

# MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

## ALLOWABLE GROUP RELIGIOUS ITEMS

### Notes:

1. The maximum allowed value of any item (excluding religious journals, religious publications, religious calendars, and religious audio CDs) is one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
2. All items must be obtained through approved vendors only unless otherwise specified below or in an applicable policy.
3. Food and beverage items listed below must be used as part of a group religious ceremony, must be made equally available to all participants, must not be shared in a way that is unsanitary (e.g., no drinking juice out of a shared cup), and must not be removed from the area where the group ceremony is taking place. No other food or beverage items are allowed, except as part of a group's approved annual religious feast.
4. In the case of a candle, there shall be only one wick, and the candle must be completely encased in a DOC provided lantern candle holder, with the candle dimensions complying with the safety recommendations of the manufacturer of the lantern candle holder. Only one candle may be used at a time (though more than one candle may be kept in the faith group's locker or other location as required by the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, so that they may be swapped out for different ceremonies). Tapered candles, floating candles, and tea candles are not allowed. Electric candles are not subject to any of the above restrictions.
5. Not included on the list, but still considered an allowable group religious item, is any item that is available to all general population residents, e.g., body oils, Tarot cards.
6. All religious groups are allowed:
  - a. a religious calendar, max 12" x 12", no spiral binding;
  - b. religious journals;
  - c. religious publications; and
  - d. religious audio CDs
7. Unless otherwise noted below, when not in use, all allowable group ceremonial items must be stored in the faith group's locker or other location, as required by the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee. Each faith group may also store allowable religious publications, religious calendars, religious audio CDs, and religious DVDs in its locker or other location, as required by the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee.

### Buddhism

Bell (max. 6")

Bowl (brass, max. 6" diameter)

Candle

Clapper (wooden, max. 4")

Incense holder and incense

Mala beads (on approved breakaway string only) (not to be worn as a necklace or bracelet)

Mindful Mantra flags

Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place

Silk flowers

Statue of Buddha (not metal or glass, max. 14" high)

Tablecloth

Wooden bowl

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### **Christianity**

Altar (as approved)  
Altar linens and cloths (max. 2' x 2')  
Baptismal items  
Bell (max. 6")  
Candle  
Chalice and paten (plate)  
Grape juice (approved quantity) and paper or plastic cups to be disposed of immediately after use for communion  
Hosts for communion  
Incense holder and incense  
Religious statues (not metal or glass) (max. 2, max. 14" high) to be placed by the altar when the group ceremony takes place  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place  
Wine (1 ounce, to be brought in by priest and consumed by priest)

### **Hinduism**

Altar cloth (max. 2' x 2')  
Bowl  
Candle  
Conch shell (max. 3")  
Drum (Damaru style) (max 10" diameter), ropes not to be separated from drum  
Incense holder and incense sticks (max. 2)  
Group prayer mat (max. 6' x 8', approved design only)  
Mala beads (on approved breakaway string only) (not to be worn as a necklace or bracelet)  
Plate  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place  
Rice (approved quantity)  
Statue of Hindu god/goddess (not metal or glass) (max. 14" high) or picture in stand (no glass) (max. 2 statues or pictures total)  
White clothing (may not obscure the resident's face) (during ceremony only and stored in group locker)

### **Islam**

Group prayer rug (max. 6' x 8', approved design only)  
Incense holder and incense  
Individual prayer rugs (max. 4' x 6', approved design only)  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place

### **Jehovah's Witness**

None requested

### **Judaism**

Candle (Sabbath)  
Hanukkah menorah (electric)  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place  
Shofar (ram's horn) (max. 20")

### **Latter Day Saints**

None requested

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### **Nation of Islam**

Group prayer rug (max. 6' x 8', approved design only)  
Incense holder and incense  
Individual prayer rugs (max. 4' x 6', approved design only)  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place

### **Native American**

Cloth shield  
Drums (max. 2) and drumsticks (max. 18")  
Feathers (if eagle feather, requires Federal government documentation)  
Flute, wooden or reed  
Individual prayer blankets (max. 60" and 80", approved design only)  
Medicine wheel (four directions plaque, max. 2' by 2')  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place  
Sacred pipe (to be brought in by tribal elder and to be taken out by tribal elder)  
Smudge bowl  
Smudge herb mixture (flat cedar, white sage, sweetgrass, tobacco) .06 grams (tobacco must be obtained from the chaplain, may only be used in smudging)  
Talking stick (max. 18")  
Tobacco for pipe ceremony (approved amount, to be brought in by tribal elder and any excess to be taken out by tribal elder)  
Tribal attire (may not obscure the resident's face) (during ceremony only and stored in group locker)  
Turtle rattle (max. 18")

### **Odinism**

Altar (as approved)  
Altar cloth (max. 2' x 2')  
Bowl, wooden  
Candle  
Cloth Banners  
Crackers (1 package)  
Cups (2) (paper or plastic to be disposed of immediately after use)  
Dragon's blood (oil) (max. 2 ounces) (not to be used as a body oil) (must be stored in group locker)  
Honey (approved quantity) and cups (paper or plastic to be disposed of immediately after use) (honey must be stored in its pure form, not mixed with water while in storage) (one drop of honey max. allowed per cup of water for ceremony, any mixture not consumed must be discarded)  
Incense holder with sand and incense sticks (max. 2)  
Individual prayer blankets (max. 60" and 80", approved design only)  
Mead horn (bone) (max. 12")  
Oath ring, wooden (max. 10")  
Pentagrams and pentacles  
Plate, wooden  
Religious symbol to be placed on wall when group ceremony takes place  
Rune cards  
Runic wand, wooden (max. 20")  
Salt and small shell (max. 3")  
Set of runes  
Shrouds (may not obscure the resident's face) (during ceremony only and stored in group locker)  
Speaking staff (max. 12")

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Statue of Odin or Freyja (not metal or glass) (max. 14" high)  
Thor's Hammer, wooden (max. 12")

### **Pagan**

Altar (as approved)  
Altar cloth (max. 2' x 2')  
Athame (cardboard)  
Bell (max. 6")  
Besom (broom) (max. 36")  
Candle  
Cardboard moon quarter designations  
Chalice  
Cloth banners  
Gavel (max. 12")  
Incense holder with sand and incense sticks (max. 2)  
Plate  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place  
Robe (may not obscure the resident's face) (during ceremony only and stored in group locker)  
Salt and small shell (max. 3")  
Speaking staff (max. 12")  
Vord (half-horse/half-man statue) (not metal or glass) (max. 14" high)  
Wand (max. 20")

### **Rastafari**

None requested

### **Santeria**

Altar (as approved)  
Altar bell (max. 6")  
Altar cloth (max. 2' x 2')  
Bata drum  
Candle  
Candle (7 African Powers)  
Cowrie shells (max. 21, max. 1" long)  
Herbs (approved type and quantity)  
Incense holder and incense  
Maracas (max. 2)  
Mortar & pestle (plastic)  
Oil, choice of olive or coconut (max. 4 ounces) (not to be used as a body oil) (must be stored in group locker)  
Orisha statue (not metal or glass) (max. 14" high)  
Spiritual cleansing soap  
White clothing (may not obscure the resident's face) (during ceremony only and stored in group locker)

### **Spiritual Baptist**

None requested

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**Vodun**

Altar (as approved)  
Altar cloth (max. 2' x 2')  
Bell (max. 6")  
Candle  
Cowrie shells (max. 4, max. 1" long)  
Herbs (approved type and quantity)  
Incense holder and incense  
Mortar and pestle (plastic)  
Rattle, wood or plastic (max. 18")  
Smudge Sticks (2)  
Spiritual cleansing soap  
Statue (not metal or glass) (max. 14" high)  
White clothing, consisting of white shirt, white pair of pants (to be worn over regular pants), and white close-fitting cap (may not obscure the resident's face) (during ceremony only and stored in group locker)

**Wicca**

Altar (as approved)  
Altar cloth (max. 4' x 6')  
Asperging tool (wood, max. 12")  
Athame (cardboard)  
Bell (max. 6")  
Besom (broom) (max. 36")  
Candle  
Candle snuffer (brass, handle max. 10")  
Cauldron (brass, max. 6" diameter),  
Chalice  
Cloth banners (max. 4, max. 2' x 4'), to be hung when the group ceremony takes place  
Coven totem, wood or plastic only, max. 10"  
Crystal ball (max. 6" diameter)  
Feathers (one black & one white)  
Incense holder with sand and incense sticks (max. 2)  
Ogham sticks (one set of 20-26, wood, max. 4" long)  
Pentagrams and pentacles  
Plate (wood or plastic only)  
Religious symbol to be placed on the wall when the group ceremony takes place  
Robe (may not obscure the resident's face) (during ceremony only and stored in group locker)  
Salt (max. 1/2 cup) and salt holder (dish, max. 6" diameter)  
Scourge (wood handle max. 4" and flat cloth strips only, max. length 3" and max width 1/2") (may not be used for flagellation)  
Set of runes  
Statues (god and earth goddess) (not metal or glass) (max. 2, max. 14" high)  
Speaking staff (max. 12")  
Wand (max. 20")