

# *North Texas Hindu Mandir - Puja Guide*

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Yajmaans are always encouraged at our Mandir. This guide is designed to simplify and make this process consistent.

1. Please notify the Pandit and one of the following executive members: President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, at least one week prior to the desired date for puja. This is required to avoid any conflicts that may occur and to ensure that someone is available and has prepared to perform the puja.
2. After you have made your reservation you should be give specific instructions from the Pandit for what preparations will be required and a list of ingredients required for the puja.
3. Generally the following ingredients will be required for regular pujas:
  - a. Flowers: White, Yellow, and Red (Carnations or Poms are most popular).
  - b. Fruits: Preferably 3 to 5 varieties and should be at least 13 individual pieces of fruit.
  - c. Prashad: Mohanbhog, sweet meets, or other prashad.
  - d. Money as offerings to the deities: at least 15 coins (quarters) and 15 dollar bills.
  - e. Dakshina for the Pandit
  - f. Donation to the Mandir.

Optional

  - g. Whole Milk any size.
  - h. Plain Yoghurt any size.
  - i. Butter Ghee of any size.
  - j. Samagree of any size.
  - k. Incense sticks.
  - l. Sindoor.
  - m. Haldee.
  - n. Chandan.
  - o. Rice.
  - p. Suparee
  - q. Cloves.
  - r. Camphor.
  - s. Sugar.
  - t. Honey.
  - u. Clothing.
4. General preparations: Take bath, put on clean clothing, and fast if possible, arrive at the Mandir at least 15 minutes before services are scheduled to begin or sooner if directed to do so.

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## **Special Murthi Abhisheka and Puja**

During special Puja's the Murthi Abhisheka may be performed. For these pujas there may be more than one or groups of Yajmaans participating in the puja. Here again Yajmaan's are encouraged to sign up early to ensure that you have an opportunity to participate in the puja and make your offerings. During these puja's yajmaan's may have the opportunity to Murthi dressed with their offering of clothing. If this is your wish then you must sign up as early as possible and notify the Murthi Dressing coordinator that you will be bringing the clothing for this offering. The first person to sign up and notify the Murthi Dressing coordinator that clothing will be offered will have the opportunity to have their offered clothing dressed on the Murthi. If clothing is not dressed on the day of the puja the clothing will be used at sometime in the future.

The Pandit should give you specific puja instructions and puja ingredients, however the following general guidelines will be helpful.

1. Generally the following ingredients will be required for regular pujas:
  - a. Flowers: White, Yellow, and Red (Carnations or Poms are most popular).
  - b. Fruits: Preferably 3 to 5 varieties and should be at least 13 individual pieces of fruit.
  - c. Prashad: Mohanbhog, sweet meets, or other prashad.
  - d. Money as offerings to the deities: at least 15 coins (quarters) and 15 dollar bills.
  - e. Dakshina for the Pandit
  - f. Donation to the Mandir.
  - g. Whole Milk any size.
  - h. Plain Yoghurt any size.
  - i. Butter Ghee of any size.
- Optional
  - j. Clothing (first to sign up and notify they will bring clothing will have opportunity for Murthi wear clothing).
  - k. Samagree of any size.
  - l. Incense sticks.
  - m. Sindoor.
  - n. Haldee.
  - o. Chandan.
  - p. Rice.
  - q. Suparee
  - r. Cloves.
  - s. Camphor.
  - t. Sugar.
  - u. Honey.
  - v. Coconut.

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2. General preparations: Take bath, put on clean clothing, and fast if possible, arrive at the Mandir at least 15 minutes before services are scheduled to begin or sooner if directed to do so.