



## **5 Starter Facts About Conservative Judaism**

1. Conservative Judaism is often considered to be a middle ground between Orthodox and Reform Judaism. It mandates following Jewish law, but also recognizes humanity in the texts and thus in the practice thereof. There are ~1.1 million Conservative Jews in the United States.
2. Conservative Judaism revolves around the belief that tradition and law should be conserved in a way that keeps it reasonably relevant to the times, societal context, and critical thought.
3. The movement officially separated from the Orthodox denomination in 1940's America, but origins of its historical-critical model of analyzing Jewish law can be traced back to 19th 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.
5. Outside of the U.S., the movement is called Masorti, which translates to "traditional."

Learn more at:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/judaism/subdivisions/conservative\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/judaism/subdivisions/conservative_1.shtml)

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/background-and-overview-of-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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