Translations of the Hebrew Scriptures (Tanakh) into English


Richard Elliott Friedman. *Commentary on the Torah with a New English Translation and the Hebrew Text.* Harper, San Francisco, 2001. This is the text I recommend as a starting point for participants in Beth El's weekly discussion group. Introduction and notes based on traditional Jewish commentaries and informed by current scholarship.

Jewish Publication Society, 1917 (Old JPS). Translated by committee of Jewish biblical scholars and modeled after the King James version. Like the King James, it emphasizes the literal meaning of the Hebrew and uses archaic English forms (thou, shouldst, etc.). This translation was used by the Soncino Press, London, in their bilingual editions, widely used in traditional synagogue settings: *The Soncino Chumash* edited by A(braham) Cohen and *The Soncino Edition of the Pentateuch and Haftorahs*, edited with commentary by J(oseph) H(erman) Hertz.


*The Stone Chumash* and other ArtScroll editions published by Mesorah Publications, and edited by Nosson Scherman are based on traditional Jewish commentaries rather than a literal translation.