



## 5 Facts You Need to Know About: Conservative Judaism

1. Conservative Judaism is a denomination of Judaism that is often considered to be a middle ground between Orthodox and Reform Judaism. There are approximately 1.1 million Conservatives in the United States.
2. Conservative Judaism revolves around the belief that tradition and law should be conserved in a way that keeps it relevant to the times, societal context and critical thought.
3. The movement officially separated from the Orthodox denomination in 1940s America but can trace the origins of its historical-critical model of analyzing Jewish law back to 19<sup>th</sup> century Germany.
4. The Conservative movement does not have a dogmatic theology, but honors the interplay among various approaches that produces seemingly conflicting approaches to Jewish law. For example, while most Conservative Jews accept women as rabbis, those who do not are not outside the tent.
5. Outside of the United States, Conservative Judaism is called the Masorti movement or Masorti Judaism. Masorti translates to “traditional.”

Learn more at:

<http://www.conservativejudaism.org/>

<http://www.jtsa.edu/conservative-judaism>

*These five points are not meant to be comprehensive or authoritative. We hope they will encourage you to explore this tradition more deeply and seek out members of this community to learn about their beliefs in action. It is our firm belief that in understanding our differences we will better understand our common humanity*

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