

Mandala Symbolism

Colors:

Black = darkness, evil, death and mystery; it belongs to what cannot be consciously known
= it speaks of emptiness, the womb and the chaos of beginnings, the descent of spirit into matter and time
= it represents the absolute boundary beyond which life ceases and so expresses the idea of nothingness, of extinction
= the original, abundant, inexhaustible source of energy that initiates the process

White = purity, virginity, and spirituality; daylight, clarity and order
= signifies light itself, nonmaterial and otherworldly
= innocence of the newborn and those reborn to new awareness of spiritual matters
= often reflects ambivalence about powerful spiritual experiences, a breakthrough into unknown transpersonal dimensions of the psyche

Red = life, burial, sacrifice and healing
= in early Christianity red symbolized the Holy Spirit
= positive meanings that suggest the energy we need to survive, be healthy and transform ourselves to greater inner wisdom
= burning, surging emotions, fire

Blue = calmness, serenity and peace; relaxation
= associated with religious feeling; in early Christianity blue symbolized God the Father
= expression of the feminine, compassion, devotion, loyalty and unfailing love
= height and depth

Yellow = light, warmth, life-giving power of the sun
= source of light, symbol of the ability to “see”
= sacred wisdom fire of actualization, the capacity to actualize the creator’s intention through the individual’s right efforts
= intuition; new, modern, developing and the unformed

Green = color of nature, trusting, knowing one’s own heart; the presence of God in earthly matters
= creatures of green serve a higher authority in harmony with the laws of nature
= natural process of decay and death; dark green wood = danger; renewal
= being overly controlled by the internalized values of the parents at the expense of true autonomy

Orange = harvest, autumn, impression of warmth, gladness, the intense glow of fire
= deepening one’s spiritual understanding through misfortune, rejection or alienation
= self-assertion, pride, ambition

Purple = color of royalty, a sign of life, alive for its own sake; retains elements of both red and blue
= a high degree of sensitive intimacy leading to complete fusion of subject and object; enchantment
= the sublimation of personal drives in the service of spirituality; authority of those who rule by “divine right”
= vivid imagination, the ability to generate excitement, to attract attention

Numbers:

- One = individual, unity and beginnings, the initiation of a process
= a symbol of unity, the All-oneness, non-duality, an archetype and attribute of God
= a state of mind that does not contain opposites
- Two = divides, repeats and engenders symmetries, symbolizes matter
= the first step of differentiation, out of unity and into opposites; the beginning of confusion, dissension and strife
= can also suggest the harmonious resolution of the clash of opposites, or a state of equilibrium in opposing forces
- Three = vitality, energy, motion, completion: beginning, middle and end
= independent thinking and doing is on the rise, denotes the rise of consciousness and the rediscovery of unity on a higher level
= the trinity (also virgin, mother, crone)
= a period of incubation during which the hero is transformed
- Four = balance, wholeness, completion; sets boundaries, defines limits and organizes spaces
= used in symbols that attempt to define a relationship with a reality which exceeds the limits of human knowledge
= four seasons, four directions, four elements
= emerges when our identity is closely aligned with the patterns of the archetype of the Self
= an intuitive attempt to know one's place in the cosmos
- Five = a number of natural wholeness often found in nature, the physical reality of the body
= the trunk and the four limbs, the five wounds of Christ
= health, love; the "fifth element"
= engagement with the real world in making your own personal vision a reality
- Six = creativity, perfection, and equilibrium
= the completion of a cycle of creativity; the cessation of growth, activity, or the creative impulse; a pause that follows the creative impulse
= a moment rich in beauty, harmony and fulfillment, yet it holds within it the portent of dissolution
- Seven = rooted in the number mysticism of the ancients, sense of awe, sacred space
= stands for the highest stage of illumination and therefore the coveted goal of all desire
= the balancing of the masculine and feminine aspects of ourselves
- Eight = stability, harmony and rebirth; associated with the resurrection
= resembles the sign for infinity, indicates the limitless spiraling movement of the cosmos; the inexorable turning of the wheel of life
= a symbol of wholeness as it is two fours, the preeminent symbol of Self
- Nine = the enigma of human existence, a company of gods/angels
= the Holy Ghost symbolized by the number nine, benevolent spiritual beings
= we live a more complete existence when we integrate the physical, mental and the spiritual planes of existence (3 x 3)

Numbers (cont.):

Ten = perfection, morality and realism (five fingers of two hands)
= may suggest your adherence to, or rebellion against, a traditional moral code

Eleven = transition, conflict, and the challenge to find balance
= change, peril, and even martyrdom, the breakdown of static perfection, a violent and agonizing process of transformation

Twelve= cosmic order, Herculean tasks and salvation; cycle of time, the completion of such a cycle
= the growth process of individuation (months, zodiac signs, apostles, tribes)

Thirteen=faithlessness, betrayal and unfortunate endings
= can mark a new beginning as well as an ending (of a new round in the cycle)

Figures/Shapes:

Animals=instinctive, nonrational, or unconscious aspects of being

Birds = ancient symbols of the human soul, of the element of air, and of the process of transformation; the spiritual as opposed to the material

Butterfly=symbol of transformation, three stages of life (life, death, and resurrection)

Circle = encloses space, that inside is protected, strengthened and delimited
= suggests movement, time itself; a widely accepted symbol of eternity, a line with no beginning or end

Cross = the vertical/horizontal connection is sometimes called the world axis, the center of the Cosmos, the bridge or ladder by means of which the soul may reach God; crossroads
= the conjunction of opposites, the wedding of the spiritual and material worlds

Drops = rain, fertility, tears, the act of purification

Eye = ability to see both literally and metaphorically; often represents the omnipotent, all-seeing, ever-present sight of God

Flowers=symbol of spirit, the transitory nature of life and beauty, and renewal

Hands = a readiness to engage with life; your ability to influence your surroundings (five & ten)

Heart = love as the source of illumination and happiness; the center of being, seat of intelligence

Infinity=a bridge from rational thought to unknown, possibly unknowable realities, the harmonious union of two principles which are opposites; a desire to relate to the Infinite, or God

Lightning=the activating force of the spiritual realm working upon the earth and its mortals
=sudden rapture and illumination; powerful spiritual awakening

Rainbow=a special connection between the gods and man (7 colors)

Spiral = depicts the orderly movement of both the large and the small in the universe; a symbol of the revitalization of life through contact with the divine, creative, healing energies of the deepest layers of the psyche

Square = firmness, stability, balance; a product of human effort (rarely seen in nature)

Star = a reminder that you are a creature with a soul; you are called to make a special connection with your true inner Self and live out the destiny that is yours alone

Tree = a symbol of life, ever-abundant and self-renewing; sacred, an *axis mundi* (world axis)

Triangle=a symbol of dynamism, an attribute of deities both masculine and feminine; related to 3

Web = an archetypal symbol of the weaving that brings form into being; laying a foundation for a new cycle of growth.

= spiders in their ceaseless weaving and killing---building and destroying---symbolize the ceaseless alternation of forces on which the stability of the universe depends

Celtic Symbol Mandala



Celtic symbol mandalas are a tool for coming in contact with our origins, visions, and desires. They are also helpful for touching our **divine ancestry**.



Triquetra Celtic Symbol Mandala

The Latin meaning for triquetra is "three-cornered." It's also the symbol for the holy trinity. Being a holy sign, this Celtic symbol is perfect for mandala meditation. It stills the chattering as our focus is funneled to the center of the triquetra. Once centered, we are able to feel the connection with the spiritual trinity, and thus become one with the source of power.



Spiral Celtic Symbol

The spiral is prevalent in a vast amount of Celtic ruins and remains. This symbol is often found in many other ancient cultures spanning the globe. This is a powerful sign as it represents spiritual awareness, and expansion of thought. Focus upon this spiral mandala augments the understanding that we are more than our bodies and more than the confines of this earth. Delving deeper into this symbol we find that we are ever growing and increasing, and as our awareness expands, so too does our energy. As such, we are reminded to pass our positive energy out to others and the world, ultimately making the universe a better place to live and grow.



Celtic Knot Meaning Mandala

The Celtic knot mandala beckons us to fall into it for a glimpse into the inner workings of our lives. As we delve in hypnotic flow with this mandala, we are able to see how our decisions have affected our lives, and those lives around us. Further, we are able to visualize how our lives are interconnected with those of our ancestors. Let your imagination run free each time you lay eyes on this beautifully embroidered design.

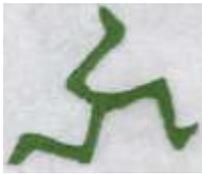
Celtic Symbol Meanings

Celtic symbol meanings are tough to track because there are minimal known surviving written records of indicating specific Celtic symbol meanings.

Quite a bit of understanding about Celtic use of symbols comes from conjecture and supposition from authorities and historians of ancient Celtic culture.

This is not a bad thing because this allows us to tap into the mystery of the Celtic way, follow our hearts, and open up to our intuition when it comes to Celtic symbolism.

Below you will find some basic Celtic symbol meanings.



Triskelion

A Greek term meaning "three-legged," and thus this sign looks very much like three legs running. The Celtic symbol meaning here is appropriate because this symbol stands for competition and man's progress.



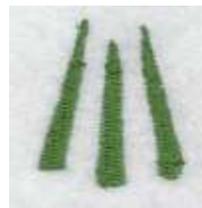
Triquetra

Latin meaning "three-cornered," it's also the symbol for the holy trinity. Being a holy sign, this Celtic symbol is often carved into stone block used in churches. The Celtic symbol meaning is so profound it is also frequently made into Celtic jewelry.



Triple Spiral

The spiral represents the drawing of the three powers of maiden, mother and crone. It is a sign of female power and especially power through transition and growth.



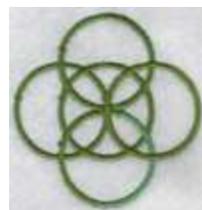
Three Rays

The first and third rays in this symbol represent male and female energy (respectively). The middle ray represents the balance of both energies. See also Yin-Yang symbol.



Single Spiral

Represents ethereal energy, and expansion of consciousness.



Five-fold

This pattern also represents balance. The four outer circles symbolize the four elements: earth, fire, water, air. The middle circle unites all the elements with a goal to reach balance between all four elements or energies.



Threefold

The center of this symbol represents the "hub" signifying unity of the three powers.



Double Spiral

A sign of balance and also representative of the equinoxes.



Crosses

Crosses represent the bridge or the passage between heaven and earth. The circle in the ringed cross signifies infinity and eternal spiritual love.

Insect Animal Totems



The Buzz on Insect Animal Totem Meanings

Insect animal totems all seem to point to a few key characteristics: tenacity, patience, and detachment.

Seemingly unaware of their surroundings as they go about their business, insect animal totem meanings herald the **importance** of minding our own business. Yet, at the same time, most insects have a strong sense of **community**. The trick is keeping balance, and insect animal totems certainly do that.

Butterfly

The Butterfly represents transformation into something better and higher. The butterfly shows us that we are able to create new realities in our life through conscious change of thought. As we go through the process of consciously changing our thoughts, we are in the caterpillar state. As we see the beginnings of our realities change – we are in the cocoon – still nurturing our thoughts to positive outcome. As we reach these outcomes, we at last emerge as brilliant butterflies.



Butterfly Animal Totems Facilitates

- Patience with ourselves as we explore and determine the realities we want
- Making order of one's thoughts and consciously taking steps for desired results in our lives
- Understanding that rest time (cocoon time) is necessary to bring our results
- Ability to receive the abundance, joy, and freedom that we call into our lives.

Dragonfly

A creature of the wind, the dragonfly totem represents change. Its iridescent wings are incredibly sensitive to the slightest breeze, and so we are reminded to heed where the proverbial wind blows - lest we run into stormy weather.

The Dragonfly lives a short life, and it knows it must live to the fullest with what it has. This lesson is huge for each of us. When you see a dragonfly, be aware of the gifts it has to offer by keeping its animal totem meanings in mind.



Dragonfly Totems Facilitate

- Greater attention to the nuances and subtleties around us
- Awareness & gratitude of inner beauty
- Awareness of outer beauty, and ability to share it modestly with the world
- Knowledge of life's brevity, and understanding the importance of making every minute special

Symbolic Meaning of the Firefly



The symbolic meaning of the firefly of course deals with light, illumination and the like. Although an important focus, the issue of light is not the high feature behind the symbolic meaning of the firefly. Rather, it is the messages this wondrous creature gives us while her light is off may be most profound to our growth.

Here is a summary list of symbolic meaning of the firefly

- Inspiration
- Illumination

- Patience
- Attraction
- Energy
- Hope
- Aspiration
- Guidance
- Efficiency
- Creativity
- New Ideas
- Awakening

An ordinary looking creature during the day, admittedly, the firefly is a **remarkable** sight when it glows at night. This is a symbolic message to us humans that although our physical appearance may seem one way - it is our internal makings - what is inside us (such as our spirit) that makes us shine from the inside out. That which is within us will always illuminate us and those around us.

The firefly primarily uses its light in mating ceremonies, and it is quite elaborate and intricate. Light signals are precise and exactly timed in order to **attract** the right mate. This is a symbolic message that if we are to attract the people, places and things in our lives, we must plan accordingly, lay down the groundwork, and be persistent in our ideals.

It is interesting to note that the firefly does not produce heat in order to create her light. This is a message that we must not burn our candles at both ends. Creativity and development is supposed to be a free, **natural**, and easy-going process - there is no need for us to "burn-out" in order to reach our goals.

In addition to using no heat to produce her light, the fact that fireflies eat very little is another symbolic meaning of **economy** or efficiency. Adult fireflies use their environment to the most effective extent possible in order to gain their energy. This is a lesson for us to use the resources we have available to us, and not waste or consume to excess.

When fireflies come into our lives they are there to guide us to ways of living that are more earth-friendly, and **soul-friendly**. Fireflies teach us the value of living simply, and relying on our own inner voices for illumination. Fireflies also come to us with a message of creativity, and remind us that our paths are made lighter by the beauty that we allow into our lives.

Symbol Meaning of Scorpion



I've gotten a few email requests about the symbol meaning for Scorpion, thus I'm including it on the site.

The symbol meaning of Scorpion, much like its appearance, is a little foreboding.

Below are a few facts on the symbol meaning for Scorpion along with some cultural history and background.

A summary of symbol meaning/associations for the Scorpion are as follows:

- Transition
- Death/Dying
- Sex
- Control
- Solitary/Being Alone
- Treachery
- Passion
- Protection
- Defensiveness

A potent message the Scorpion chooses to express is that of protection and/or isolation. In fact, they themselves are quite solitary - part of the reason why they symbolize In fact, many people with the Scorpion as their totem tend to have brief spells of **passion** with a partner only to end the relationship and spend long periods content to be alone.

The Scorpion will mate in an exotic, dance of passion and control. The Scorpion **sex dance** is one of beauty, control, and calculation.

The female allows her new offspring to ride on her back until they shed their first exoskeleton - then her offspring leaves her - all of them going off to their lone, solitary lives - another example of intensity in relationship followed by isolation.

Defensiveness/control/protection is evident in the Scorpion's appearance - which seems to say "Do not trifle with me." One look at this magnificent creature says "**back off!**" does it not?

As another symbol of protection - we can consider the poisonous tip of the scorpion which numbs its prey as well as makes its prey chemically digestible for the Scorpion. Whether the Scorpion intends to eat the victim of its sting is irrelevant because its sting will most certainly protect the Scorpion in order for it to live another day.

In **Samaria**, the Scorpion is associated with the Sun, and ancient writings depict Scorpion-men guarding (protecting) sacred gateways leading to ascension, pleasure and enlightenment.

Treachery and death symbolism comes into play in **Greco-Roman** mythology where Artemis (Diana) used the Scorpion to sting Orion's foot, which caused his death. Afterwards, Zeus (Jupiter) made the Scorpion a zodiac sign among the stars.

There are some species where the venom is actually the antidote for its sting (like cobras). In **Egypt and Tibet** this is seen as an omen, and the Scorpion is made into an amulet - signifying protection and warding off evil. In **Africa**, the Scorpion is also seen as a healing sign - its venomous oil used for medicinal purposes.

When we consider the message this incredible creature has for us, we must **first consider** its outstanding features, which are the Scorpion's natural protective/defensive mechanisms. For

example, consider the Scorpion's hard exoskeleton as a line of defense. Also consider its sharp potentially damaging pinchers - not to mention its poisonous stinger.

Therefore, as a symbol meaning, the Scorpion represents protection. When the Scorpion makes an appearance in our lives, it is **beckoning** us to consider the following:

- What needs protecting in my life?
- Am I being overprotective?
- Am I being defensive? Why?
- Am I afraid of being vulnerable?
- How do I feel about control in my life? (too much, too little)

Although the symbol meaning for Scorpion can appear a little harsh at first glance, when we really contemplate the Scorpion in all its wonder - then compare these meanings against the events in our own lives, we will inevitably find a **common ground** and learn some timely lessons from the Scorpion too.

Spider Symbol Meaning



The means to gain happiness is to throw out from oneself like a spider in all directions an adhesive web of love, and to catch in it all that comes"
--Leo Nikolaevich Tolstoy

The Spider is an ancient symbol of mystery, power and growth.

We take our first lesson from the ancient symbol of the Spider by contemplating its web.

Just as the Spider weaves a web, so too must we weave our own lives. The Spider symbol meaning here serves as a reminder that our choices **construct** our lives. When the Spider appears to us, it is a message to be mindful of the choices we are making - and ask ourselves:

- How are my choices affecting my life?
- How can my choices improve my life?
- How are my choices affecting others in my life?

Not only do Spiders and their webs draw attention to our life choices, they also give us an overview of how we can **manipulate our thinking** in order to construct the life we wish to live.

Spiders do this by calling our awareness to the amazing construction of their webs. Fully functional, practical, and ingenious in design - Spider webs serve as homes, food storage, egg incubators - seemingly **limitless** in their functionality.

When we consider this ingenious diversity, we can also consider the web-like construct of our own lives. **How are we designing the most effective life?**

When we see our decisions, choices and actions as far-reaching, effective tools in life - we can see how we weave a web that can either serve us or enslave us. The Spider symbol meaning beckons us to be mindful of our behaviors - be smart about the life we weave for ourselves.

We can derive more Spider symbol meaning when we consider certain **subtle characteristics** that represent ancient symbols of infinity.

The infinity symbol meanings occur when we consider most Spiders have eight eyes and all have eight legs. The number eight is also a symbol of **infinity** or lemniscates (an eight turned on its side). Also, the vibrational frequency indicates the meaning of number eight involves cycles, passage of time, and **evolution**.

Further Spider symbol meaning:

- Cunning
- Progressive
- Vindictive
- Female
- Cyclical
- Rebirth
- Death
- Crafty
- Resourceful
- Creation
- Protection
- Fate

In Native American symbolism, the Spider is a symbol of protection against torrential storms. In yet other Native American lore accounts, the Spider (personified as the Grandmother) was the teacher and protector of esoteric wisdom.

The meaning of Spider in **India** is associated with Maya. The term Maya comes from the Sanskrit root "Ma" which means no form or limit. The term Maya describes the illusory nature of appearances. The Spider's association with Maya brings about the understanding that not all things are as they appear to be.

The Spider symbol meaning in **Egypt**, is akin to Neith, a complex deity usually depicted with arrows as she is associated with hunting. Along with hunting, she is also associated with the creation, specifically the process of recreation in the dawning and dusking of each day. Neith is also a weaver, and is often shown with a shuttle in her hand (a tool used for weaving). It is this activity that gains her association with the Spider.

And of course, no conversation about the meaning of spiders is complete without discussing the **Greek** myth of Arachne, a mortal (although of noble stature) who was a spectacular weaver. Acclaim for her luscious lively looms spread over hill and dale and ultimately reached

the immortal ears of Athena. Arachne claimed she was the best weaver, and thus prompted a challenge from Athena.

And so, they played a round of “dueling looms,” but no one could confirm the victor. However, Arachne was quite smug about the whole process. So much so, that Athena smote her with a mighty blow of conscience and a dose of guilt. Arachne took the dosage hard, and could not live with the intense feelings of guilt and sorrow so she killed herself. Athena felt awful over the whole mess and decided to **resurrect Arachne** in the form of a spider so that she and all her offspring would forever be the best weavers of the universe.

Reptile Animal Totems



The "Cold-Blooded" Facts on Reptile Animal Totems

Reptile Animal Totems are special due to their cold-blooded nature. The phenomenon of reptile body temperature changing with their surroundings makes them a supreme symbol of adaptation. As most reptiles body functions depend on their body temperature this makes them dependent upon their surroundings too. Even so, reptiles are never slaves to external conditions. This is because they are super-intuitive, and fiercely independent.

If you are in contact with reptile animal totems on any kind, tune into the message they are trying to convey to you. Very often, the message reveals hints about dealing with difficult situations (adaptation) – and doing so wisely, while still maintaining integrity. Also, the message might also relate to a matter of independence – a reminder to not be a slave to your external conditions – and realizing that internal changes will truly set you free.

Snake

Universal symbol for rebirth due to the obvious shedding of skin, the Snake is a hugely powerful sign of fertility in its many forms. Agile, sleek and lightweight, Snakes encourage us to reach our maximum potential through the simplest most

economical means. Often feared due to misunderstanding, the Snake reminds us we must be our own source of encouragement when the outside world may shun us.



Snake Totems Facilitate

- Slough off extraneous fluff in our lives. Get back to basics, live sleekly, effectively, with maximum effectiveness
- Acceptance of dormant times in our life with the expectance of re-growth

- Focus of fertility – be it concerning areas of wealth, health, or spiritual rebirth
- Self-acceptance, self-reliance, and innate understanding that you are beautiful, and powerful regardless of what the outside world may tell you

Land Animal Totems



Groundwork on Land Animal Totems & Their Meanings

Many cultures, including the Native Americans, believe that if we put our ear to the ground, we can hear Mother Earth's heartbeat. Land animal totems are keenly aware of this heartbeat – and in fact, are said to walk in time with the beat of the Earth's heart.

Consequently these animal symbol meanings are relate to intuition, awareness, and cognizance. Additionally, this animal group represents being grounded and stable both mentally and physically.

Deer

Gentle and swift, the Deer represents spiritual growth, specifically the ability to soften our hearts in order to allow growth to occur. Additionally, the Deer is acutely aware of its surroundings and thus serves as a model for our own awareness.

Deer Animal Totems Facilitate

- Sharper sensory awareness (development of clairaudient and clairvoyant)
- Spiritual growth through softening and humility
- Gentleness, peace and internal assurance



Lynx

A consummate stalker, the Lynx represents silent power, and secret knowledge. Keen instincts and perfect hearing, the Lynx reminds us to listen to our gut feelings and follow our intuitions.

Lynx Animal Totems Facilitate

- Silence the incessant chirping of the ego mind to tap into the calm resources of spirit
- Tap into spirit to intuit or better understand things of a mysterious or ethereal nature



- Obtain a commanding presence: powerful and noble, without being overbearing

Porcupine

The porcupine has the medicine of purest innocence because it has so few enemies. It's appearance makes us speculate the quality of our own innocence. The porcupine moves and goes about its life with unquestioning faith and assurance that all things are exactly the way they should be. This animal totem meaning is perhaps the most profound of all totems.



Porcupine Animal Totems Facilitate

- Trust in the higher powers that be, never questioning if the sun will rise, simply trusting that it will
- Reacquaint us with our innocence - letting our guard down occasionally
- Understanding that vulnerability is an art form.
- Realizing that fear, doubt & worry are useless to us

Rabbit

Reflexive, tentative and fast, Rabbits represent decisive action tempered with good judgment. Rabbits are one with Mother Earth, and therefore are very grounding symbols. As social creatures, Rabbits also remind us of the importance of friends and family.



Rabbit Animal Totems Facilitate

- Clear judgment to quickly act on and resolve a nagging problem
- Nesting or homing qualities that bring about a grounded peacefulness in our being
- Encouragement to seek the comfort and safety among friends and family
- Ability to be soft, gentle, and forgiving with ourselves

Raccoon

Clever, fastidious, curious Raccoons represent child-like qualities such as the need for play and "out of the box" thinking. With its tell-tale masked face, and tendencies for thievery, Raccoons masters of disguise and mischief.



Raccoon Animal Totems Facilitate

- Buoyancy of spirit, playfulness, light, airy fun feelings
- Cleverness, unique perspective of thought that will lead to unique solutions to problems.
- Luck and fortune, including ease in the search for finding what you desire

Weasel

This animal totem meaning relates to alacrity and observation. The weasel's power of observation is tremendous, and not much goes unnoticed to those who have this totem. The weasel



encourages a higher level of observation - where observing and intuition combine to provide the observer with qualities of prediction of outcomes. Weasel animal totems are also quick as winks, and symbolize quick-witted characteristics.

Weasel Animal Totems Facilitate

- Quick wit, forethought, good mental acuity
- Encourages intense observation of life situations
- Ability to analyze these situations and deduce probable outcomes

Bobcat Animal Totem



Foremost, the Bobcat animal totem is a sign of **patience**. Bobcats are superior hunters, and they incorporate stealth, strategy and wield a great deal of patience in their hunting excursions.

In this way, the Bobcat sends us a clear message that in order for us to get what we want, we must be willing to plan, adapt, and above all, have the patience to see our ideals manifest.

When dealing with social settings (friends, family, work) the Bobcat reminds us to be fully **aware**. We must be mindful to extend our respect, love and consideration with others.

As the Bobcat is primarily a solitary creature, we may take its presence as a sign for us to step back from the company of certain people in our lives. Or, the Bobcat may be trying to tell us that we need some **time to ourselves**. Alone time is time for us to reflect, and regain our energy. The Bobcat intrinsically knows this, and may be trying to tell you to **take a break** away from the public eye.

Bobcat animal totems encourage us to be more **playful** in our lives and more flexible. As they are very opportunistic themselves, the Bobcat asks us to reach out for more opportunities, **break out** of our molds & routines.

The Bobcat animal totem is also about creation, and **developing** our abilities into a higher level of value. Additionally, the Bobcat is also about the unseen and silent aspects of our inner selves.

This deals with our connection with creation as the Bobcat will ask us to deeply consider the **innermost parts** of ourselves that we don't normally recognize. The Bobcat encourages us to delve deep into our hearts and minds and shed light on our potential.

Additionally, when Bobcat appears to us, we need to consider some **passions** that we have been keeping a secret. Now is the time to unleash our hidden desires - unlock our inner secret wisdom & talents.

As you can see, Bobcat has much to share with us, but we must be willing and open to receiving these messages.

The Bobcat is a very **advanced** teacher. Those with the Bobcat animal totem are usually **young with old souls**. Often these people are mistaken for having "chips on their shoulders," or thought to be "bearing grudges." This often isn't the case.

Bobcat serves as a teacher to these younger people because they have so much to philosophically sort out. These people do this on a **higher level of intellect**, and often cannot find outside support to help them with their learning process. As a result, these old souls tend to feel a little resentful at having to learn some tough lessons on their own, and usually feel isolated.

When identified, and sought out for communication, the Bobcat **facilitates** learning, growth, understanding, and a more playful attitude with these chosen few who retain the Bobcat as their animal totem.

Symbol Meanings of the Horse



Symbol meanings of the Horse date back to prehistory, and the first civilized, written acknowledgement of the Horse comes in the third millennium BC where historians uncovered slate tablets in Elam (present day Iraq and Iran) which reference this **noble**, wild beast.

Due to its **natural companionship** with man in both work and art, the Horse easily wins a special seat in history, ranking high marks of honor, reverence and symbolism.

Serving man in war, mobility, productivity, agriculture, development of all kinds, the Horse is by far one of the **largest contributors** to the enhancement of civilization.

With such recognition and accomplishments, a vast and diverse trail of symbol meanings is sure to follow the Horse's rich history with humankind.

A summary of symbol meanings for the horse is as follows:

- power
- grace
- beauty
- nobility
- strength
- freedom

The Horse symbol meanings of power are widespread through most cultures, and it is linked as an emblem of **life-force**. Many cultures assign the attributes of the four elements to the Horse: Earth, Fire, Air, and Water.

As a **Celtic symbol**, the Horse was associated with war. With war, comes attributes of victory and longevity as well as procurement of territory and other spoils that come with triumph in battle. All of these heady aspects of valor were associated with the Horse in Celt symbolism. In fact, so much so, the Celts hailed the Horse as the beast belonging to the sun god, and assigned it a place with the goddess Epona.

The **Greco-Romans** also associated the Horse with the spoils of war and attributed it to symbolism such as power, victory, honor, domination and virility. In Greco-Roman myth the Horse is said to be created by Poseidon (Neptune) and is devoted to Hades (Pluto) and Ares (Mars). Romans also believed the Horse to be a symbol of the continuity of life, and would sacrifice a horse to the god Mars every October, keeping its tail through the winter as a sign of fertility and rebirth.

In **Hindu *Brihadaranyaka***, the Horse is linked to Varuna and as such, is equated to the cosmos. Additionally, a white horse is believed to be the last incarnation of Vishnu.

Buddha is said to have left this physical plane riding a white horse. Also in Buddhism a winged horse is often depicted carrying the Book of Law.

As one of the symbols in the Celtic zodiac, the horse in Chinese culture is equated with Gemini, and represents practicality, love, endurance, devotion and stability.

As a **Native American** symbol, the Horse symbol meanings combine the grounded power of the earth with the whispers of wisdom found in the spirit winds. The Horse has long been honored as helper, messenger, and harbinger of spirit knowledge to the Native American. Considered wild and an emblem of freedom, the Native American sees many potentialities in the symbolic nature of this noble creature. Another aspect of Native American symbol meanings of the horse comes with the understanding that the wild freedom of the Horse can be harnessed and used to the benefit of the tribe. This understanding comes only when man and beast enter a silent contract – acknowledging mutual respect and awareness of responsibility to each other.

The **color** of the Horse is also steeped with symbol meanings. Here are the most common color meanings for the Horse:

Black Horse Mystery, death, night, secret, messenger of esoteric knowledge

White Horse Light, sun, day, vitality, illumination, resurrection, messenger of birth

Just as in ancient culture, the symbol meanings for the Horse are just as strong in **dreams**. Carl Jung observed the Horse to represent the intuitive aspect of human nature, and also thought it was a symbol of the human body in certain dreams. Seeing yourself riding a Horse in your dreams may indicate you will see a project or event to successful conclusion. Falling off a Horse in your dreams indicates you're nervous about a project or event you have scheduled. Dreaming of a Horse with reins, pulling a wagon, tied with ropes, etc., indicates you are feeling restricted and desire more freedom in your life. A bucking Horse in your dreams indicates a need to break old habits.

Panther Animal Totem



The panther animal totem is a very powerful and protective presence. If you have this creature as your totem, you are blessed to have such a fierce and aggressive **guardian** with you.

The panther is a symbol of courage, valor and power. The panther has also sometimes associated with the sun, and **solar vibrancy** in some cultures (South American, & Central American).

Individuals with panther totem s are usually people who come into this world with a spiritual knowing - a deeper understanding of spiritual things. These people often are very **intuitive**, psychic, and many are artistically inclined.

Of all the panthers, the black panther has the greatest **mysticism** associated with it. It is a symbol of the mother, the dark moon and the power of the night. The black panther encourages us to understand the shadow powers available to us all, to acknowledge these powers and to **eliminate our fears** of the darkness.

When the black panther totem appears in your life, it is also a symbol of releasing your **passions**, and starting a new phase of your life, a phase in which you are discovering your desires and living your dreams.

The panther animal totem asks us these questions:

- What is my Shadow Self trying to tell me?
- Are my passions helping or hindering me at this time?
- Am I still on the right spiritual path for myself?
- Am I suppressing latent desires?
- Am I putting others' needs before my own to the point of self-neglect?
- Am I being mindful of my movements - both physical and emotional?
- Am I being defensive? Who or what am I protecting and why?

When the panther animal totem comes to us (whether it be in the form of images or real sightings) we must begin paying attention to the strength of our inner being - our internal fortitude, and the condition of our spiritual strength & **valor**. Panthers also beckon us to consider our darker side - analyze this side of ourselves and determine its motivation.

Totem Wolf Symbols



totem wolf symbols

*"People always make the wolf more formidable than he is."
- French Proverb*

To understand totem wolf symbols, one must first understand the **heart** of the Wolf. This takes time because the Wolf has had to endure many false stereotypes, misconceptions and misunderstandings.

Some common traits that accompany totem wolf symbols:

- Intelligence
- Cunning
- Communication
- Friendliness
- Loyalty
- Generosity
- Compassionate

Not at all the picture of ferocity or terror, the Wolf is a creature with a high sense of loyalty and strength. Another misconception is that of the "lone wolf." To the contrary, the Wolf is actually a **social** creature, friendly, and gregarious with its counterparts.

The Wolf is an incredible **communicator**. By using touch, body movements, eye contact as well as many complex vocal expressions – the wolf makes his point understood. Those with totem wolf symbols are of the same inclination – they are expressive both vocally and physically. Those who have the wolf as their totem animal are naturally eloquent in speech, and also have knack for creative writing.

Totem wolf symbols belong to those who truly understand the depth of passion that belong to this noble creature. The Wolf is a representative of **deep faith**, and profound understanding.

Further, the Wolf possess a **high intellect**, and have been observed using strategies about hunting, habitat and migration.

In history, the totem Wolf symbol appears with the **founders of Rome**, Romulus and Remus. Legend has it that the two founding brothers were raised and suckled by a she-wolf.

In **Norse** mythology, the Wolf is a symbol for victory when ridden by Odin and the Valkyries upon the battlefield.

As a **Celtic symbol**, the Wolf was a source of lunar power. Celtic lore states that the Wolf would hunt down the sun and devour it at each dusk so as to allow the power of the moon to come forth.

In **Asia**, the wolf guards the doors that allow entrance to heavenly, celestial realms. The Wolf is also said to be among the ancestry of Genghis Khan.

When this gracious creature appears to us, and serves as a totem in our lives, the Wolf beckons us to ask these questions:

- Are you thinking about a different form of education?
- Are you being a true friend, and are your friends being true to you?
- Are you communicating yourself clearly to others?
- Are you being loyal to yourself?
- Are you incorporating strategies & planning to achieve your goals?
- Are you spending enough quality time with yourself, friends & family?

Fox Animal Symbolism



*"A fox is a wolf who sends flowers."
--Ruth Brown*

Overwhelmingly, cultural consensus on fox animal symbolism deals with:

- cunning
- strategy
- quick-thinking
- adaptability
- cleverness
- wisdom

Additional perspectives and cultural viewpoints on the fox animal meanings are as follows:

In **China**, fox animal symbolism revolved around the afterlife. Lore has it that a fox sighting was thought to be a signal from the spirits of the deceased.

Fox animal symbolism takes a turn of intelligence in the **Celtic** realm as the Celts believed the fox to be a guide, and was honored for its wisdom. The Celts understood the fox knows the woods intimately, and they would rely upon the fox as their guide in the spirit world.

In **Japan**, the fox was considered one of the rain spirits, and a messenger of Inari the rice god. Here the fox also symbolizes longevity and protection from evil.

In **Native American** lore, fox animal symbolism deals with two interpretations. One perspective (Northern tribes) observes the fox as a wise and noble messenger. The other (Plains tribes) views the fox as a trickster playing pranks, or worse - luring one to demise.

Other generalized fox symbolic meanings deal with:

- focus
- determination
- right-action

It is noteworthy to **observe** the fox while it is on the hunt. We see its entire body is pointed like an arrow - straight and **tightly aimed**. This is a symbolic message for us to set a determined, and powerfully focused mindset in order to "hit the target" of our desires.

The red in the fox is representative of a **solar emblem**. As a solar emblem the fox animal symbolism deals with:

- passion
- desire
- intensity
- expression

The fox encourages us to **think outside of the box** and use our intelligence in different, creative ways. The fox also brings us a message to try to approach our circumstances differently that we normally would. Be aware of some of our habits, and try a different angle of action.

The fox also a reminder that we must utilize all of our resources (seen and unseen) in order to accomplish our goals. Sometimes this means calling upon some unorthodox methods.

Furthermore, the fox is a sign to be mindful of our surroundings.

Immaculate **shapeshifters** and incredibly adaptable, the fox beckons us to not make too many waves but rather, adapt to our surroundings, blend into it, and use our surroundings (and circumstances) to our advantage.

It should be obvious from this summary that fox animal symbolism goes far beyond what we may see on the surface. On the contrary, the fox has an incredible amount of knowledge and wisdom to share with us if/when we are willing to **be still** for the teachings.

Spend some meditative time with the spirit of the fox - odds are you will be amazed at the powerful insight this regal creature has to offer you.

Air Animal Totems



Soaring to the Highest Understanding of Air Animal Totems

As you will read in their descriptions, Air Animal Totems have a penchant for assisting us in matters of higher knowledge. Air being the most ethereal of elements, it's understandable that the creatures who inhabit it are able to lend the best understanding of it's invisible ways. Closest to the heavens, air animals are our best allies as they herald our desires to the very gods in the skies.

Air animal totems are also symbols of strength (both physical and mental) and sovereignty. Very important traits, particularly when we are experiencing new transitions or surroundings in our lives.

If air animal totems are catching your attention, you should feel very heartened by their presence. Allow their spirit to boost your confidence, and remind you that the ultimate power is within this present, unseen moment. Air animals are good omens, and their appearance is like a wink from god. The images you see below are designs from our embroidery library.

Crane

Long revered in Oriental culture as a symbol of good fortune and longevity. Graceful and fluid in movement the Crane is a reminder for us to be aware of the beauty and potential within our own physical bodies. To juxtapose this grace, the Crane is a vicious fighter when defending its young or territory. This trait was also admired and observed in martial arts. And so, with it's capability of vicious defense along with it's grace and beauty, the crane is a perfect symbol of balance.

Crane Totems Facilitate

- Appreciation of our physical bodies and consciousness of physical movement
- Knowledge that both ferocity and gentleness are both available to us along with the knowledge of when/how to use each of these facets



- Acknowledgment our ability to balance our lives deftly and gracefully

Eagle

It seems like the eagle pre-dates all other deities and totems, and it still ranks as one of the most auspicious of animal symbols. No wonder, because the eagle represents divine power, and enlightenment. With its ability to rise above the landscape, the eagle teaches us the importance of seeing the whole pattern (or big picture) in lives. Along with coaxing us out of our obsessing over little mundane things, the eagle gently asks us how we connect with our higher power. Also incredibly powerful, the eagle stands for a symbol of strength, virility, and stamina.



Eagle Animal Totems Facilitate

- Ascension
- Clarity of thought, broader focus, and return of focus on what is really important in our lives
- Encouragement on the path of higher understanding, enlightenment & spiritual growth
- Access to our inner strength and stamina
- Keen ability to cutting out the "fluff" to get to the heart of matters in our lives
- Strength and courage when dealing with spiritual matters or struggles

Falcon Animal Totem



*"The roaring wind is my wife and
the stars through the window pane are my children."
---John Keats*

The Falcon animal totem comes to us when we require **higher vision**, or higher knowledge in solving current dilemmas in our lives.

- Throughout history, culture and myth, Falcons symbolize **superiority**, spirit, light, freedom and aspiration.
- The Falcon is a **solar** emblem for success, victory and **rising above** a situation.

- Further evidence of its solar influence, the Falcon was symbolic of the **rising sun** in Egypt. It is also the **king** of all birds where many gods were shown with the head or body of the Falcon (including Ra).
- In European tradition, the Falcon represents the huntsman and is associated with the Germanic sky-gods Wodan as well as Frigg and the trickster Loki. In European culture the Falcon is considered a **warlike symbol**.
- At its core, the Falcon animal totem represents **visionary power**, wisdom, and guardianship. This powerful bird awakens visionary power, and leads you to your life purpose. The Falcon carries with it a message of transition and change - perhaps in your vocation, work, career, etc.
- The Peregrine Falcon lives up to its Latin name: *Falco Peregrinus* which means foreigner or stranger because it is a **migratory** bird rather than sedentary - it is found throughout the world and tends to travel great distances.
- The Peregrine is most often used in falconry due to its keen intellect and incredible ability to calculate or judge its prey.
- Falcon animal totems encourage us to calculate and **strategize**. If we have a goal, Falcons beckon us to make plans and strategies to obtain these goals. Falcons are all about focus - strong, **one-pointed focus**. When they show themselves to us, we are being called to focus on our desires and our goals, and do what is necessary to bring our desires into our reality.
- The fact that the Falcon is a solar creature could mean there is something in your life that you are highly passionate about, and the Falcon is asking you to take action on this passion. But **be smart** about it - don't jump into something without doing research and planning. Make your passion a reality by pursuing it methodically & as strategically as the Falcon would pursue his hunt.
- Lastly, invoke the spirit of your Falcon animal totem in your meditations, during quite/relaxing times, and just before sleeping. When you calm yourself and call upon the spirit of the Falcon, the Falcon is then able to come through your consciousness and provide you more details about what you must know.
- Animals are **always willing** to provide us with profound messages - it is up to us to listen, and allow their messages to come through.

Symbol Meaning of Feathers



The symbolic meaning of feathers deals with ascension and spiritual evolution to a higher plane. Feathers were worn by Native American Chiefs to symbolize their communication with

Spirit, and to express their **celestial wisdom**. Also in the Native American Indian culture, feathers represented the power of the thunder gods, along with the power of air and wind.

Native American Pueblo Indians would pay homage to the Feathered Sun which is a symbol of the cosmos and the **center of existence**. Another symbol meaning of feathers also revolves around prayer, and the Pueblo use feather sticks as they dance in prayer for rain during solstice rituals.

As a Celtic symbol meaning, the feather was worn by Druids in the form of ornate feathered robes. Celtic Druids donned these robes in ceremonies to invoke the **sky gods** and gain knowledge of the celestial realm. It was believed that the feathered cloak along with the presence of the sky gods would allow the Druid to transcend the earthly plane and enter the ethereal realm.

The Egyptians believed that feathers were symbolic of sky gods too. Ma'at, the Egyptian goddess of justice, would **weigh the hearts** of the newly dead in the underworld against the weight of a feather to determine the worthiness of his or her soul.

In Christianity feathers represented **virtues**. In fact, an image of three feathers was incorporated into signet rings—each feather symbolizing Charity, hope, and faith. These rings were worn as a symbol of a virtuous soul—they were also used as wax seals. The ring would be dipped in warm wax then pressed against documents to seal the closure. The recipient would know the documents came from a virtuous man by the indication of the three-feather symbol in the wax.

In dreams feathers mean travel or the ability to move more freely in life. White feathers in dreams indicate **innocence** or a fresh start in a spiritual sense.

A quick summary on symbol meaning of feathers:

- Truth
- Speed
- Lightness
- Flight
- Ascension

Water Animal Totems



Delving Into Water Animal Totem Meanings

Water animal totems are as vast with meaning as the sea itself.

Water is a powerful symbol in itself. It's a sign of cleansing, freedom and mobility. Most significantly, water as a symbol is a universal expression of the unconscious.

Therefore, water animal totems help us reveal and identify our hidden thoughts or actions. When these creatures find their way into our lives they need to be honored. If we pay attention, they will aid us in identifying our hidden motives – motives that aren't quite healthy for us. Even better, by observing and being open our water animal totems, we learn the ways of simpler, more positive paths of thought, thus replacing the hidden negative ones.

Water critters are invariably bright and playful. Living up to the freedom that the water sign embodies – water animal totems remind us to live with that same unbridled freedom.

We would do well to follow the example of these creatures, and live as if we have no limits.

Beaver

Ingenious builders and also creatures of water, Beavers represent the architecture (development) of our subconscious thoughts (dreams). Beavers are diligent workers and attune with their environment, and thus serve as a model for us to set goals while still maintaining flexibility.

Beaver Animal Totems Facilitate

- Clearer understanding of our subconscious thoughts and dreams
- Ability to mold our thoughts more constructively to suit our needs
- Determination to follow our dreams
- Diligence to keep and reach our goals
- Balance and flexibility concerning ourselves and our expectations



Frog

Due to the fascinating transitions the Frog goes through in its life, it is a symbol of metamorphosis. Furthermore, the Frog's dual time spent on land and water represents duality of the soul. The Frog also symbolizes creativity and forward thinking.

Frog Animal Totems Facilitate

- Patience in undergoing life transitions, clarity of thought during transition
- Embracing of personal transformation, welcoming internal morphing
- Jump into creative thought, and leap out of habitual thinking patterns
- Acceptance of our diversity and celebration of our opposite poles found in personality and lifestyle



Otter

This animal symbol represents female energy, and her elements: water and earth. The Otter also symbolizes healthy play, balance and "go with the flow" attitude. Those with an Otter as an animal totem attract love, harmony and grace into their lives.

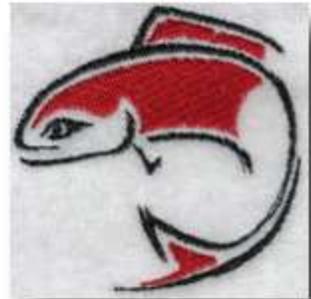


Otter Animal Totems Facilitates

- Understanding deeper subconscious messages or interpret dreams more clearly
- The ability to hone in on psychic or spiritual messages
- Encouragement to bring play to our every-day lives
- Living life openly and joyfully, setting aside jealousy, envy or mind-games.

Salmon

Famous for doggedly swimming through seemingly insurmountable conditions to reach their home waters to spawn, the Salmon symbolizes indefatigable spirit, oneness of purpose, and perseverance. The great journey back to its home waters also notates the uncanny ability for the Salmon to trace its roots, and beckons us to utilize our own internal navigational skill set.



Salmon Animal Totems Facilitate

- Never, never, never give up
- Courage and strength to pursue our goals
- Dependence upon our own internal navigational skills or intuition to guide us to our destinations
- Ability to keep our eye on the prize, and keep aiming for it, regardless of the odds

Whale

Large and lumbering, the Whale is a force to be reckoned with in its native sea surroundings. Ironically, in spite of its size, the Whale has a calm gentle nature, and as a water creature, it reminds us to take effort to calm our subconscious minds. Most remarkable is the Whale's use of sound frequency as its method of communication. This communication symbolizes telepathic power.



Whale Animal Totems Facilitate

- Awareness of our massive spiritual beauty and how greatly we are loved by spirit
- Ability to delve into our own oceanic subconscious and calm our troubled mind
- Cultivate our telepathic ability and create finite frequencies for healing

Native American Animal Symbols



Native American Zodiac Animals

Native American animal symbols can encompass just about all the animals, and their symbolic representation to the many tribes of the Americas.

To narrow down the focus a bit, this page is devoted to birth animals – or zodiac animals.

Many Native American cultures have the belief that a person is assigned an animal upon the time of birth.

Below are interpreted Native American symbols of the zodiac and the characteristics for each one.

Otter: Jan 20 - Feb 18

A little quirky, and unorthodox, the Otter is a hard one to figure sometimes. Perceived as unconventional, the Otter's methods aren't the first ones chosen to get the job done. This is a big mistake on the part of others – because although unconventional, the Otter's methods are usually quite effective. Yes, the Otter has unusual way of looking at things, but he/she is equipped with a brilliant imagination and intelligence, allowing him/her an edge over everyone else. Often very perceptive and intuitive, the Otter makes a very good friend, and can be very attentive. In a nurturing environment the Otter is sensitive, sympathetic, courageous, and honest. Left to his/her own devices, the Otter can be unscrupulous, lewd, rebellious, and isolated.



Wolf: Feb 19 – Mar 20

Deeply emotional, and wholly passionate, the Wolf is the lover of the zodiac in both the physical and philosophical sense of the word. The Wolf understands that all we need is love, and is fully capable of providing it. Juxtaposed with his/her fierce independence – this Native American animal symbol is a bit of a contradiction in terms.

Needing his/her freedom, yet still being quite gentle and compassionate – we get the picture of the "lone wolf" with this sign. In a nurturing environment the Wolf is intensely passionate, generous, deeply affectionate, and gentle. Left to his/her own devices the Wolf can become impractical, recalcitrant, obsessive, and vindictive.



Falcon: Mar 21 – Apr 19

A natural born leader, the Falcon can always be looked upon for clear judgment in sticky situations. Furthermore, the characteristics for this Native American animal symbol never wastes time, rather he/she strikes while the iron is hot, and takes action in what must be done. Ever persistent and always taking the initiative, the Falcon is a gem of a personality to have for projects or team sports. The Falcon can be a little on the conceited side – but he/she is usually right in his/her opinions – so

a little arrogance is understood. In a supportive environmental the Falcon "soars" in his/her ability to maintain passion and fire in relationships, and always remaining compassionate. Left to his/her own devices, the Falcon can be vain, rude, intolerant, impatient, and over-sensitive.



Beaver: Apr 20 – May 20

Take charge, adapt, overcome – this is the Beaver motto. Mostly business, the Beaver is gets the job at hand done with maximum efficiency and aplomb. Strategic, and cunning the Beaver is a force to be reckoned with in matters of business and combat. One might also think twice about engaging the Beaver in a match of wits – as his/her mental

acuity is razor sharp. The Beaver has everything going for him/her – however tendencies toward "my way or the highway" get them in trouble. Yes, they are usually right, but the bearer of this Native American animal symbol may need to work on tact. In a nurturing environment the Beaver can be compassionate, generous, helpful, and loyal. Left to his/her own devices the Beaver can be nervous, cowardly, possessive, arrogant, and over-demanding.



Deer: May 21 – Jun 20

This Native American animal symbol is the muse of the zodiac. The Deer is inspiring lively and quick-witted. With a tailor-made humor, the Deer has a tendency to get a laugh out of anyone. Excellent ability for vocalizing, the Deer is a consummate conversationalist. This combined with his/her natural intelligence make the Deer a must-have guest at dinner parties. Always aware of his/her surroundings, and even more aware of his/her appearance, the Deer can be a bit self-involved. However, the Deer's narcissism is overlooked because of his/her congeniality and affability. In a supportive environment the Deer's natural liveliness and sparkly personality radiate even more. He/she is an inspiring force in any nurturing relationship. Left to his/her own devices the Deer can be selfish, moody, impatient, lazy, and two-faced.



Woodpecker: Jun 21 – Jul 21

Woodpeckers are usually the most nurturing of all the Native American animal symbols. The consummate listener, totally empathic and understanding, the Woodpecker is the one to have on your side when you need support. Of course, they make wonderful parents, and equally wonderful friends and partners. Another proverbial feather in the Woodpecker's cap is the tendency to be naturally frugal, resourceful, and organized. In a nurturing environment the Woodpecker is of course caring, devoted, and very romantic. Left to his/her own devices the Woodpecker can be possessive, angry, jealous, and spiteful.



Salmon: Jul 22 – Aug 21

Electric, focused, intuitive, and wholly creative, the Salmon is a real live-wire. His/her energy is palpable. A natural motivator, the Salmon's confidence and enthusiasm is easily infectious. Soon, everybody is onboard with the Salmon – even if the idea seems too hair-brained to work. Generous, intelligent, and intuitive, it's no wonder why the Salmon has no shortage of friends. This Native American animal symbol expresses a need for purpose and goals, and has no trouble finding volunteers for his/her personal crusades. In a supportive environment, the Salmon is stable, calm, sensual, and giving. Left to his/her own devices, those that bear this Native American animal symbol can be egotistical, vulgar, and intolerant of others.



Bear: Aug 22 – Sep 21

Pragmatic, and methodical the Bear is the one to call when a steady hand is needed. The Bear's practicality and level-headedness makes him/her an excellent business partner. Usually the voice of reason in most scenarios, the Bear is a good balance for Owls. The Bear is also gifted with an enormous heart, and a penchant for generosity. However, one might not know it as the Bear tends to be very modest, and a bit shy. In a loving

environment this Native American animal symbol showers love and generosity in return. Further, the Bear has a capacity for patience and temperance, which makes him/her excellent teachers & mentors. Left to his/her own devices the bear can be skeptical, sloth, small-minded and reclusive.



Crow/Raven: Sep 22 – Oct 22

Highly enthusiastic, and a natural entrepreneur, the Crow is quite a charmer. But he/she doesn't have to work at being charming – it comes easily. Everyone recognizes the Crow's easy energy, and everyone turns to the Crow for his/her ideas and opinions. This is because the Crow is both idealistic and diplomatic and is quite ingenious. In nurturing environments this Native American animal symbol is easy-going, can be romantic, and soft-spoken. Further, the crow can be quite patient, and intuitive in relationships. Left to his/her own devices, the Crow can be demanding, inconsistent, vindictive, and abrasive.



Snake/Serpent: Oct 23 – Nov 22

Most shamans are born under this Native American animal symbol. The Snake is a natural in all matters of spirit. Easily attuned to the ethereal realm the Snake makes an excellent spiritual leader. Also respected for his/her healing capacities, the Snake also excels in medical professions. The Snake's preoccupation with matters intangible often lead others to view them as mysterious, and sometimes frightening. True, the Snake can be secretive, and a bit dark – he/she is also quite sensitive, and caring. In a supportive relationship the cool Snake can be passionate, inspiring, humorous, and helpful. Left to his/her own devices, the Snake can be despondent, violent, and prone to abnormal mood swings.



Owl: Nov 23 – Dec 21

Changeable and mutable as the wind, the Owl is a tough one to pin down. Warm, natural, with an easy-going nature, the Owl is friend to the world. The bearer of this Native American animal symbol is notorious for engaging in life at full speed, and whole-hearted loves adventure. This can be to his/her detriment as the Owl can be reckless, careless, and thoughtless. Owls make great artists, teachers, and conservationists. However, due to his/her adaptability and versatility – the Owl would likely excel in any occupation. In a supportive, nurturing environment the Owl is sensitive, enthusiastic, and an attentive listener. Left to his/her own devices, the Owl can be excessive, overindulgent, bitter, and belligerent.



Goose: Dec 22 – Jan 19

If you want something done – give it to the Goose. Persevering, dogged, and ambitious to a fault, the Goose sets goals for accomplishment, and always obtains them. The goose is determined to succeed at all cost – not for the approval of other – but those with this Native American animal symbol competes with his/her own internal foe. Driven is the watchword for the Goose's dominating personality trait – which makes them excellent in business and competitive sports. When tempered with supportive, nurturing family and friends, the Goose excels in all things he/she attempts. In a loving environment the Goose can be very passionate, humorous, gregarious, and even sensual. However, lead to his/her own devises, the Goose may fall into obsessive or addictive behaviors that will inevitably be his/her demise.

Elemental Alchemy Symbols

Alchemical Element Symbols and Their Meanings

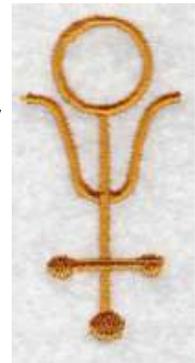


- At the most basic level, elemental alchemy symbols represent the raw self; having the capacity of being transmuted into a higher, incorruptible self.
- This page investigates alchemy element symbols and their **philosophical** meanings.
- The realm of alchemy is filled with hidden and double meanings. Just as each element has a physical representation, so too does it have a philosophical meaning in the alchemical school of thought.
- It should be noted that the ancient founders of alchemy were true to their craft. So much so, that many of the surviving reference material is quite obscure. Alchemists **shrouded** much of their craft to assure the seeker is determined and devoted to learning. This technique is effective - as once a seeker delves into the world of alchemy; many are dissuaded by the complexity and obscurity surrounding alchemical meaning.
- That said, these alchemy symbols provide a very basic understanding of the alchemical elements and their philosophical meanings.

Antimony

A metalloid, antimony, resembles metal in its appearance and physical properties, but does not chemically react as a metal.

The alchemy symbol for elements represent animal tendencies found in humankind – a wild nature in all of us – wear this symbol when you are feeling meek – it will remind you of the animal power that dwells within you.



Arsenic

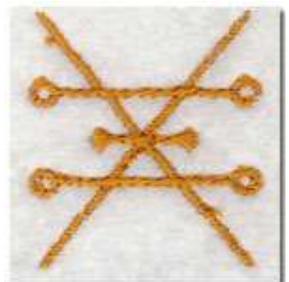
Arsenic is a chemical element. This is a notorious poisonous metalloid that has three allotropic forms; yellow, black and grey. Arsenic and its compounds are used as pesticides, herbicides, insecticides and various alloys.

The elemental alchemy symbol arsenic was used for medicinal and magical cures. A compound of arsenic and sulfur were said to induce trances of enlightenment and philosophical ascension and direction.



Copper

Copper is a reddish-colored metal, with a high electrical and thermal conductivity (among pure metals at room temperature, only silver has a higher electrical conductivity). Copper may well be the oldest metal in use, as copper artifacts dating to 8700 BC have been found. Copper was associated with the goddess Aphrodite/Venus in mythology and alchemy, owing to its



lustrous beauty, its ancient use in producing mirrors, and its association with Cyprus, which was sacred to the goddess.

The elemental alchemy symbol for copper is also the planetary symbol for Venus. As such, this symbol embodies such characteristics as love, balance, feminine beauty, and artistic creativity.

Gold

A soft, shiny, yellow, heavy, malleable, ductile (trivalent and univalent) transition metal

One of the more valued elements, gold represents perfection in all matter, on any level. It also symbolizes humankind's goal to obtain perfection in mind and spirit.



Iron

Iron is the most abundant metal, and is believed to be the tenth most abundant element in the universe.

The elemental alchemy symbol for iron is representative of the planet Mars in astrology. As such, iron rules physical strength, and symbolizes predominantly male energy. It is also noteworthy that the symbol for iron is also one in the same symbol for male. Philosophically, iron represents a need to temper primal urges while at the same time embracing the fire within.



Lead

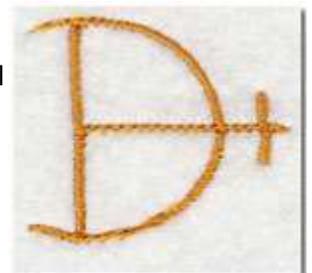
Lead has a bright luster and is a dense, ductile, very soft, highly malleable, bluish-white metal that has poor electrical conductivity. This true metal is highly resistant to corrosion.

As an alchemy symbol, lead is the ruler of the dark, lusterless prime matter. It is Governed by Saturn and combined with silver it is said to create a purified element called the Philosophic Mercury.

Magnesium

Magnesium is a fairly strong, silvery-white, light-weight metal (one third lighter than aluminum) that slightly tarnishes when exposed to air. It is difficult to ignite in bulk, though it is easy to light if it is shaved into thin strips. Once ignited, it is difficult to extinguish,

It is the difficulty of extinguishing that makes this elemental alchemy symbol so appealing because it represents eternity, infinite flame, and ascension.





Mercury

A heavy, silvery, transition metal, mercury is one of only two elements that are liquid at room temperature.

Also referred to as Quicksilver this elemental alchemy symbol is highly revered because of its dual nature (ability to take solid or liquid form). Therefore, Mercury is often seen as a transcendent element – the philosophical nature of the symbol represents humankind's transcendence over struggle, mundane trivialities, physical ties, and ultimately transcendence over death.

Phosphorus

Common phosphorus forms a waxy white solid that has a characteristic disagreeable smell. Pure forms of the element are colorless and transparent. This non metal is not soluble in water, but it is soluble in carbon disulfide. Pure phosphorus ignites spontaneously in air and burns to phosphorus pent-oxide.

The elemental alchemy symbol phosphorus traps light, and thus it is reputed that the alchemy symbol for phosphorus represents spiritual illumination.



Platinum

The metal is a beautiful silvery-white when pure, and malleable and ductile. The metal is corrosion-resistant

In the realm of philosophical elemental alchemy symbols, platinum was revered for its endurance. Platinum represents determination, grit, and seeing our manifestations to completion.



Silver

Silver is a very ductile and malleable (slightly harder than gold) univalent coinage metal with a brilliant white metallic luster that can take a high degree of polish. It has the highest electrical conductivity of all metals, even higher than copper, but its greater cost has prevented it from being widely used in place of copper for electrical purposes.

In alchemy, silver is one of the three base metals often used as prima material at the inception of a work. Further, the alchemy symbol of silver is associated with the moon. As such, silver holds philosophical traits of the feminine persuasion as well as attributes of intuition, inner wisdom, and contemplation.

Sulfur

It is an abundant, tasteless, odorless, multivalent non-metal. Sulfur, in its native form, is a yellow crystalline solid. In nature, it can be found as the pure element or as sulfide and sulfate minerals. It is an essential element for life and is found in several amino acids.

Also considered a transcendent elemental alchemy symbol – sulfur represents the multiplicity of human nature and the eternal aspiration to reach enlightenment. As indicated by the symbol, sulfur represents the triad of ascension – which can be viewed as a holy trinity. Sulfur is also one of the three heavenly substances in alchemical science (the other two being salt, and mercury).

**Tin**

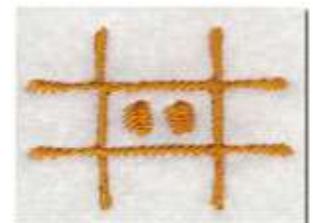
Tin is a malleable, ductile, highly crystalline, silvery-white metal whose crystal structure causes a "tin cry" when a bar of tin is bent (caused by crystals breaking). Tin acts as a catalyst when oxygen is in solution and helps accelerate chemical attack.

Tin as an elemental alchemy symbol is representative of the planet Jupiter. Being ruled by Jupiter, puts tin in connection with breath, and can be philosophically viewed as the breath of life. Tin also adds a philosophical lesson to life that standing alone it is weaker than if it is combined with another alchemy symbol element.

**Zinc**

Zinc is a moderately reactive metal that will combine with oxygen and other non-metals, and will react with dilute acids to release hydrogen.

Alchemists prepared philosopher's wool by burning the metal zinc in air. Philosopher's wool was zinc oxide, which was also sometimes called nix alba (white snow).



Ancient Alchemy Symbols

Universal Alchemy Symbols, Signs and Their Meanings



Ancient Alchemy Symbols and their oft times cryptic meanings began out of necessity as alchemists disguised their practices from the hugely powerful European church. At the height of its practice, alchemy was considered heretical craft by the church, punishable by death (or worse, torture). The church body at the time viewed alchemy as a way for the practitioner to ascend to salvation outside of the "traditional" church methodology.

Although ancient alchemy symbols were born out of this necessity, the foundation of alchemical practice is based on **inner transformation** and the achievement of that transformation. As a means for this transmutation, the alchemist utilized the changing properties of matter in addition to the philosophical meanings of the symbols themselves.

The very act of turning base metals to gold is a symbol of (wo)man's ascension and achievement of enlightenment. All things, no matter how banal, **hold deeper spiritual symbolic meaning** to the alchemist in all of us.

Abracadabra

This is a Cabalistic charm with origins from Hebrew initials of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is an ancient alchemy symbol used for an antidote for illness and used to augment healing. This phrase was written on parchment and suspended from the neck by a thread in the triangular form seen here. This charm can be embroidered on the center front of a shirt or a sweatshirt – a perfect gift of mystic healing.

Aleph

This ancient alchemy symbol is derived from the "Secret Tradition" or the Cabala. The Aleph is the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and is the spiritual root of all harmony. Embroidered, this symbol brings our focus on spiritual grounding, and sets our intent for harmony.

Caduceus

Also symbolic of Mercury, the Caduceus is a figure of two serpents wrapped around a center rod. The rod is a symbol of transforming alchemical power. The two serpents represent polarity or duality. Together with the sprouted wings depict the caduceus having an alchemical meaning of balance, duality and following the alchemical process leading to unity. The



caduceus is also seen in medical circles. This is a logical match as the caduceus calls for unity and balance on an internal level and is hailed as a symbol for healing.

Cube

The cube represents the earth in Pythagorean, Indian, and Platonic traditions. In Egypt, the Pharaoh is often depicted sitting on a cubic throne. In India, many statues of deities are shown standing on a cube – one under each foot. It is understood as a building block of all simple matter – and it is also understood that within it supernatural possibilities abound. Therefore cube represents the earth from which the spiritual king comes forth.

Ergon

This is the spiritual ancient alchemy symbol for the right eye of the soul, by which it looks to the eternal. Embroidered, this symbol allows focus on higher, finer spiritual vibrations. It also ascertains the infinite nature of our soul, and our capability to tap into the infinite universe.

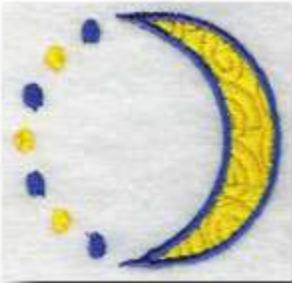
Fire

"That which the fire operates is alchemy, whether in the kitchen or in the universe" as stated by the alchemical forefather Paracelsus 1493-1541. More specifically this ancient alchemy symbol represents divine energy, purification, revelation, and transformation. As such, fire was (and still is) an important sign in the alchemist's arsenal of emblems.



Moon

Alchemically speaking, the moon represents Silver, the Lesser Work, or Mercury. It conjoins with the sun, or Gold in the Greater Work. In more practical terms, the moon represents fertility, resurrection, occult power, immortality and intuition. The moon is a feminine property and alchemists would incorporate it with the sun (gold) to assure balance.



Peacock Tail

Near the end of the alchemical Operation this symbol would appear. Its many-colored surface on molten metal heralded the nearness of the final stage of transformation. Further, when the alchemical Operation came to this point, the volatile parts of the residue were transcended, and the peacock, as all winged creatures, symbolized changeability. Thus the peacock's spiritual representation is that of smooth transition.



Pentacle

Quite the opposite of its unfortunate reputation, the pentacle is a symbol of harmony, health and mystic powers. The Pythagoreans adopted it as a sign of health and the marriage of heaven and earth. As a sign of heaven, earth, as well as human body and mind, the pentacle holds great power. So much so, that it was used as a protective emblem among alchemists and magicians alike. Specifically, alchemists would press this symbol on hermetic books to emphasize the knowledge within as being protected and sacred.

Quincunx

An arrangement of five figures within a square. Historically, it has infused the worlds of nature, man and the stars. As an ancient alchemy symbol, it represents the whole being more than the sum of its parts. In the alchemical mineral world, the quincunx occurs in the formation of metals, in atomic structures. Additionally the quincunx represents (wo)man's ability to cross from four to five his/her nature. Meaning we all possess the four levels of physical matter (stone, plant, animal, man) and we are able to ascend from these four elements to the final fifth – which is godlike or enlightened stature. Embroidered, this symbol sets the intent of this ability to ascend to higher levels.

Rose Window

Gothic circular windows, shaped like a rose – mostly seen in stained glass in cathedrals. Designed by Chartres, a master craftsman, this stained glass was made from a secret recipe using **antimony**. The windows have a transformational effect on the contemplator. Essentially a dodecahedron, this symbol is connected with the ether, or the fifth element. By viewing it as a mandala, the rose window brings about an altered state of perception, allowing the observer to tap into the ethereal planes.



Sun

The ancient alchemy symbol of gold. Worshipped in many cultures, specifically Egypt where Amon-Ra was personified by the evening sun setting at the end of the creative process. Alchemists understood the process of creation, and utilized the symbol of the sun to focus on creating desired effects in their practice – both physically and philosophically.



Animal Alchemy Symbols

Use of Animals in Alchemy and Their Symbolism



Animal alchemy symbols are an extension of the tradition. Animals are viewed with just as much reverence and high regard in alchemy as they are in other deeply spiritual traditions such as Native American.

Animals have long held mystique and fascination for every population, culture and tradition. Alchemy is no different in that great symbolism was placed upon certain animal figures.

As mentioned before, the alchemical practice was (and still is) a highly guarded one. Concrete facts are hard to come by. All of the information on my alchemy pages is well researched, but there are still some gray areas in the annals of alchemy.

This being the case let your imagination wander a bit, back to the ages when alchemy had its very strongest heart beat. Immerse yourself in that ancient era and get your own feel for each animal alchemy symbol.

Fox

As animal alchemy symbols, foxes are the cultivators of the Elixir of Life. They were also thought to be able to transform themselves into human form at night and visit the elderly, giving them sips of the mystical Elixir to prolong their life and health. Also a symbol of fire, and cleverness, an embroidered fox is an emblem worthy of brandishing.



Ibis

Alchemically speaking, the ibis is the harbinger of lunar functions, cycles of time, measure and movement. To say the least, its role in alchemical symbolism should not go unnoticed by any practitioner. Great importance was placed on the moon, and the ibis would be depicted on alchemical scripts as a sort of placation for successful transmutations.

Lion

The lion animal alchemy symbol is held in the highest regards of the tradition. So much so that it symbolizes gold or the sun – the very highest characteristics of ascension and enlightenment. Furthermore, due to its virility, strength, and perceived courage, the lion was seen as the ultimate protector of alchemical secrets, as well as keeper of the underworld.



Ostrich

Alchemical legend has it that the stomach of the ostrich was capable of digesting anything. Therefore, "ostrich" was the name given to any one of the acids used in the processes of transmuting ordinary gold and ordinary silver into their philosophic counterparts.

**Peacock**

Representative of glory, immortality, royalty, and incorruptibility. Obviously, a possessor of some of the most admired human characteristics, the peacock is a symbol of integrity and the beauty that can be achieved when we endeavor to better ourselves. See peacock tail for further alchemical meaning on the peacock.

Phoenix

This animal alchemy symbol is the archetypal bird. It rises, reborn, out of its own ashes, representing the alchemical process of death and rebirth. The phoenix is a highly used emblem in alchemy, representing the purifying and transforming fire, the chemical element sulfur and the color red. Embroidered, the phoenix reminds us of our ability to regenerate from within, and our power in transformation.

**Raven**

Or rather, the Raven King in alchemical terms, the raven was the taboo bird in all alchemical traditions. It was said that three Raven Kings were associated with the bird's transforming powers of death and decay. Further, the raven was hailed for its ability to decompose everything in its path. This was considered an attribute because putrefaction must take place so that the body can be joined with the soul. Although an emblem of death in the alchemical realm, the raven was also long relied upon for its connection with the ethereal, darker forces at work and would often be invoked during difficult transmutations and particularly complicated operations.



Uroboros

This symbol represents the cyclical nature of alchemic work. The serpent swallowing its own tail is symbolic of cycles, eternal, and indivisible processes found in alchemical practices. Alchemists' were also quite keen on matters of nature, and would often indicate the Uroboros when the concept of rebirth, regeneration needed to be conveyed. Most importantly, this powerful animal alchemy symbol stands for the maxim "one is all" which is ultimately the hugest of philosophies to grasp. Embroidered, this Uroboros sets the souls intention on fathoming the "one is all" concept, and provides a focus to aid in rebirth, and acceptance of the endless cycles of life. The Uroboros is a also a sublime alchemical symbol meaning infinity.

Alchemy Planet Symbols

The Meanings of Planet Symbols in Alchemy



"Just as the sun shines through a glass... the sun and the moon and all planets, as well as all the stars and the whole chaos, are in man." Paracelsus, Alchemist & Visionary, 1493-1541

This quote by the Paracelsus may give us a better understanding of the importance of alchemy planet symbols. Indeed, no operation or alchemical process was conducted without first consulting the planets and stars. Astrology played an enormous role in the alchemical traditions.

To the alchemist, there was no area of life where the planets were not involved. The Greeks had a personified view of the planets – as each was a being in their own right, and played a part in every level relating to man and nature.

Traditionally, the alchemy planet symbols were depicted as seven in number. This is significant as this number corresponds to the seven major organs of the human body, the seven energy centers of (wo)man (think chakras), and most interestingly, the seven major metals in alchemy.

Depicted below are the seven planet symbols and a brief explanation of their characteristics in the alchemy tradition.

**Jupiter**

To temper Saturn's dark moods, Jupiter was summoned to counter with its optimistic characteristics. Jupiter alchemy planet symbols were evident in practices needing a higher, finer frequency. This is due to the fact that Jupiter universally recognized as the planet of the higher mind. Additionally, it represents generosity, goodness and opportunity.



Mars

Mars alchemy planet symbols are shared with the sign of iron, and it is also noteworthy that this is the same sign for man or maleness. As such, alchemical Mars rules physical strength, and symbolizes predominantly male energy. Philosophically, Mars represents a need to temper primal urges while at the same time embracing the fire within.

Mercury

When represents liquid at

Mercury is Mercury.



Mercury alchemy planet symbols are seen in ancient texts, it fluidity, transformation, and intellect. As the only common metal ordinary temperatures, Mercury was highly interesting to alchemists, as it easily fused with other metals. Alchemically the "essence," salt is the "body," and sulfur is the "oil" clinging to



Moon

Alchemically speaking, the moon represents Silver, the Lesser Work, or Mercury. It reaches stronger potential when joined with the sun, or Gold in the Greater Work. In more practical terms, the moon represents fertility, resurrection, occult power, immortality and intuition. The moon is a feminine property and alchemists would incorporate it with the sun (gold) to assure balance.

Saturn

Saturn alchemy metal lead, Understood as role in more Saturn balance and very "take practice as well.



planet symbols are seen in texts as governing the which is one of the symbols for dark prime matter. having nefarious overtones, Saturn plays an important sinister alchemical processes. On the other hand, represents order, strictures, and a gravitational pull to moderation. Alchemists understood that Saturn had a matters into hand" energy and utilized this essence in



Sun

Although not a planet, its importance was so great it was counted among the seven. This alchemy planet symbol was utilized focus on the act of creation. Specifically, creating desired effects in their practice – both physically and philosophically. The symbol also denotes creative energy, conscious self, and enlightenment.



Venus

Venus represents the alchemical process of fermentation. A more simplified definition of fermentation is the conversion, agitation, or excite taking place between two or more elements. Philosophically speaking, Venus conveys sexuality, passion, and excitability making the connection more clear in the process of alchemy.



Dragon Totem Information

A Dragon totem is one of the most powerful totems, representing a huge range of qualities, emotions, and traits. When Dragons come to us, it could mean many things.

The most common message a Dragon totem carry to us is a need for strength, courage, and fortitude. Dragons are also messengers of balance, and magic - encouraging us to tap into our psychic nature and see the world through the eyes of mystery and wonder.

More specifically, Dragons are the embodiment of **primordial power** - the ultimate ruler of all the elements. This is because the Dragon is the master of all the elements: Fire, Water, Earth, and Wind. As a totem, the Dragon serves as a powerful guardian and guide. Encourage

communication with your Dragon, and acknowledge your Dragon's presence as often as possible.

In Chinese culture, the season of the Dragon is mid-spring, its direction is east-southeast, and its fixed element is wood.

There are many ways to **strengthen your bond** with your Dragon totem. Here are a few suggestions:

- Meditation upon your Dragon totem.
- Begin collecting Dragon images that resonate with you. Keep these images close, and easily available to you. Look upon these images whenever you wish to communicate with your Dragon totem.
- Better yet, begin drawing while communicating with your Dragon. Ask your Dragon to reveal itself to you through your drawing.
- Begin a Dragon totem journal
- Read everything you can on Dragons. This will broaden your horizons, and expand your imagination. A warning though: By all means, never be limited by the scope of what you read. Ultimately, it is you and your Dragon that will create the perfect understanding. There is never a limit in matters of spirit - that includes matters concerning our totems (especially strong totems like the Dragon!).

This is a Forest Guardian Dragon, and was inspired by a nature walk. This Dragon is the **watcher of the woods**, and is a perfect companion for those of us who are watching for subtle signs of Dragon communication in our lives.



Chinese Dragons



Ancient Chinese Dragons are **ultimate** symbols of cosmic Chi (energy). It is said to be the most potent symbol of **good fortune** in the Chinese pantheon of symbols. As one of the four creatures of the world's directions, the Dragon stands for new beginnings. The Dragon also has the power to release water to parched lands, and which in turn stands for abundance & relief. Continued **success**, high achievement, and prosperity are also listed among the Dragon's arsenal of good qualities, which rank it one of the most popular of Asian signs.

The Legend of the Nine Dragons

The mainland overlooking Hong Kong is called Kowloon, which means Nine Dragons. Legend states the mainland was named this by a Chinese Emperor who fled there after the Sung Dynasty. Originally, he named it after the eight hills predominantly located on the land. His servant observed that the Emperor should also be counted among the **regal** figures. Hence, the "Gau-lung" or Nine Dragons nomenclature was born.

Characteristics of the Nine Dragons:

1. **P'u-lao:**
Alerts one to danger, and serves as a protector. Often engraved on bells, sacred singing bowls, and gongs.
2. **Ch'iu-niu:**
Creator of Yang energy through the use of ancient dragon music.
3. **Pi-his:**
Provider of knowledge, luck and upholds the virtue of finer education.
4. **Pa-hsia:**
Provider of strength and support when called upon during times of need.
5. **Chao-feng:**
Guardian of the holy places, sacred lands, and holy temples.
6. **Chih wen:**
Symbolizes the power of water over fire.
7. **Suan-ni:**
Mighty protector and emblem against theft, loss or betrayal of any kind.
8. **Yai-tzu:**
Protector and guardian against any physical harm.
9. **Pi-kau:**
Defends against litigation, verbal disputes, or false accusations.



Dragon Design

This is a beautifully embroidered dragon design from my

embroidery library. This or any of these dragons can be embroidered for you. Simply email me at to include these wonderful symbols in your wardrobe today.



Dragon and Tiger

These two great forces of the universe reflect the primordial Yin and Yang of existence. To the Chinese, the tiger is the emblem of dignity, and courage. This, combined with the abundance, luck, and Yang energy of Chinese dragons - it's a luck combination that can't be beat.



Dragon Riding Clouds

Clouds are symbols of celestial mobility because many gods and immortals used the cloud as a vehicle on which they traveled. The cloud is also considered a portent of good luck, carrying needed rains that enable the growth of abundant crops. When clouds are combined with auspicious Chinese dragons, it makes a perfect emblem to manifest positive effects in your life.

Dragon Encircling Pearl

depicted with Chinese dragons. thought to represent the moon. In that some dragons have become moon, and have gone insane the sky. Other tales depict the beneath the dragon's neck or said to carry the egg away until it far the most agreed upon tale is



The pearl is often The pearl is sometimes fact, one legend has it infatuated with the trying to steal it from pearl as an egg placed chin. The dragon is is ready to hatch. By that the pearl represents the dragon's wisdom - hence the term: "pearls of wisdom."



Dragon with Phoenix Together, the dragon and phoenix symbolize Yin and Yang together: perfect balance. Standing alone, each symbol is hugely powerful. Together they represent a power-packed union of success, prosperity, friendship, love, and enlightenment. The union of these two highly symbolic creatures at wedding festivities suggests a match that is blessed with money and incredible luck. Furthermore, it denotes the beginning of a dynastic family with the dragon symbolizing the patriarch and the phoenix signifying the matriarch.

Chinese Animal Symbols

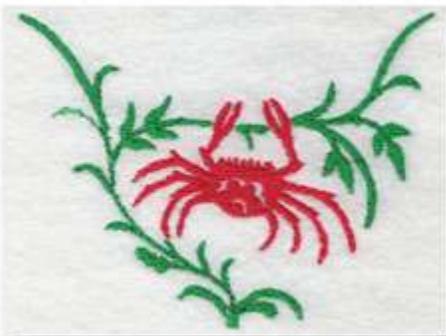


Animals hold incredible **power** in all cultures. So it should come as no surprise that Chinese animal symbols are found in every square inch of the Chinese culture.

The Chinese are excellent philosophers and observers. As such, they understand the deeper meanings of animals, and utilized the characteristics of each creature to represent traits they wish to call upon in their own lives.

Chinese animal symbols serve as reminders, charms, omens, and sentiments. They are artistically represented in drawings, embroidered on clothing, painted on houses, and formed into statues all over China as **harbingers** of wealth, good luck, etc.

As with all symbols, these can



bring about great **positive** aspects into our lives. By understanding their meanings, and incorporating them into our lives, we **conjure** the desired aspect

each symbol represents.

Butterfly

The Chinese animal symbol Butterfly represents love, specifically young love. Happily flitting from flower to flower – it signifies a happy social life for the young and young-at-heart. Chinese legend has it that the Butterfly symbolizes an undying bond between lovers. All romantics-at-heart would do well to place an image of a Butterfly in their home. A perfect gift for a new couple is this design embroidered on towels for the couple's home. Representative of the Yang energy, this symbol can energize you or a loved one – particularly when embroidered on clothing – it reminds us of the energy of love.

Crab

The Crab signifies prosperity and status because the Chinese word referring to its shell is a pun on the highest score a candidate can make on the Chinese Imperial Examinations (first, or *ji*). Two Crabs represent the first and second scores of the Examinations.



Crane

The Crane is legendary in China for being the prince of all feathered creature on earth. Next to the Phoenix (also listed on this page), the Crane is the most favored all Chinese bird symbols. The Crane is the ancient symbol for longevity because of its exceptionally long life span. In many legends, the spirits ride on cranes, which are also said to bear the souls of the departed to the heavens.



Goldfish

This symbol means abundance of gold, making the Goldfish a popular symbol in the Chinese culture. One of the most popular New Year's images is a child holding a large goldfish and a lotus flower which brings both wealth and harmony. A Goldfish embroidered on a bag or shirt is a sure-fire way to bring the energy of abundance into your life.



Horse

The seventh of the Chinese Zodiac Signs, it also represents endurance, loyalty, and purity to the Buddhist way of thinking. It is also a symbol for quick advancement in rank, and recognition of strength.

Magpie

This Chinese animal symbol translates into the bird of joy. It is believed that when the Magpie nests in your house, it brings much cause for celebration and many happy occasions. Those wishing to settle down will do well to have this symbol in their lives, as it attracts the nesting, settling energies into our lives. Additionally the Magpie is a powerful symbol to attract the joy associated with marriage and children.

**Phoenix**

A celestial sign to the Chinese, the Phoenix is the king of the winged kingdom. Magnificent and legendary, this bird is synonymous with good fortune, opportunity, and luck. It also conveys strength and resilience in the symbolic rising from its own ashes and soars to greater heights. On its own, the Phoenix is a Yang symbol and is associated with fire energies and the four winds. Combined with the Dragon the Phoenix represents Yin energy. As a point of spiritual focus, the Phoenix evokes in us the five human qualities of good cosmic energy, or Chi:

- virtue
- duty & responsibility
- proper behavior, or right attitude
- compassion
- reliability & loyalty

**Rooster**

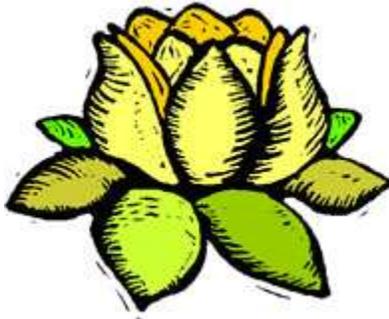
An image of a Rooster conveys a wish for advancement because the Rooster's crest, (*guan*), is a play on the Chinese word meaning official. More importantly, the Rooster is an auspicious creature that can ward off evil spirits. Legend has it that the Heavenly Rooster of Dusu Mountain was crowing loudly and making all the roosters on earth crow along with it. This tremendous wall of sound (crowing) would result in scaring all evil spirits away.

**Tiger**

This ancient Chinese animal symbol is an emblem of dignity, ferocity, sternness, courage, and by itself is Yin energy. Also a

symbol of protection, the image of a tiger is often seen on clothing or in the home to ward off harm any semblance of harm and assure safekeeping. In certain areas of China and Asia, the Tiger is regarded as the God of Wealth. Consequently, Tsai Shen Yeh, the Chinese God of Wealth is depicted sitting on a tiger. Such an image symbolizes the supremacy of the intangible forces, and our ability to harness the tiger's power in our lives.

Chinese Flowers



Chinese flower symbols represent the natural nectar that brings growth, fulfillment and new, prosperous **beginnings** into our lives.

In **Feng Shui**, many flowers are utilized for good fortune and success. This is because, in general, healthy flowering plants manifest good Chi, or energy. Therefore, flowers as symbols are representative of that same **flourishing**, flow of strong energy.

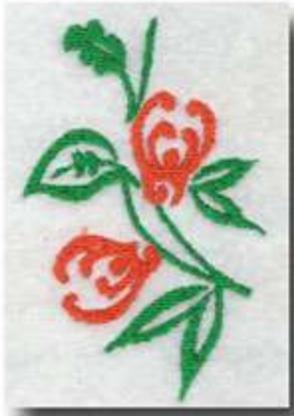
Additionally, flower symbols convey beauty, **grace**, and perfection. They are also excellent symbols of love, adoration, and unity.

Just as the flower blooms, so too does our **intellect** and spirit bloom when we focus our attention on the endless beauty and potential of these exquisite symbols.



Chrysanthemum

Excellent when presented as a gift to someone, the Chrysanthemum signifies a life of ease. Buddhists are fond of using this flower as offerings on alters. Symbolic of powerful Yang energy, this flower is an attractant of good luck in the home.



Citron

Also known as the Buddha's hand, the finger-shaped Citron stands for luck and happiness. It is known as the Buddha's hand because the upturned petals of the Citron are reminiscent of the upturned fingers of the Buddha's meditative position.

thoughts –
beauty, the
to an



Hydrangea

A symbol expressing love, gratitude, and enlightenment, it is said that the observer can easily get lost in its abundance of beautiful petals, and thus gets lost in one's own propitiating higher thought and reaching enlightenment. Due to its versatility, and hydrangea makes an excellent thank you gift unsung hero in our lives.



Lotus

Buddhist's all over the world recognize this Lotus as signifying the holy seat of the Buddha. To the Chinese it symbolizes ultimate purity and perfection because it rises untainted and beautiful from the mud. Every part of the plant, from roots to petals can be put to good use and has medicinal properties. As such the plant as a whole conveys deep significance. Esoterically, it represents inward emptying and outward splendor and this conveys the true nature of reality according to the Buddhist philosophy.

Narcissus

symbol is said to bestow the talents. It is reputed to augment careers, assuring those with rewarded when incorporating this their lives. As such, the Narcissus those who are seeking career



This Chinese flower flowering of our hidden the hard work put into careers will be auspicious symbol in is an excellent gift for advancement and luck.



Orchid

Emblematic of fertility, this flower encourages plenty of progeny. Also a symbol of perfection, abundance, and higher growth, when we focus on the endless loveliness of this flower we are able to open the flow of exotic beauty and prosperity in our lives.



Peony

Esteemed as one of the most exquisite flowers, the peony is a symbol for nobility and value. The peony became popular in the imperial palaces during the Sui and Tang dynasties, and earned the title of the "king of flowers." A symbol of spring, it is also used as a metaphor for female beauty and reproduction. Pictured in full bloom, the peony symbolizes peace. These attributes make this design a perfect embroidered gift for any occasion.

Chinese Symbols and Meanings



Chinese symbols and meanings infiltrate the cities and landscapes of the region. From art to architecture, clothing to kitchenware, symbols of luck, prosperity, and **abundance** are sure to be found.

The Chinese believe that incorporating positive symbols in their lives will inexorably lead to positive results in their existence. This is a **valid belief**, as it has been proven that whatever one focuses upon inevitably makes its way into one's life.



Five Fortunes Surround Longevity

Five bats grouped together create the extremely auspicious and popular motif of the "five good fortunes." These five good fortunes are: Wealth, Health, Longevity, Love, and Virtue. Red bats are especially lucky omen because red is believed to be the color that wards off evil. The embroidered bat motif around the symbol of longevity is a hugely powerful symbol.



Longevity Symbol

Longevity is the most highly esteemed value of the five-fold happiness. The desire for long life is embodied many Chinese traditions. Longevity wishes are inscribed on scrolls, engraved in bronze, and embroidered on clothing.



Longevity and Love Symbol

This symbol increases its favor with the beholder as it also includes the presence of the butterfly. The Chinese symbol and meaning of the butterfly is that of young love, specifically undying love. Story has it that a young male scholar was deeply in love with a rich man's daughter who returned his love. Being a poor scholar, the young man was rejected by the young woman's father. The father separated the couple, and forbid them from seeing each other. Heartbroken, the lovers die, and are reunited in death. Reincarnated as butterflies, the two are together forever.



Chinese Sunset Symbol

The sun is the most potent symbol and source of Yang energy. It purifies and energizes at the same time. Also a symbol of balance, the legend states that there were originally ten suns, making the world too hot. The Divine Archer Yi had to kill nine of the suns to restore cosmic balance and harmony.

Chinese Yin Yang Symbols



In a nutshell, Chinese Yin Yang symbols represent **perfect balance**. Seemingly, the whole of Chinese philosophy stems from the concept of Yin and Yang – opposites interacting and supposedly the seed of all things. For example, evil results from an imbalance in Yin and Yang, and good comes from the two being in **harmonic** balance.

To aid in understanding the **properties** belonging to each side of the symbol, I have included the following table. Each property is beneath its corresponding Yin or Yan energy.

Yin & Yang Corresponding Energies

Yin	Yang
Dark	Light
Matter	Spirit
Earth	Sky
Female	Male
Passive	Active
Phoenix	Dragon
Tiger	Dragon
Down	Up
North	South
Water	Fire
Winter	Summer
Shade	Sunlight
Receptive	Creative
Valleys	Mountains
Even Numbers	Odd Numbers

Moon	Sun
Cold	Heat
Death	Life

The meaning of the characters for yin and yang has more than just one connotation. Basically interpreted, yang means "sunny" so it corresponds to the day and more active functions, whereas yin means "shady" and corresponds to night and less active functions.



Classic Yin Yang Symbol

This is the basic Yin Yang symbol embroidered. As mentioned above, this symbol represents the primal opposing but complementary forces found in all things in the universe. Depicted as it is, it also outlines the necessity of balance in all things.

Yin Yang Lotus Symbol

The Yin Yang enclosed in the legendary lotus is a particularly powerful and balancing symbol. The Buddhist's all over the world recognize this Lotus as signifying the holy seat of the Buddha. To the Chinese it symbolizes ultimate purity and perfection because it rises untainted and beautiful from the mud. The sacred lotus combined with the balancing acting of the Yin Yang makes this a perfect point of focus for the body, mind and spirit.



Yin Yang Eye

An artistic spin on the traditional Yin Yang, this symbol represents our focus or view of balance – both internally and externally. This is a beautifully embroidered design that makes a powerful statement. Express your vision for peace and balance by embroidering this unique symbol.

Yin Yang Heart

Balance in our hearts and love in our lives is truly what makes the world go 'round. This traditional Yin Yang symbol in the form of a heart reminds us that love is one of the truest and dearest of virtues.



Chinese Symbol Writing



Chinese symbol writing is a unique style of communication, primarily because it is as beautiful as it is functional. This is evident in the **character shown above, which means love.**

The Chinese written language is conveyed in characters. Earlier in the written language, each of these characters were pictures like animals or places. Over time, writing became more **stylized** and seldom takes on a picture form.

There are tens of thousands of different characters in the Chinese writing system. Most of these have been dropped due to lack of use over the centuries. Today, knowledge of about 4,000 symbols conveys most messages.

Angel



Attitude

Balance



平衡

Body Mind Spirit



身心灵

Celebrate



庆祝



幸运的

Fortunate

Friendship



Happiness



Love



Meditation



Peace

和平

Rejoice

高兴

Spirit

精神

Thank You

谢谢你

唯一的

Unique

Chinese Zodiac Signs



The Chinese zodiac signs are determined by the lunar year in which you were born. The Chinese believe the animal ruling one's birth year has a **profound** influence on personality, and destiny. The saying is: "This animal hides in your heart."

Unlike Western astrology, it does not look the heavenly constellations or planets to predict one's destiny. Rather, Chinese astrology deals with divining sciences of *wuxing* or the five elements (earth, fire, water, metal, wood), Yin and Yang, Chi, and the cycles of time.

Legend has it that inception of the Chinese zodiac signs began when the Buddha beckoned all the animals to bid him farewell before his departure from the Earth. Only twelve arrived at his summoning, and so those were given a **place of honor** in a year being named after each.

You can determine your animal sign by referring to the year you were born and matching it up with the corresponding animal in the chart below.

Years Corresponding to Chinese Zodiac Signs

Rat	1900	1912	1924	1936	1948	1960	1972	1984	1996	2008	2020
Ox	1901	1913	1925	1937	1949	1961	1973	1985	1997	2009	2021
Tiger	1902	1914	1926	1938	1950	1962	1974	1986	1998	2010	2022
Rabbit	1903	1915	1927	1939	1951	1963	1975	1987	1999	2011	2023
Dragon	1904	1916	1928	1940	1952	1964	1976	1988	2000	2012	2024
Snake	1905	1917	1929	1941	1953	1965	1977	1989	2001	2013	2025
Horse	1906	1918	1930	1942	1954	1966	1978	1990	2002	2014	2026
Sheep	1907	1919	1931	1943	1955	1967	1979	1991	2003	2015	2027
Monkey	1908	1920	1932	1944	1956	1968	1980	1992	2004	2016	2028
Rooster	1909	1921	1933	1945	1957	1969	1981	1993	2005	2017	2029
Dog	1910	1922	1934	1946	1958	1970	1982	1994	2006	2018	2030
Boar	1911	1923	1935	1947	1959	1971	1983	1995	2007	2019	2031



Rat

Element: Water

Partners well with: Dragon & Monkey



Characteristics: Intelligent, adaptable, quick-witted, charming, artistic, sociable

Ox

Element: Earth

Partners well with: Snake & Rooster

Characteristics: Loyal, reliable,

thorough, strong, reasonable, steady, determined



Tiger

Element: Wood

Partners well with: Horse & Dog

Characteristics: Enthusiastic, courageous, ambitious, leadership, confidence, charismatic



Rabbit

Element: Wood

Partners well with: Sheep & Boar

Characteristics: Trustworthy, empathic, modest, diplomatic, sincere, sociable, caretakers

Element: Earth
Rat & Monkey
Lucky, flexible,
imaginative,
charismatic



Dragon

Partners well with:

Characteristics:
eccentric,
artistic, spiritual,

Snake

Partners well with:

Rooster & Ox

Characteristics:
Philosophical,

Element: Fire

organized, intelligent, intuitive, elegant, attentive, decisive



Horse

Partners well with: Dog & Tiger

Adaptable, loyal, courageous, ambitious,
adventurous, strong

Element: Fire

Characteristics:
intelligent,



Sheep

Partners well with: Boar &
Characteristics: Tasteful,
charming, intuitive, sensitive,

Element: Metal
Dragon & Rat

Element: Earth

Rabbit
crafty, warm, elegant,
calm

Monkey:

Partners well with:



Characteristics: Quick-witted, charming, lucky, adaptable, bright, versatile, lively, smart

Rooster:

Partners well with: Snake & Ox
energetic, intelligent, flamboyant, flexible,

Element: Earth

Horse
sociable, courageous,
adaptable, smart



Element: Metal

Characteristics: Honest,
diverse, confident

Dog:

Partners well with: Tiger &
Characteristics: Loyal,
diligent, steady, lively,



Boar:

Element: Water

Partners well with: Sheep & Rabbit

Characteristics: Honorable, philanthropic, determined, optimistic, sincere,
sociable



Native Mandala

American



Mandala Art of the Native American Indian

The Native American mandalas are created in honor of a people that truly understand the deeper undercurrents of thought, nature, and life.

Further, they instinctively know that our own thoughts can sometimes mask the deeper messages that come from our hearts. The Native American mandala is used to uncover the deeper meanings of our hearts, and assists in observing our motivations in life in connection with the grander scale of the universe.

Native American Indians have a **profound** respect and understanding for the movement of Spirit. They know that all things are connected, and united. By incorporating the Native American mandala as a tool, we too can begin to understand the connectedness of the Universe.

Focusing on these mandalas and their symbolism allows our mind to cease its constant chatter, and our thoughts begin to delve deeper in the **mist of thought** that dwells closer to the realm of Spirit. The mandala gives the chattering mind a point of focus, something to digest, while the Spirit connection is made, and **clarity of the heart** and soul is reached.



Feather Mandala

Feathers represent ascension and spiritual strength. Feathers were worn by Chiefs to symbolize their communication with Spirit, and to express their celestial wisdom. This Native American mandala is representative of the cosmos with the center representing ourselves. When focused upon, we lose ourselves to the finer, lighter energies of the air, and we begin to feel ourselves relax into the knowledge of our presence within the universe. By contemplating such higher ideals, we are able to understand our purposes and desires more clearly.



Dream Catcher Mandala

Legend has it that a Sioux woman could not put her child to sleep. She went to the old medicine woman who gave her a ring of willows with spider webs laced through the center. The medicine woman explained that the sleepless child suffered from nightmares, and the willow ring would serve to filter the bad dreams out, allowing only good dreams to visit her sleep. As a mandala, the dream catcher has two connotations. One, it allows us to utilize filtering power of our minds. It also brings our attention to the elaborate construction of our lives, and our power to construct and rebuild it as we deem fit. Both of these meanings boil down to the reminder that our thoughts are powerful, and have the ability to make our lives into nightmares or incredible dreams.



Sun & Wind Mandala:

This Native American mandala represents the life giving power of the sun combined with the ever-present spirit of the wind. The two together give us a unique and intimate perspective of the powers of nature. When focused upon, the essence of who we are falls into the meaning of the mandala, and we see how the philosophical energies of the sun and wind can positively change the entire structure of our lives.

Labyrinth Mandala:

American symbol also begs the heavy beginnings. Most have endings, and so this are each infinite, and we are able to see our relation of our journey. labyrinth, but rather, make of it. Our nature is



The labyrinth is a common Native representing our life as a journey. It questions of our philosophical interestingly, these labyrinths do not mandala drives home the fact that we eternal. By focusing on this mandala, beginnings and understand it to the Not necessarily viewing our life as a understanding our life is what we infinite, and how we live our lives will

determine the amount of freedom our soul experiences.

Yantra Mandala



What are yantra mandalas?

A yantra is a visual mantra (a verbal repetition – usually a positive affirmation). It is a symbol or icon – particularly of a goddess (devi) in geometric form.

A Mandala literally means a circle, and is viewed as sacred, normally allowing the observer to settle into a higher or heightened state of awareness.

Given this, a yantra mandala may be considered to be a geometric embodiment of a Hindu deity enveloped in a sacred circle. Such an embodiment is said to arouse our awareness and point our concentration to the attributes of whichever deity represented in the yantra.

How does the yantra mandala work?

When we focus upon a yantra mandala, the mind begins to resonate with the **energy** relevant to the particular deity. As the mind tunes in, or resonates to these energies higher awareness or consciousness is said to be obtained – thus yantra mandalas are seen as an avenue of higher understanding, or enlightenment. This is not gained from the yantra mandala itself.

Rather, this is simply a vehicle or tool for higher awareness.



Dhumavati is the
this yantra will aid in
the beauty in ugly

Durga Yantra

Hindu theology is incredibly diverse and intricate. This aspect of Hindu belief is no exception, and the descriptions of the deities represented below are merely brief summaries.

Dhumavati Yantra

Beholder of Smoke, her persona is deceptive. To those who only see her outward appearance Dhumavati is fearsome and without beauty. To those who look deeper, and beyond the superficial, she bestows powerful blessings with her right hand and represents the divine mother. seventh of the Mahavidyas. Focus upon dispelling false perceptions, and seeing situations.



Durga was created as a warrior goddess

to fight the demon Mahisashur who could not be defeated by god or man. Allegorically, she slays the damaging misconceptions we hold, offering us clarity of mind and spirit. The Durga Yantra assists in the focus upon the qualities of Durga, facilitating strength, feminine energy, creative consciousness.



Ganesh Yantra

The Ganesh Yantra is a good focal point for good luck and success in new ventures. Ganesha is viewed as the remover of obstacles. Meditate upon this yantra when you perceive roadblocks in your life – spiritual or physical. When you need direction or you need the rivers of abundance or creativity to flow, concentration upon the blockage-stopping energy of the Ganesh yantra will help get the flow going again.



Kali Yantra

Kali represents destruction and creation and is an aspect of the Hindu Divine Mother. The Kali Yantra invites the observer to go about the business of manifestation as play time. Kali keeps evil at bay as we focus upon our creative powers, and live in the joy of creating the lives that bring happiness to ourselves and those around us. When focused upon, the Kali Yantra is said to speed spiritual transformation and allows for quick resolution to problems.



Lakshmi Yantra

Lakshmi is the Hindu goddess representative of fortune, light, luck, and beauty. She herself is beautiful and benevolent. Associated with the lotus, her yantra facilitates spiritual progress, enlightenment, and overcoming internal discourse. When focused upon, the Lakshmi energies are engaged and said to expedite abundant wealth, harmony, and tranquility to our lives.

Shri Yantra Mandala

Sri or Shri Yantra Mandala Mahavidya Yantras. The Tripurasundari, the of Shri Vidya. The Shri intersecting triangles interpretation of dynamic



Also known as the Cosmic Yantra, the is the most popular of the Hindu Shri Yantra is a symbol of supreme goddess of the tantric sect Vidya is the symbol (yantra) of nine within a 'circle' or lotus, and is an female energy intersecting passive



male consciousness.

Chakra Symbol Mandalas

Chakra Symbol Mandalas to Facilitate Growth & Healing



For centuries, chakra symbol mandalas have been utilized to focus in on certain attributes of the body, mind and spirit. The premise is that when a certain chakra (or energy center) is focused upon, the mind is able to trigger growth and healing by connecting to the energy resonating to that particular chakra.

We focus upon these energy centers by utilizing the power of chakra symbol mandalas.



By keeping these symbols in our forethought, we are better able to **balance our energy centers**, and reach our desired goals relating to these energies.

Root Chakra Symbol Mandala Facilitates

Grounding, material security, balance of physical body, clearing of fear

Sacral Chakra Mandala Facilitates

Sexual creativity, primal understanding, relief of tension, augment relationships



Solar Plexus Chakra Mandala Facilitates

Personal power, sensitivity, clearing of anger, augment joy



Heart Chakra Mandala Facilitates

Protection, love, harmony, connection, release of rejection, augment love



Throat Chakra Mandala Facilitates

Higher communication, proper judgment, ideal resolutions, release of temerity, augment self-expression



Third Eye Chakra Symbol Facilitates

Spiritual connectedness, insight, visualization into manifestation, clearing of grief, augment healing & imagination

Crown Chakra Symbol Facilitates

Divine connectedness, pure being, perception beyond the confines of space and time, at one with everything.

Sun Yantra



A sun yantra is simply another contemplative tool in our signs and symbols toolbox.

The sun represents many higher aspirations, and having this symbol in our forethoughts facilitates such characteristics as:

- radiant love
- creative energy
- vitality
- passion for life
- expedient philosophical and spiritual growth
- creative energy

When focused upon, the sun yantra can bring about the above mentioned characteristics, as well as aid in healing practices.

The sun is a phenomenal symbol to tap into when we need love, warmth, acceptance and healing in our lives. Keep this symbol in your thoughts as you begin to work with its infinite power and wisdom. The sun carries with it incredible power, and it's just waiting for you to utilize what it has to offer.



Radiant Heat Sun Yantra

Feeling tired and run down? Not for much longer when you focus upon this radiant sun sign. After a little concentration on this symbol, you'll be fanning yourself! This embroidered mandala really packs an energetic punch!



Creative Energy Sun

A little wild, a little free, this ornate yantra mandala beckons us to get into the creative spirit! As we focus on the emblem, we begin to feel the stirrings of our inner creative genius. Give this symbol your attention at **least** once a day. Better yet, have it embroidered on a shirt, and always be reminded that you truly are a creative genius at heart!

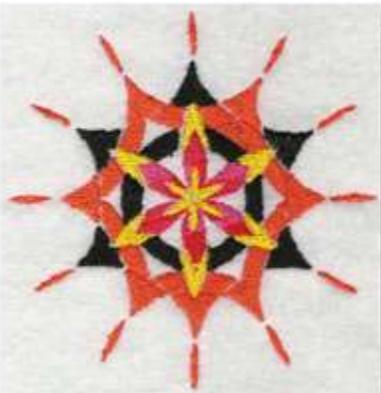
Vitality Sun

This is the perfect symbol for your vibrant and bold energy – and endless energetic spirit are called to the energy that



Yantra

symbol when you need to be reminded of endless nature. Each of us hold boundless energy is! This symbol is a tribute to the within each of us. When focused upon, we recognize our fiery, feistiness, and embrace naturally flows from us.



Love Sun Yantra

When focused upon, this yantra mandala brings us to the center of ourselves, and allows for self-love. By engaging in the act of self-love we are more able to love those around us. And by doing this, we are living in a more loving world. This symbol reminds us of the enormous chain reaction love can have. By just starting with a little love in the center (ourselves), we are able to dynamically affect the entire world.

Spiritual Meaning of Numbers

The spiritual meaning of numbers comes from the understanding that all things have vibrational frequencies assigned to them.

Every number has a certain power which is expressed both by its symbol to denote its representation **and** by its connection to universal principles. Numbers have relationships with all things in nature, thus making them supremely powerful symbolic expressions.

Having said that, **see below for a simple guide** to the spiritual meaning of numbers.



One: One's primarily deal with strong will, positivity, pure energy. The number One reflects **new beginnings**, and purity. When the symbolic meaning of the number One is further clarified when we understand that One represents both kinds of action, physical and mental. This combined with the One's urgency for new beginnings we begin to see that when One's recur in our lives it is time to exert our natural forces, take action, and start a new venture. One encourages us that our action will be rewarded in kind.

Two: The symbolic meaning of number Two is kindness, balance, tact, equalization, and duality. The number Two reflects a **quiet power** of judgment, and the need for planning. Two beckons us to choose. The spiritual meaning of number Two also deals with exchanges made with others, partnerships (both in harmony and rivalry), and communication. Two's urge us of our indecision, calls us to **unite** with like-minds, and like-ideals, as well as exert our natural flow of judgment to do what is best for our souls.

3 Number Three **III**
Mars



Talent * Versatility * Joviality

Three: The spiritual meaning of number Three deals with **magic**, intuition, fecundity, and advantage. The number Three invokes expression, versatility, and pure joy of creativity. Three is also a **time** identifier as it represents Past, Present and future. Consecutive Three's in your life may symbolize the need to express yourself creatively, or consider your present directional path in relation to your past events and future goals. Three's may also represent promising new ventures, assurance of cooperation from others you may require help from, and Threes typically symbolize reward and success in most undertakings.

4 Number Four **IIII**
Mercury



Stability * Solidity * Endurance

Four: The symbolic meaning of number Four deals with stability, and invokes the grounded nature of all things. Consider the four seasons, four directions, four elements all these amazingly powerful essences wrapped up in the nice square package of Four. Four's represent solidity, calmness, and **home**. A recurrence of Four's in your life by signify the need to get back to your roots, center yourself, or even "plant" yourself. Fours also indicate a need for persistence and endurance.

5 Number Five **V**
Jupiter



Expansion * Adventure * Travel

Five: The spiritual meaning of number Five deals with travel, adventure, and motion. With the high's that come with these attributes, Five's also carry instability and **unpredictability**, and radical changes with them. The spiritual meaning of Five's draw our attention to the wonder of life, and beckon us to appreciate the perception of chaos all around us. Five's have wild vibrations: primitive, and erratic. When Five's continue to pop up in your life, be prepared for some shaking up in your life, or get ready to go on a trip of some sort. Remember, trips aren't all necessarily taken physically. Some of the best journeys are taken in the mind and spirit.

6 Number Six ♁

Venus

♀ ♀

♁ ♁

♁ Tolerant * Dependable * Sincere ♁

Six: The symbolism behind number Six is legend. With Venus as it's ruler, Six represents harmony, balance, **sincerity**, love, and truth. Sixes naturally reveal solutions for us in a calm, unfolding manner. We invoke the Six when we need delicate diplomacy when dealing with sensitive matters. The spiritual meaning of number Six also deals with enlightenment; specifically "lighting" our path in areas where we require spiritual and mental balance. Sixes beckon us to administer compassion, and consciously choose forgiveness in a situation.

7 Number Seven ♄

Saturn

♄ ♄

♄ Mystery * Study * Knowledge ♄

Seven: Sevens like Three's deal with magical forces. However, unlike Three's, Sevens deal with esoteric, scholarly aspects of magic. Representative of scholarly activities, **mystery**, and active seeking of esoteric knowledge. Seven's deal with the activation of imagination, and manifesting results in our lives through the use of conscious thought and awareness. Ruled by Saturn, Sevens can represent impractical dreaming, but with a deeper understanding of the aspects of Seven, you can quite deftly utilize its magic vibration to your own benefit.

8 Number Eight ♅

Uranus

♅ ♅

♅ Success * Opportunity * Strength ♅

Eight: The symbolism backing number Eight deals largely with business, success, and wealth. This is Largely due to the fact that Eight represents continuation, repetition, and cycles. Such elements are seen in arenas where **success** is obtained simply because of dogged determination and repetition by the practitioner. Also, matters of business and wealth largely depend on cycles to fulfill their manifestation. It's like the snowball analogy: As it continues to roll, in gets bigger and bigger with each revolution.



Nine: The spiritual meaning of number Nine bring us to the very height of vibrational frequencies in this number sequence. Nine's represent attainment, satisfaction, **accomplishment**, and our success to achieve an influence on our circumstances. The spiritual meaning of number Nine deals with intellectual power, inventiveness, influence over situations and things. Nine beseeches you to recognize your own internal attributes, and extend these abilities out into the world to make a positive, influential difference.

Sioux Symbols

Sioux Symbols and Their Meanings

"We see in the world around us
many symbols that teach us the meaning of life"
-Lame Deer, Sioux Holy Man

The Sioux nation consists of three divisions: Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota. Lakota refer to themselves as "Ikche-Wichasha" – meaning the Real Natural Human Beings. This may give you some insight as to the foundation of Sioux symbols.

Nomadic by nature, they followed the buffalo of the prairie, where they utilized their outstanding hunting skills. Red Cloud, Sitting Bull, and Crazy Horse all came from the Sioux nation.

They worship Wakan Tanka – the grandfather spirit, pray with the pipe, and have vision quests – some lasting for days. Sioux symbols are an integral part of their rituals and ceremonies.

To the Sioux, every facet of being possesses a circular dimension - a cyclical nature. This concept is found in Sioux symbols, and Sioux reality, and it is their way of expressing the **harmony** of life.



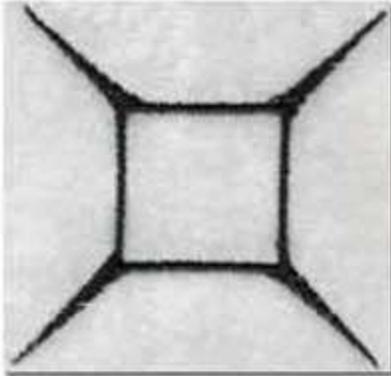
Thunderbird

In the granite summit of Harney Peak, the highest of the Black Hills in South Dakota, the legendary Thunderbird is said to nest. Both dreaded and honored by the Lakota the Thunderbird (or Wakinyan) is the guardian of truth. It is said that the Wakinyan kills liars with lightning bolts that strike from its beak and eyes. Tobacco offerings were made to entice the Thunderbirds to bring rain.



Sioux Tortoise Motif

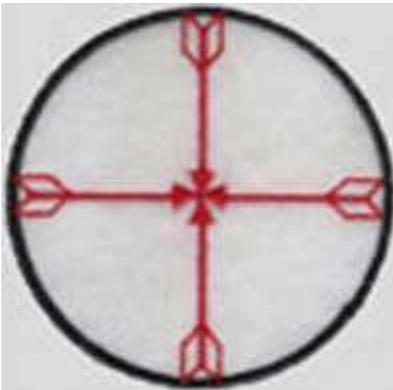
The tortoise assists in welcoming the arrival of newborns, and assuring safe entry into the world. The Sioux believe the tortoise carries the earth inside its body, and had a direct connection with birth. It is a protective and auspicious sign. This tortoise motif would be embroidered on clothing and blankets for babies.



Uname

This is the Sioux holy symbol of the earth and the four winds that blow (radiating out from each corner).

Four Medicine Arrows



This is the Sioux medicine wheel and is a symbol of enlightenment. Each arrow represents a direction of thought and a state of being to aspire:

- North arrow: Wisdom
- South arrow: Innocence
- East arrow: Far Seeing (or seeing into the future)
- West arrow: Inner Seeing (introspection)

This wheel instructs the beholder how to learn more of themselves and the universe. All arrows pointing in the center symbolizes an attainment of enlightenment when all four directions of thought are culminated together.

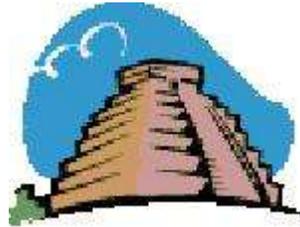


Medicine Stone Wheel

The medicine wheel is used for growth, learning, and is a tool for enlightenment and assistance in areas where we need it. This Sioux medicine wheel shows seven stones in the middle represent the seven types of human personality – or the universal personality (hate, love, fear, envy, compassion, etc.). The stones encircling the inner seven stones represent plants, animals, people or something else – each regarded as having equal value. The four cardinal points represent the four paths each person is born to.

- East: Far seeing
- North: wisdom
- West: Introspection
- South: Innocence of Heart

Mayan Symbols



For over 3,000 years, Mayan symbols have long been a source of **mystery and wonder**.

The Maya were one of the few ancient civilizations to create their own writing system. Their symbols, or hieroglyphs are original to this Central Native American nation; most other civilizations borrowed from pre-existing systems of writing.

An American, John Lloyd Stephens, and an Englishman, Frederick Catherwood discovered the first Mayan symbols in 1839. It was not until 1973 that the symbol meanings were discovered.

This discovery led to the understanding that these symbols could be used singly to illustrate a word, or small letter symbols could be used in conjunction to form a whole word.

Please keep in mind that regardless of how much scholars, archeologists and scientist have discovered about the Mayan culture – there is still much that is unknown. The Mayan ways are **largely mysterious**. Over 3,000 years later, we can try to piece together and understand the meanings of these ancient people.



Jaguar

A symbol of strength, divinity, and general domain over all things – a very big sign of power for the Mayans. By night, the jaguar god would rule over the Mayan Underworld, by day he would prowl across the morning sky from east to west, returning back to the Underworld at dusk. The cosmic forces of day and night fall into the jaguar's realm, a symbol of imminent domain in all things celestial, as well as an ultimate sign for confidence

and leadership.



Eagle

The eagle represents contemplative thought. When focused upon, this Mayan symbol assists in accessing inner wisdom. Known for its power of clarity – this symbol facilitates clear mental focus. After time, focus on the qualities of the eagle representative of the Mayan symbol will pave the way for higher, or even telepathic acuity.



Bat

The Mayan word for bat is "zotz." The bat is representative of the guardian of the Underworld. Also a dubious symbol, rich in dualities, worshipped for its rule over the darkness, and a powerful sign to mark against enemies. Mayans drew a very faint line between our concept of good and evil. Meaning, good and evil was seen in totality rather than marked

separation. As such, the bat was worshipped for both its dark and light qualities. Pictured here is the Central American Long-Nosed Bat. It was common to the area, and seen in Mayan glyphs.



Earth

Representative of movement and slow shifting. This Mayan symbol reminds us that there are larger forces at work, and our transitions (especially during difficult times) will need to be brought about with patience. The earth symbol, when focused upon will assist in becoming centered as you delve into the movements of your inner thoughts to make the conscious shifts you desire.



Night

A symbol of balance and putting things to rest with the goal for peace. Represents putting issues away, and allowing them to sit until your spirit is ready to pull the issues back out for contemplation. Also a sign of surrender. Night represents the cloak or shade being pulled down so that the subconscious or inner spirit can do its work while physical actions must be silenced and put into submission while this inner work takes place.



Sun

A Mayan symbol of ascension, clarity and awareness. Focus upon this symbol facilitates enlightenment. The sun was highly regarded by the Mayan civilization. It brought about high yielding crops, and the sun appeared during time of greatest productivity. Internally, the sun brings about philosophical productivity. Bringing the sun into our meditations warms our consciousness, and allows our divinity to blossom.

Hopi Symbols

Symbol Meanings from the Peaceful People

Hopi symbols are central to their diverse culture. Hopitu-shinumu (Hopi) means **Peaceful People**; this serves as a background to understanding their use of symbols.

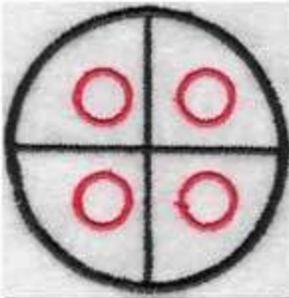
The Hopi are expert craftspeople, and possess uncommon agricultural skills. Their **connection** with the land, cultivating, and harvesting is truly superior. Specifically, their ability to skillfully coax yielding corn from the desert sands is to be commended. This connection to earth and nature is constantly exhibited in Hopi symbols.

Art is a way of life for the Hopi; it expresses their visions, beliefs and dreams to themselves and others. As artisans, they incorporated their Hopi symbols into an array of **dazzlingly** beautiful baskets, weavings, and pottery.



Mother Earth or Maze Symbol

This is a common symbol among many Native American tribes, including the Hopi. One of its representations is that of mother and child. In a broader sense, the connection of earth mother to us as her children. The beginning, straight center-line represents the child – or our philosophical beginnings – the surrounding maze represents the enfolding energies of mother earth. Note the maze does not enclose the center –line representing the child. The symbolism then is strong when we realize the support of the mother is constantly around yet our ability to venture out on our own is always available.



Hopi World Symbol

This symbol signifies world to the Hopi. The "cosmic cross" or four bars represent north, south, east & west correspond to the outermost points on the horizon where the sun passes through the year; the solstice & equinox points. The four circles inside the outer outline represent the four nations, which came to the world to keep balance.



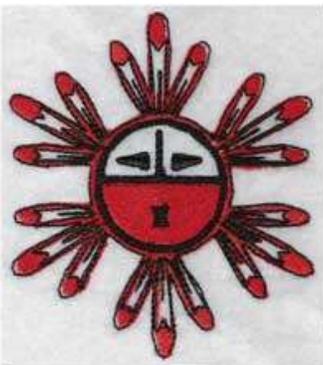
Hopi Sun Symbol

A symbol of creative and natural energy. The supreme god due to the Hopi's dependence upon it for the growth of corn, and other sustaining crops. The sun symbol represents the heart of the cosmos and deals with vitality, growth, and passion.



Hopi Spiral Symbol

This rendition of the Hopi spiral is also common among North, South and Central Native American Indian tribes. The spiral represents the number of journeys or treks a tribe or nation has made to the four corners of the earth. Engraved on stones, the spiral suggests an intricate journey made to the Otherworlds on back. Generally, the spiral represents a broadening of consciousness, which is the destination arrived after a long journey.



Hopi Kachina Sun Symbol

Also known as a Tawa kachina, it is a spirit symbolizing of life, growth, strength of spirit, and abundance. The likeness of this spirit is donned during the solstice ceremony to beckon the sun's return, and begin the growing season.

Identifying Animal Tracks



Identifying animal tracks takes our exploration of animal totems, and Native American animal symbols one step further by broadening our understanding and respect for the animal spirits we call upon.

Tracks tell a story about the ones who left them. Identifying animal tracks opens up a **mystery novel** that tells the reader about the life of the animal. Furthermore, tracks are spirit shadows of a physical self and by understanding them, we become joined to the animal spirit we are observing.

It's good to know these animal characteristics. It shows respect to Mother Earth, and respect to the animal. The more we know, the more we are able to work together with our totems in a **mutually supportive** relationship.

Native Americans viewed animal tracks as **shadow prints on our lives** - left by the spirit of the animal.



Badger

Identifying animal tracks of the Badger indicates a need for us to deal with creative powers. Tenacious, fierce, and wildly effective in its pursuits, the Badger reminds us that all things are possible when we tap into the creative power that is accessible to all of us.



Bear

Bear tracks indicate reflection and self-observation. Hibernation is also a form of self-reflection. We all need to undergo times during our day and our lives to do as the Bear does. When we cross paths with the Bear, we should envelope ourselves temporarily in solitude and silence with a goal for rebirth and self-understanding.

**Bobcat**

Identifying animal tracks of the Bobcat indicates a balance between body, mind and spirit. The Bobcat is also naturally very powerful. This tempered with balance is a sign of a true leader. When we cross paths with the Bobcat we are encouraged to contemplate our capacity for leadership. Are we leaders? If so, are we good ones? If we have not chosen to be leaders in our lives, then the Bobcat asks us to take a moment to give thanks and respect those who in our lives who are.

**Dog**

Dog tracks indicate servitude, loyalty, compassion and respect. Long viewed as the guardian of ancient knowledge, along with being man (and woman's) best friend, the Dog holds endless lessons for us. Specifically, when our paths cross with the Dog, we must be mindful of ALL paths we cross. In short, as the Dog's compassionate heart overlooks human weakness, so too should we as humans overlook faults within each other.

**Duck**

Identifying animal tracks of the Duck indicates a need for patience and calm. When our paths cross with the Duck, we must take a moment to appreciate the simplicity of the moment. Observing in this matter is where we find patience, and where solace can also be found.

**Elephant**

Identifying animal tracks of the Elephant indicates strength, enormity, and silent wisdom. Honored over the ages in many cultures for its intelligence and power, the Elephant's importance in our perspective is as large as its size. When we cross paths with the Elephant we must keep in mind that size does matter – but not the way we might first think. It is how we USE our size that matters. Specifically, it is the size of our silent knowing, or spiritual presence that will move the perceived obstacles in our way.

**Fox**

Fox tracks indicate observance, and family affairs.. The Fox is very family oriented, and will always attempt to lure intruders away from the den when there is evidence of a threat. Also very observant of the behaviors of others around it, the Fox rarely misses a trick. When we cross paths with the Fox, we are reminded to take stock in the treasure found in our family ties, and give thanks for our family. Further, the Fox urges us to observe ourselves in relation to family. Is there family tension? If so, why? In calmly observing our own behavior and that of our family members we can also begin understanding and learn forgiveness.



Goose

Identifying animal tracks of the Goose indicates single-mindedness in purpose and deed. The Goose is quite a determined creature, and when our paths cross with the Goose we must observe our lives for areas that we have been lax.



Muskrat

Identifying animal tracks of the Muskrat indicates resilience, detachment and adaptability. Muskrats have many attributes such as inhabiting both land and water, able to adapt to surroundings, being relatively waterproof, and having a knack for going about their business undetected. Given this, when we cross paths with the Muskrat we are encouraged to tap into our own ingenuity and adaptability when dealing with our present circumstances - realizing that everything has a potential for positive outcome (no matter how bleak appearances may be).



Opossum

Opossum tracks indicate cunning, sharp wit, but more importantly - detachment. The Opossum is capable of using its intellect and intuition to get itself out of the stickiest situations. And if all else fails, it plays dead. When our paths cross with the Opossum, we must realize that even with all of our cleverest plans and highest intelligence, sometimes we have to "play dead" to get our desired results. In short, sometimes the best way to handle a problem is to step away from it temporarily.



Porcupine

Identifying animal tracks of the Porcupine indicate innocence, faith, and wonder. The Porcupine never instigates trouble, and has few natural enemies. This being the case, it lives in a state of wonder and child-like innocence. Further, it realizes that all things are for the better good of Mother Earth, and provisions will always be met. Should we be fortunate enough to cross paths with a Porcupine, we would all do well to heed these qualities of trust and wonder for ourselves.



Raven

Raven tracks indicate a message to us beyond time and space. Long revered for being a great bearer of magic, the Raven transports the energy of messages and healing to its intended destination. When our paths cross with the Raven we are encouraged to change our perspective and admit to the magic around us as well as within us.



Turtle

Identifying animal tracks of the Turtle is to identify Mother Earth herself. The Turtle teaches us to stand with both feet firmly on the ground as we connect to Earth. Further, it shows us how we can protect ourselves – and that's it is acceptable to withdraw ourselves from conflict when the occasion calls for it. When we cross paths with the Turtle, we must focus on being grounded. The Turtle also beckons us to take things slow and easy for the time being. All things will happen in good time.



Wolf

Wolf tracks indicate the presence of a teacher, and spiritual energy. The Wolf is connected with Sirius, the star in the Canis Major constellation, where from the teachers of ancient times originated. This being the case, the Wolf is a symbol of mentoring, teaching, and wisdom for us. Additionally, it's connection with Sirius, along with its nocturnal habits of howling at the moon make the Wolf a largely spiritual teacher. When we cross paths with the Wolf we are urged to be aware that we are all teachers to everyone we meet. In a single sentence we can teach love or hate to all those we encounter.