In Arab-Israeli families, most households consist of parents, or a parent, and their children. Rarely do grandparents, aunts, uncles or cousins live in the same house, even if they live in the same town. In some areas, uncles and cousins might live in the same building or apartment complex, but not the same house. Arab-Israeli families may eat meals all together as a family, or separately depending on family members' schedules. It is considered respectful to allow family members to have regular, individual time by themselves to pursue their own activities, socialize with friends or to simply relax. It is common for both parents in Arab-Israeli families to be professionals and for both to be financially responsible for the family. In some homes, though, only the father works and supports the family while the mother is a homemaker. In many cases the father is the authority figure. While it is important to always be respectful, many Arab-Israeli teenagers interact informally with their family members.

**Teen Life:** Siblings typically share technology devices such as speakers, printers, etc. They also share school supplies and sometimes clothes. In some cases parents tell the siblings that a certain item is to be shared, and in other cases it is agreed upon between the siblings.

**Responsibilities:** Students are largely expected to be responsible for their assigned chores, studies, and sometimes taking care of younger siblings. Parents will give an allowance or some teenagers work and they use the money for either savings or buying personal items. It is uncommon for Arab-Israeli families to have hired household help. Household members, including children, are often given specific chores, which can include cleaning their bedroom and bathroom, doing their own laundry and generally contributing to the upkeep of the house. Mothers are the ones that typically cook and teens are likely to be unpracticed in the kitchen.

**Parental Involvement:** Arab-Israeli parents monitor what their children do online. Parents usually inform their children when particular items can be shared as common family property. Other than that a child's personal property is usually not shared. Many Arab-Israeli parents are in direct contact with their children's school and are kept aware of their academic progress. Teens do not experience a high amount of independence in Arab-Israel and are mostly dependent on their parents.

**Pets:** Some Arab-Israeli families have pets, others don't. It is uncommon to have dogs in the house.

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**School**

Arabi-Israeli students are evaluated on a variety of tasks: daily homework, class participation, periodic written (very rarely oral) exams. To maintain a good grade, students must turn in daily homework, participate in class regularly and perform well on exams.

**Classes:** Students study with the same students in all lessons and they do not change classrooms. Boys and girls study in the same classrooms and are not seated apart in class. Schools provide different levels of difficulty in some subjects such as foreign languages, Math and Science. Students also choose their main subject of specialty. For example, if a student chooses Science, he can choose whether to specialize in Physics, Biology, Computers or Chemistry. Students who are not very strong in Science can specialize in Social Studies, Psychology, or History.

**School Relationships:** Students are generally formal with their teachers, addressing them by title such as “Teacher.”

**Extracurricular Activities:** Extracurricular activities can be found through private or public clubs or community centers and there are a limited number of schools that provide such activities. Parents are supportive of these activities and some get actively involved. Sports, arts, music are most common clubs for the students to join.
Religion: Attending religious services for Muslims is an individual activity and for Christians it is more of a family event. Muslims fast during Ramadan, and mothers will prepare large meals for the breaking of the fast, Iftar, at sunset that includes salads, soup, and a main dish. Sometimes families are invited to homes of other families for the Iftar. Eid al-Fitr is a time of family gatherings, big meals, visits with relatives, and the purchase of new clothes for the holiday.

Holidays: Muslim Holidays are: Ramadan, Eid al-Fitr, Eid al-Adha; Christian Holidays include Christmas and Easter.

Guest Culture: Guests in Israel are not asked if they would like to drink or eat anything, it is impolite to do so. Drinks and snacks/food are automatically provided to the guest. If the guest does not want to eat or drink it is not considered rude to decline. If the guest declines the offer it is OK to try and ask them again to drink or eat something.

Lunch and Diets: In general food portions are large and it is very common to eat leftover meals. Students are accustomed to a hot meal at home and a packed cold lunch at school. Packing lunch depends on the home; some parents pack lunch for their teenagers, in other homes teenagers pack for themselves.

Mixed Gender Socializing: It is perfectly acceptable for Arab-Israeli teens to have friends of the opposite sex and to socialize with them individually.

Friendships: Arab-Israeli teens make friends through school and the community. Teenagers can have many friends, but typically have one or two close friends with whom they spend most of their time. It is uncommon for Arab-Israeli teenagers to share money with each other.

Eye Contact: Eye contact is important in Arab culture in Israel as a sign of respect for those with whom you speak. Teenagers are expected to make eye contact with adults.

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Personal Hygiene: Arab-Israeli teenagers generally take a quick shower once a day, and sometimes twice if they are involved in physical activities. Teenagers are expected to keep their bathrooms clean and dry after using them (towels are hung up, and hygiene products are put away). Most teenagers have one towel in their bathroom to use to dry their body and maybe a separate towel to dry their hair or face. It is generally thought to be unclean to wear the same clothes two days in a row or to wear them twice without washing them.