one jug sealed with the imprint of the High Priest was found. That one jug managed to keep the Temple's menorah lit for eight days, despite it being insufficient to handle this task. This was considered a miracle and celebrated in subsequent years.

Chanukah is a relatively modern holiday with few traditions. However, the customs associated with this holiday are held dear.



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## Frosty the Snowman

Who can resist the magic of the holiday season? Especially when that magic brings a normally inanimate snowman to life! That's the concept behind “Frosty the Snowman,” a song both children and adults enjoy each holiday season. Musicians Jack Rollins and Steve Nelson co-wrote the song in 1950, when it quickly caught on as a catchy and memorable tune. Just a year earlier, Rollins and Nelson penned “Here Comes Peter Cottontail” for an Easter special, so they were no strangers to kid-friendly holiday songs. The “Frosty” song led to a children's book soon after, and later was brought to the television screen in 1969 for a holiday special that has become a must-watch in many households.

### “Frosty the Snowman”

Frosty the snowman was a jolly happy soul,  
With a corncob pipe and a button nose  
And two eyes made out of coal.  
Frosty the snowman is a fairy tale, they say,  
He was made of snow but the children  
Know how he came to life one day.

There must have been some magic in that  
Old silk hat they found.  
For when they placed it on his head  
He began to dance around.  
O, Frosty the snowman  
Was alive as he could be,

And the children say he could laugh  
And play just the same as you and me.

(Chorus)  
Thumpetty thump thump,  
Thumpetty thump thump,  
Look at Frosty go.  
Thumpetty thump thump,  
Thumpetty thump thump,  
Over the hills of snow.

Frosty the snowman knew  
The sun was hot that day,  
So he said, “Let's run and  
We'll have some fun  
Now before I melt away.”  
Down to the village,  
With a broomstick in his hand,  
Running here and there all  
Around the square saying,  
Catch me if you can.

He led them down the streets of town  
Right to the traffic cop.  
And he only paused a moment when  
He heard him holler “Stop!”  
For Frosty the snow man  
Had to hurry on his way,  
But he waved goodbye saying,  
“Don't you cry,  
I'll be back again some day.”

(Chorus)  
Written by Jack Rollins and  
Steve Nelson  
Lyrics courtesy of Christmas-  
songs.net

## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

From your  
**Marshall County Officials!**

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 <b>DAPHNE GIRTS</b> County Clerk	 <b>MICHELLE CLARK</b> Assessor of Property	 <b>MIKE WILES</b> Circuit Court Clerk	 <b>DORRIS WAYNE WEAVER</b> Register of Deeds
 <b>JERRY WILLIAMS</b> Road Superintendent	 <b>ANDREW ROBERTSON</b> Administrator of Elections	 <b>KIM ALSUP</b> Clerk & Master	 <b>J.B. COX</b> Chancellor
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