

Tabernacle Instructions from the Book of Exodus (using the English Standard Version)

Item	Building Material	Dimensions or Design Details	Embellishments	Purpose
Ark (Exodus 25:10-15, 37:1-5)	acacia wood, gold	Length: 2.5 cubits (3'9") Width: 1.5 cubits (2'3") Height: 1.5 cubits (2'3")	Wooden box with pure gold overlay inside and out, gold molding, 4 gold rings on its four feet; acacia poles overlaid with gold and remain in the rings of the Ark	The Ark held the testimony God gave them. The poles were for carrying the Ark (it was forbidden to touch the Ark).
Contents of the Ark (Exodus 25:16, Heb. 9:4, Numbers 17)	-	stone tablets, golden urn of manna, Aaron's staff that budded	-	To remember God's law, power, and provision
Mercy Seat (Exodus 25:17-21, 37:6-9)	pure gold	Length: 2.5 cubits (3'9") Width: 1.5 cubits (2'3") (This is the lid of the Ark)	sculpted figures of 2 cherubim of hammered gold on the two ends of the mercy seat; cherubim have wings spread and face one another toward the mercy seat	The place where God meets with the high priest (it was as if God dwelt between the 2 cherubim and met Israel there)
Table (Exodus 25:23-28, 37:10-15, Leviticus 24:5-9)	acacia wood, gold	Length: 2 cubits (3') Width: 1 cubit (1'6") Height: 1.5 cubits (2'3")	Wooden table with pure gold overlay, gold molding, handbreadth rim with molding around the rim, 4 gold rings fastened to the table legs close to the frame as holders for the poles; acacia poles overlaid with gold to carry the table	For the table setting of the bread of the Presence ("showbread" – 12 loaves were laid in two piles of 6 loaves each)
Plates and dishes (Exodus 25:29a, 37:16)	pure gold	-	-	To hold incense and bread of the Presence (or "showbread")
Flagons and bowls (Exodus 25:29b, 37:16)	pure gold	-	-	To pour drink offerings
Golden Lampstand, seven lamps; tongs and trays (Exodus 25:31-40, 37:17-23)	pure gold	A seven-branched menorah; piece of hammered gold (one talent) for base, stem, cups, calyxes, and flowers; arrange the lamps to give light in front of it; wick trimmers and trays	7 total lamps; 3 branches going out of each side; 3 cups/bowls made like almond blossoms (the cups would have held olive oil and wicks placed in the cups and lit)	To provide light for the priests to do their work; taking care of/maintaining lamps (the tabernacle was a covered tent, so the lamps were the only light)
Oil for the Lamp (Exodus 27:20-21, Leviticus 24:1-3)	pure oil of pressed olives	oil provided by the Israelites; the lamp is tended morning to evening	-	To light the lamps continually
Altar of Incense (Exodus 30:1-10, 37:25-28, 40:6, 26)	acacia wood, gold	Length: 1 cubit (1'6") Breadth: 1 cubit (1'6") Height: 2 cubits (3")	square with horns, molding of gold around it, two golden rings for poles for carrying (acacia wood overlaid with gold)	Altar on which to burn incense
Incense (Exodus 30:34-38, 37:29, 40:27)	Sweet spices, stacte, onycha, galbanum, sweet spices with pure frankincense, salt	equal parts blended and seasoned with salt; some of it beat very small	-	Incense offering holy to the Lord put before the testimony

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Inner Curtains (Exodus 26:1-6, 36:8-13)	fine linen, blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, gold	Length: 28 cubits (42') Width: 4 cubits (6')	10 curtains of linen and blue, purple, scarlet yarn; embroidered cherubim; connected to each other by 50 blue loops and gold clasps to make the tabernacle 42'x60'	Beauty within, a shadow of heavenly things (Hebrews 8:5)
Outer Curtains (Exodus 26:7-13, 36:14-18)	goats' hair, bronze	Length: 30 cubits (45') Width: 4 cubits (6')	11 curtains joined together by loops and bronze clasps; completely covered the fine linen layer	A tent over the tabernacle
Coverings (Exodus 26:14, 36:19)	rams' skins and other animal skins	fine rams' skin leather dyed red, other animals' skins	a covering of tanned rams' skins and a covering of other durable leather on top	A covering for the tent
Frames and Bars (Exodus 26:15-30, 36:20-34)	acacia wood, gold, silver	Length: 10 cubits (15') Width: 1.5 cubits (2'3")	acacia wood overlaid with gold; connected by bars that ran through tenons and rings and rested on silver sockets	A frame/structure for the tabernacle
Veil (Exodus 26:31-35, 36:35)	fine linen, blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, acacia wood, silver, gold	hung on 4 acacia pillars overlaid with gold, with hooks of gold, and on 4 silver bases	Artistic design of cherubim	A divider between the holy place and the Most Holy place; the veil hid the Ark
Screen and Pillars (Exodus 26:36-37, 36:36-38)	acacia wood, blue, purple, & scarlet yarn, fine linen, gold, bronze	5 pillars of acacia wood overlaid with gold; gold hooks and bronze bases	woven by a weaver	The only entrance to the tabernacle
Bronze Altar (Exodus 27:1-8, 38:1-7)	acacia wood, bronze	Length: 5 cubits (7'6") Width: 5 cubits (7'6") Height: 3 cubits (4'6")	horns on four corners, overlaid with bronze; bronze pans, grate, shovels, basins, forks, firepans; poles overlaid with bronze and inserted through rings	Altar for burnt offerings and poles for carrying
Bronze Basin (Exodus 30:17-21, 38:8, 40:30, Leviticus 8:6)	bronze	bronze basin with bronze stand; placed between the tent of meeting and the altar; filled with water	Made from the mirrors of women who served at the entrance of the tent of meeting (likely high-quality bronze)	For washing of the priests' hands and feet before they enter the tent of meeting or come near the altar to minister
Courtyard hangings (Exodus 27:9-15, 38:9-16)	fine linen, silver, bronze	South side: 100 cubits (150') North side: 100 cubits (150') West side: 50 cubits (75') East side: 50 cubits (75')	linen fence held up by 7.5' silver pillars with silver fillets and hooks for hanging the linen; pillars had bronze bases	To mark off the courtyard
Courtyard pillars (Exodus 27:17-19, 38:17,19)	silver, bronze, fine linen	Length: 100 cubits (150') Width: 50 cubits (75') Height: 5 cubits (7'6")	silver pillars with silver fillets and hooks, bronze bases and pegs	Structural integrity

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Gate (Exodus 27:16, 38:18)	fine linen and blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, silver, bronze	Length: 20 cubits (30') Height: 5 cubits (7'6")	embroidered linen screen on the east side (the same side as the gate to the tent of the tabernacle); 4 silver pillars with bronze bases	A single gate as the only entrance to the court of the tent of meeting
Ephod (Exodus 28:6-14, 39:2-7, Leviticus 8:7)	gold; blue, purple, and scarlet yarns; fine twined linen; onyx	two shoulder pieces like an apron	set on the shoulder pieces were two onyx stones engraved with the names of the sons of Israel in birth order (six names on each stone) and enclosed in gold filigree	The engraved onyx stones were stones of remembrance for the priest and before the Lord
Breastplate (Exodus 28:15-30, 39:8-21; Leviticus 8:8)	gold; blue, purple, and scarlet yarns; fine twined linen; gemstones; urim and thummin	square and doubled (front and back); gold rings and gold cords like twisted chains to attach breastpiece to shoulder pieces of ephod; bound to the ephod by a lace of blue; urim and thummim on the priest's heart	precious stones over the heart set in gold filigree, each stone engraved with the name of a tribe of Israel Row 1: sardius, topaz, carbuncle Row 2: emerald, sapphire, diamond Row 3: jacinth, agate, amethyst Row 4: beryl, onyx, jasper	So the priest would bear the names of the sons of Israel on his heart, when he went into the Holy Place, to bring them to regular remembrance before the Lord (Exodus 28:29)
Robe (Exodus 28:31-35, 39:22-26, Leviticus 8:7)	all blue, blue, purple, & scarlet yarn, gold	opening for the head; woven binding around the opening, so it may not tear	Hem has alternating golden bells and pomegranates made of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn	The bells would be heard when the priest entered the Holy Place before the Lord, and when he came out, so that he would not die
Coat (Exodus 28:39, 39:27, Leviticus 8:7,13)	Linen	checkerwork of linen	-	Part of priestly garments (Leviticus 8)
Turban and hats (Exodus 28:36-39, 39:28, 30-31, Leviticus 8:9,13)	Gold plate; fine linen	gold plate fastened to the front of the turban by a blue cord for the high priest; hats for other priests	-	The high priest would bear any guilt from the holy things that the people of Israel consecrated as their holy gifts, so that the gifts would be accepted by the Lord (Exodus 28:38)
Sash (Exodus 28:39, 39:29, Leviticus 8:7,13)	linen, yarn	-	embroidered with needlework	Part of priestly garments
Undergarments (Exodus 28:42-43, 39:28)	Linen	From hips to thighs	-	A covering
Anointing oil (Exodus 30:22-33, 37:29; Leviticus 8:10-12)	Myrrh, cinnamon, aromatic cane, cassia, olive oil	500 shekels each of myrrh and cassia, 250 shekels each cinnamon & cane, a hin of olive oil	-	Holy oil for anointing the priests and tabernacle furniture