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This page is about the meaning, origin and characteristic of the symbol, emblem, seal,
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Symbols, Signs & Flags

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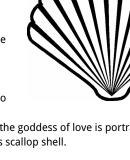
Traditional Rubbed Prime Rib \$69.95 Cold Water Lobster Tails \$34.95 Order p common/img/sml logo symb.png&nan

Maple Grove, MN Residents Are 'Rattled' By New Website

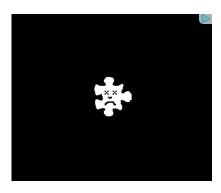
This little marine bivalve holds a great deal of symbolism inside its elegant shell.

As a symbol, the scallop shell has much in common with other similarly shaped objects. Like the oyster, cowrie shell and coco-de-mer palm nut, the scallop strongly resembles the female genitalia, and thus carries notions of femininity and fertility. The famed Renaissance artist Sandro Botticelli used this symbolism to great effect in

his famous painting "The Birth of Venus", where the goddess of love is portrayed emerging from the ocean on top of an enormous scallop shell.



There is also, however, another signature meaning to the scallop shell, and one that some would argue runs in complete contradiction to notions of femininity. In Medieval Europe, there were many shrines dedicated to Christian saints all throughout the continent, and pilgrims visiting these shires usually wore some kind of token or symbol to show that they had made the journey. One of the holiest and most prestigious of these shrines (surpassed only by Rome and Jerusalem) was Santiago de Compostela in northwestern Spain. Dedicated to St. James the Greater, the scallop shell was its official emblem and an attribute of the saint himself. There are several varying accounts as to why the scallop shell is particularly associated with St. James and this specific pilgrimage route, but regardless of its provenance, pilgrims who made the arduous trek to Santiago de Compostela received a badge shaped like the scallop shell as proof of their piety and devotion.



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What's This?



Asymmetric, Closed shape, Monochrome, Contains both straight and curved lines, Has no

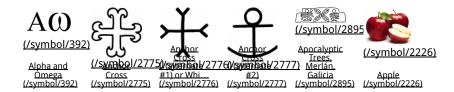
Categories: Emblems (/category/6), Religious Symbols (/category/5).

Scallop Shell (/symbol/2194) is part of the Christian Symbols (/group/5) group.

Edit this symbol

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More symbols in Religious Symbols (/category/5):

Religious symbolism is the use of symbols, including archetypes, acts, artwork, events, or natural phenomena, by a religion. Religions view religious texts, rituals, and works of art as symbols of co... read more » (/category/5)





Ajna: The Brów Chakra (/svmbol/383) (/svmbol/385)

<u>Òmega</u> (/symbol/392)

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An emblem is an abstract or representational pictorial image that represents a concept, like a moral truth, or

an allegory, or a person, like a king or saint. Although words emblem and symbol are of ... read more a utm source=aol&utm medium=display&utm/contents smarter 300x250&utm campaign=retargeting&cvosrc=display.aol.retargeting smarter 300x250)











