

Synagogue Service Leaders Market Index

Version 1.2

6 August 2026

Part One: Synagogue Service Leaders Market Index One-Side-Budgeting-Guide

- This is a budgeting guide. It is not an instruction on what to offer or accept as a price for service cover. It is based on the historical prices paid in Part Two (below).
- For *budgeting* purposes communities should normally budget at the upper half of the observed market range. Budgeting doesn't necessarily match what communities paid historically (for which see the sometimes lower amounts in Part Two).
- These ranges probably place most communities in the right range for 80-90% of engagements in the current UK Orthodox communal synagogue service leaders market.

SERVICE LEADING	BUDGET GUIDE
Leyning only	• London: £100-125 • Outer London: £125-175 • Regional: £150-250
Davening only	• £150-450
Leyning + Davening together	• £250-600
Chazanut on Shabbat	• Shabbat: £300-600 • Festivals: £500-1,500¹ • High Holy Days: £1,500-8,000+
Rabbi	• Basic cover: £500-900 • Guest weekend: £900-2,000 • Significant engagement / interim leadership: £2,000-4,000+
Add for: • short notice (+10-25%) • distance travelled • accommodation required • family attendance • teaching programme • High Holy Days	

¹ There is currently not enough data to provide aggregated chazanut price records for Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot; budgeting for chazanut over Pesach, Shavuot and Succot is therefore set roughly between Shabbat and High Holy Days.

Part Two: what US communities paid, between 2024 and 2026

Definitions Created by AI from a much fuller list of narrower locations	
Engagement	Usually meaning a Shabbat, which might be Friday night to motei Shabbat; but if a Rabbi <i>chooses</i> to walk several miles across London, that usually won't be reflected in a discounted engagement price.
NW London / Hertsmere	Finchley, Hendon, Edgware, Mill Hill, Stanmore, Kenton, Kingsbury, Bushey, Borehamwood, Radlett etc.
Outer London	South London, Cockfosters, Essex communities and similar locations.
Regional	Birmingham, Merseyside, Sheffield, Hull and communities beyond the main London catchment.

LEYNING: Ordinary Shabbat			
The centre of the market is around £110-125.			
Location (cross-reference with 'Service' below)		Price range	
NW London / Central London		£100-125	
Outer London		£100-150	
Regional community		£150-250	
LEYNING: Festivals			
Service (cross-reference with 'Location' above)		Price range	
Pesach / Shavuot day		£120-250	
Multiple days		Pro-rata	
HHD Torah readings		£200-500	
LEYNING + DAVENING			
Service		Price range	
Ordinary Shabbat		£200-400	
Experienced all-rounder		£300-600	
Regional community		£400-800	
DAVENING ONLY			
Service		Price range	
Standard Shabbat		£150-300	
Experienced baal tefillah	NW London, Hertsmere	Outer London / Essex / Bedfordshire	Regional
	£250-450	£300-500	£350-650
Specialist voice/reputation		£400-700	

CHAZANUT: Standard Shabbat

The market centre is around £300-500.

Category	Price range
Emerging chazan	£200-350
Established chazan	£350-600
Premium requested individual	£600-800

CHAZANUT: High Holy Days²

This market is completely separate from the rest of the year.

Category	Price range
Local competent service leader	£1,500-3,500
Established HHD chazan	£3,500-8,000
Premium imported talent	£8,000+

RABBINIC COVER

There are at least four tiers.

Category	Price range
Avreich / Emerging Rabbi	£200-500 per engagement
Community Rabbi Cover	£500-900 per engagement
Premium Engagement Rabbi	£900-2,000 per engagement
Interim or quasi-part-time ministry At this point communities are not buying cover. They are effectively buying leadership capacity.	£2,000-4,000+ per month-equivalent package of provision

² There is currently not enough data to provide aggregated *chazanut* price records for Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot.