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Sun Symbol and Symbolism

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Exploring Sun Symbolism

The sun <u>symbol</u> is found in all cultures throughout history.

Considered by most peoples as a **cosmic power**, it's not surprising we see the sun emblazed upon countless artifacts and writings.

Ancient Chinese culture recognized the sun as the Great Male Principle - the

ultimate <u>Yang</u>. These symbolically appreciative <u>people also</u> personified the sun as a <u>cosmic eve</u> viewing out upon its dominion during the day.

<u>Alchemically</u>, the sun is *sol* and is esoterically **symbolic of the mind** or intellect. <u>Gold</u> is considered the material of the sun in outwardly symbolic practices of alchemy.



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Some Elements Considered to be Sun Symbols

Bronze

Gold

Diamond

Ruby

Topaz

The <u>planetary sign</u> of the sun (a circle with a dot in the center) is also an <u>alchemical symbol</u> of origin signifying completion of the Great Work. Furthermore, this sun symbol represents the Self in its relation to the **cosmic whole.**

This is also the <u>case in astrology</u> where the sun is symbolic of the Self that is expressed outwardly – the self that shines openly to our friends, family, coworkers, etc. The sun position at our time of birth gives special illumination as to our characteristics. It's as if the sun **shines upon our symbolic selves** and makes us most visible to the world (<u>see your astro sun sign here</u>).

Quick List of Symbolic Sun Meanings

Life

Power

Strength

Energy

Force

Clarity

Self

In Christianity the sun is the house of Archangel Michael (Gabriel lives within the moon), and is also a symbol of the Christ, or Christ-like attributes.

In ancient Egypt the sun is associated with the Horus, Ra and Osiris. Horus represents the rising sun, Osiris the setting sun, and Ra represents the sun's zenith.



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Again we see the sun symbolism in <u>association with eyes</u> or vision as the sun is the eye of Zeus in Greek mythology.

Likewise, in Hindu mythology the sun is the eye of Varuna, and is also considered the "divine rejuvenator."

The sun resonates with male energy in most cultures. However, <u>Celtic perspective</u> places *feminine power* within the sun's rays. Likewise, ancient African, Japanese, Germanic, and some <u>Native American</u> tribes all hold the sun as a feminine energy.

<u>Animals</u> can also be considered as sun symbols. For example, the <u>eagle</u> was a symbol of the sun **rising in its glory** and power over their cities. <u>The tiger</u> is the sun in its setting aspect

A Few Solar Animals Considered Sun Symbols Myth and Lore

<u>Hawk</u>

Lion

<u>Salamander</u>

Pheasant

Rooster/Cock

Horse

<u>Swan</u>

Porcupine

Hedgehog

Ram

<u>Spider</u>

Phoenix

Eagle

Lion

Dragon

Bull

A <u>flower</u> may also be considered a sun symbol. Here are a few <u>flowers that</u>

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Then

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radiate with sun energy, and are considered symbolic of the sun:

Flowers as Sun Symbols

Lotus

Rose

<u>Sunflower</u>

Chrysanthemum

Other Common Sun Symbols

<u>Swastika</u>

Spiral

<u>Star</u>

Wheel

Disc

Heart

Chariot

Face

Eve

<u>Circle</u>

Our ancestors have long considered the sun as the **center of humankind's existence.** Modern mankind tends to overlook this priority, and perhaps takes for granted the life-affirming essence the sun exemplifies.

I hope this post encourages you to reconsider some of your symbolic ideas about the sun, and perhaps even adopt a sun symbol for yourself. These symbols can provide immensely **enlightening in meditations**, and focus/affirmation practices.

You may also want to visit my Tarot site and review **Sun Tarot Card Meanings**

I hope you have enjoyed this page on sun symbol meanings. Be sure to check out the links at the end of this page for more articles on symbolic meanings.



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