# Diwali Lakshmi Puja at Home

**Sunday 8 November 2026 · evening (pradosha kala)**

Short puja: about 30 minutes



On the new-moon night of Diwali, families welcome Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity and wellbeing, into a clean and brightly lit home. Ganesha is worshipped first, as at the start of every puja.

## What you need

- Picture or idol of Lakshmi and Ganesha
- A kalasha (pot) with water, mango leaves and a coconut
- Red or yellow cloth for the altar
- Rice for akshate, turmeric and kumkum
- Flowers, especially lotus or marigold
- Oil lamps or diyas, ghee or oil, cotton wicks
- Incense (agarbatti) and camphor for arati
- Fruits, sweets, and puffed rice with sugar candy (batashe)
- A few coins or jewellery, and your account book

## Before the puja

- Clean the house well; open the doors and windows in the evening.
- Draw a rangoli at the entrance and light diyas along the doorway.
- Set up the altar facing east or north, with Ganesha on the left of Lakshmi.
- Have a bath and wear fresh or new clothes.

## Food to offer

Laddoo, kheer or payasa, coconut burfi, puffed rice with sugar candy, and seasonal fruits.

## Short puja, step by step

1. Light the main lamp and say the lamp prayer.
2. Pray to Ganesha with the Vakratunda shloka.
3. Sankalpa: say your name, your family and that you are worshipping Lakshmi for the wellbeing of the home.
4. Sprinkle water on the kalasha and invite Lakshmi to be present.
5. Offer water, turmeric, kumkum, akshate and flowers to Ganesha, then to Lakshmi.
6. Place the coins, jewellery and account book before the goddess and offer kumkum to them.
7. Light incense and wave it gently, then offer the lamp.
8. Offer the sweets, fruits and batashe as naivedya, sprinkling a little water around them.
9. Do arati with camphor while singing or chanting together.
10. Bow down, ask forgiveness for any mistakes, and share the prasada with everyone.

.1. Light diyas in every room and at the door. Keep one lamp burning through the night if it is safe.

## Prayers to chant

शुभं करोति कल्याणम् आरोग्यं धनसम्पदः । शत्रुबुद्धिविनाशाय दीपज्योतिर्नमोऽस्तु ते ॥

I bow to the light of the lamp, which brings goodness, health and wealth, and removes harmful thoughts.

वक्रतुण्ड महाकाय सूर्यकोटि समप्रभ । निर्विघ्नं कुरु मे देव सर्वकार्येषु सर्वदा ॥

O Lord with the curved trunk, shining like a million suns, remove the obstacles from all my work, always.

ॐ श्रीं महालक्ष्म्यै नमः ॥

Salutations to the great goddess Lakshmi. Chant it 11 or 108 times.

नमस्तेऽस्तु महामाये श्रीपीठे सुरपूजिते । शङ्खचक्रगदाहस्ते महालक्ष्मि नमोऽस्तु ते ॥

Salutations to Mahalakshmi, the great power worshipped by the gods.

मन्त्रहीनं क्रियाहीनं भक्तिहीनं जनार्दन । यत्पूजितं मया देव परिपूर्णं तदस्तु मे ॥

Whatever I have offered, without the right words, actions or devotion, please accept it as complete.

## With children

- Let children paint the clay diyas a day before.
- Ask them to draw the rangoli and place the lamps on the doorstep.
- Tell the story of Rama returning to Ayodhya, or of Lakshmi rising from the ocean of milk.

A simple home guide from VedaVidesh. Every family and region has its own customs, so follow yours where they differ, and check a local panchanga for the exact time in your city. Dates are for India; abroad they can differ by a day. Members also get the full puja with every mantra.