

Ugadi: Puja Vidhi

Wednesday 7 April 2027

Ugadi, the first day of the lunar year, is New Year for Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana (Gudi Padwa in Maharashtra). The day is about beginnings: a clean home, new clothes, and accepting both the bitter and the sweet. This guide gives the full home puja step by step. Instructions are in English; every mantra is printed in Devanagari script with a Roman transliteration below it.

What you need

- Fresh mango leaves for the toran, and marigolds
- Neem flowers or tender neem leaves and jaggery for bevu bella
- Oil for the oil bath
- Turmeric, kumkum, flowers, lamp and incense
- Ingredients for obbattu or holige, and a seasonal dish
- The new year panchanga (almanac), printed or online

Before the puja

- Clean the house and wash the doorway.
- Tie the mango-leaf toran over the main door and draw a rangoli.
- Have an oil bath at dawn and wear new clothes.

Food to offer

Bevu bella, obbattu or holige, mango chitranna, kosambari and payasa.

Opening

- Sit facing east or north. Light the lamp and say the lamp prayer.

शुभं करोति कल्याणम् आरोग्यं धनसम्पदः । शत्रुबुद्धिविनाशाय दीपज्योतिर्नमोऽस्तु ते ॥

śubhaṃ karoti kalyāṇam ārogyaṃ dhanasampadaḥ | śatrubuddhivināśāya dīpajyotirnamo'stu te ||
I bow to the light of the lamp, which brings goodness, health and wealth, and removes harmful thoughts.

- Achamana: sip a few drops of water from the right palm three times, once with each name.

ॐ केशवाय स्वाहा । ॐ नारायणाय स्वाहा । ॐ माधवाय स्वाहा ॥

oṃ keśavāya svāhā | oṃ nārāyaṇāya svāhā | oṃ mādhavāya svāhā ||

- Pray to Ganesha first, to remove obstacles.

वक्रतुण्ड महाकाय सूर्यकोटि समप्रभ । निर्विघ्नं कुरु मे देव सर्वकार्येषु सर्वदा ॥

vakratuṇḍa mahākāya sūryakoṭi samaprabha | nirvighnaṃ kuru me deva sarvakāryeṣu sarvadā ||
O Lord with the curved trunk and mighty body, shining like a million suns, remove the obstacles from all my work, always.

4. Sankalpa: hold a little water and akshate, say the resolve for worshipping your family deity, then let them fall on a plate.

मम सकुटुम्बस्य क्षेमस्थैर्य आयुरारोग्य ऐश्वर्याभिवृद्धयर्थ श्री इष्टदेवतायै प्रीत्यर्थ यथाशक्ति
ध्यानावाहनादि षोडशोपचारपूजां करिष्ये ॥

mama sakuṭumbasya kṣemasthairya āyurārogya aiśvaryābhivṛddhyartham śrī iṣṭadevatāyai prītyartham
yathāśakti dhyānāvāhanādi ṣoḍaśopacārapūjāṃ kariṣye ||

For the safety, long life, health and prosperity of my family, and to please the deity, I perform this worship with the sixteen offerings, as well as I can.

5. The sixteen offerings (shodashopachara). Before each one say "Om Shri iṣṭadevatāyai namah", then the line below, and make the offering.

The sixteen offerings

1. Dhyana: close your eyes and picture the deity.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । ध्यायामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dhyāyāmi ||

2. Avahana: invite the deity into the image or kalasha.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आवाहयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | āvāhayāmi ||

3. Asana: offer a seat; place a few grains of akshate.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आसनं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | āsanam samarpayāmi ||

4. Padya: offer water for the feet with a spoon.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । पाद्यं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | pādyam samarpayāmi ||

5. Arghya: offer water for the hands.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । अर्घ्यं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | arghyam samarpayāmi ||

6. Achamana: offer water to sip.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आचमनीयं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | ācamanīyam samarpayāmi ||

7. Snana: bathe a metal image, or sprinkle water on a picture.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । स्नानं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | snānam samarpayāmi ||

8. Vastra: offer a cloth or a cotton thread.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । वस्त्रं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | vastraṁ samarpayāmi ||

9. Abharana: offer ornaments, bangles or a turmeric thread.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । आभरणानि समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | ābharaṇāni samarpayāmi ||

10. Gandha: offer sandalwood paste, turmeric and kumkum.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । गन्धं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | gandhaṁ samarpayāmi ||

11. Pushpa: offer flowers.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । पुष्पाणि समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | puṣpāṇi samarpayāmi ||

12. Dhupa: wave the incense.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । धूपम् आघ्रापयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dhūpam āghrāpayāmi ||

13. Dipa: show the lamp.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । दीपं दर्शयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | dīpaṁ darśayāmi ||

14. Naivedya: offer the food, sprinkling water around it.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । नैवेद्यं निवेदयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | naivedyaṁ nivedayāmi ||

15. Tambula: offer betel leaves, nut and fruit.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । ताम्बूलं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | tāmbūlaṁ samarpayāmi ||

16. Nirajana: do arati with camphor or ghee lamp.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । नीराजनं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | nīrājanaṁ samarpayāmi ||

17. Mantrapushpa: offer flowers with folded hands.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । मन्त्रपुष्पं समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | mantrapuṣpaṁ samarpayāmi ||

18. Pradakshina: turn around once clockwise and bow down.

ॐ श्री इष्टदेवतायै नमः । प्रदक्षिणमस्कारान् समर्पयामि ॥

om śrī iṣṭadevatāyai namaḥ | pradakṣiṇamaskārān samarpayāmi ||

Mantras for Ugadi

शतायुर्वज्रदेहाय सर्वसम्पत्कराय च । सर्वारिष्टविनाशाय निम्बकं दलभक्षणम् ॥

śatāyurvajradehāya sarvasampatkarāya ca | sarvāriṣṭavināśāya nimbakaṃ dalabhakṣaṇam ||

We eat the neem leaf for a long life, a strong body, prosperity, and the removal of all troubles.

Closing

- Ask forgiveness for anything missed, then share the prasada with everyone.

मन्त्रहीनं क्रियाहीनं भक्तिहीनं जनार्दन । यत्पूजितं मया देव परिपूर्णं तदस्तु मे ॥

mantrahīnaṃ kriyāhīnaṃ bhaktihīnaṃ janārdana | yatpūjitaṃ mayā deva paripūrṇaṃ tadastu me ||

Whatever I have offered, without the right words, actions or devotion, please accept it as complete.

A home puja guide from VedVidesh. Mantras are given in their common short forms; families and regions vary, so follow your own tradition where it differs, and ask a priest or elder to check pronunciation if you are learning. Dates are for India.