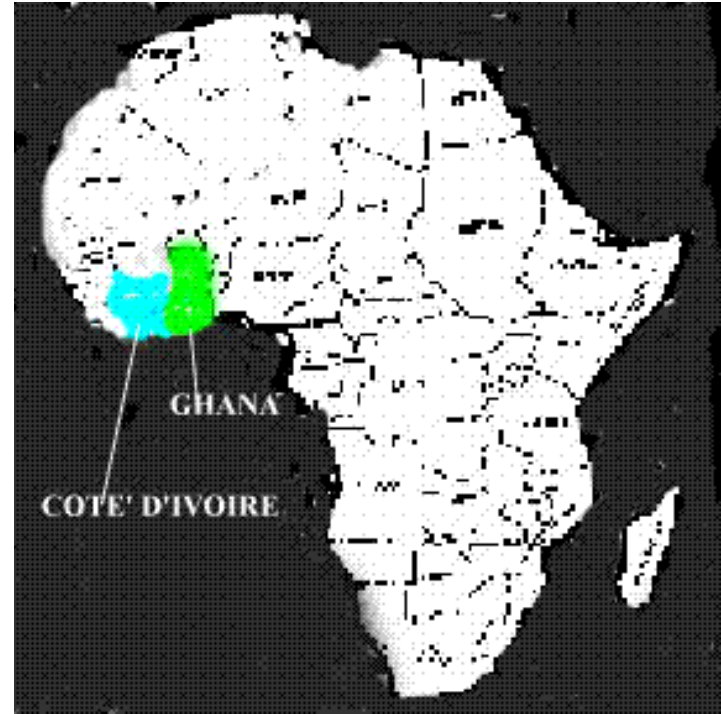


Adinkra Symbols & Meanings



West African Wisdom: Adinkra Symbols & Meanings

- African symbols known as adinkra are ubiquitous in Ghana, a beautiful West African country on the Atlantic. On cloth and walls, in pottery and logos, these Asante tribe symbols can be found everywhere.
- http://www.adinkra.org/htmls/adinkra_index.htm



Here are some symbols & their meanings:



AKOMA

"the heart"

symbol of patience and tolerance

According to Agbo, when a person is said to "have a heart in his stomach," that person is very tolerant.



SANKOFA

"return and get it"

symbol of importance of learning from the past



ADINKRAHENE

"Chief of the adinkra symbols"

symbol of greatness, charisma and leadership

This symbol is said to have played an inspiring role in the designing of other symbols. it signifies the importance of playing a leadership role.



Why a certain design/symbols




- The designing is done according to the message the wearer or owner of the cloth intends to convey to the participants of the event.
- The quality of the cloth also shows the status of the one wearing it.
- The original Adinkra cloth is not meant to be washed since it faded easily as a result of the natural ink used without any chemical additives.

ADINKRA CLOTH SYMBOLS CHART

Aban (Great Fortress) Seat Of Government	Abode Santanm (All Seeing Eye) God's Omnipresence	Abusua Pa (Good Family) Family Unity	Adinkrahene (King Of Adinkra Symbols) Authority	Adwo (Peace) Serenity	Agyin Dawuru (Agyin's Gong) Loyalty	Akoben (Wise Horn) Valor	Akofena (State Swords) Heroic Deeds	Akoko Nan (Nan's Feet) Protection	Akoma (Heart) Love
Akoma Ntansa (Joined Hearts) Togetherness	Akwasaba (Welcome) Hospitality	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Craftiness	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Discipline	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingratitude	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Sweetness	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Divinity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Prosperity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Nurturing Spirit	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Defiance
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Abundance	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Willing Helper	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Strategy	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Adoration	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Poetic Sequence	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Femininity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Strength	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Protection	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Bondage	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Interdependence
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Leadership	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Tenderness	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Security	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Jealousy	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Unity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Bravery	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) God's Omnipotence	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Joy Of Living	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Standard Of Quality	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Permanence
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Cooperation	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Hypocrisy	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Arrogance	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Democracy	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Experience	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Inequality	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Prudence	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Recognition	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Fortitude	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Legality
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Praise	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Harmful	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Democracy	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Life's Challenges	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Good Luck	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Good Luck	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Knowledge	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Knowledge	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Brotherhood	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Loyalty
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Fate	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Superiority	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Precision	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Toughness	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Friendship	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Veracity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) High Quality	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Cooperation	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Affluence	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Patronage
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Faith	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Faith In God	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) God's Protection	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) God's Blessing	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) God's Guidance	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Majesty Of God	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Wise Leadership	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Maternal Love	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Harmony	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Precious Treasure
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Adaptability	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Devotion	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Royal Authority	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Royal Vigilance	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Royal Leadership	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Royal Power	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Royal Protection	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Exemplary Leadership	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Power	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) God's Creations
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Faithfulness	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Honored King	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Progress	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingenuity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingenuity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingenuity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingenuity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingenuity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingenuity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Ingenuity
Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Devotion To God	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Purity	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Confidence	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Envy	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Power Sharing	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Fragility	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Protection	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Perseverance	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Democracy	Akwete Ntansa (Spider's Web) Farewell

Observe how the shapes interlock and make a unique design

Look at the stamps on your project sheet

 <p>Bi-nnka-bi (obi nnka obi)</p>	<p>Bite not one another</p>	<p>Peace</p> <p>Harmony</p> <p>Caution against strife and provocation</p>
 <p>Osram ne Nsoroma</p>	<p>The moon and the star.</p>	<p>Love</p> <p>Faithfulness</p> <p>Fondness.</p>
 <p>Mmusuyidee</p>	<p>That which removes ill luck or evil.</p>	<p>Good fortune</p> <p>Sanctity</p> <p>Spiritual strength</p>

How it was originally made

- The Asante people have developed their unique art of adinkra printing.
- They use two traditional printing methods; the block-stamp technique,
- which involves the use of wooden or metal stamps and the screen printing.



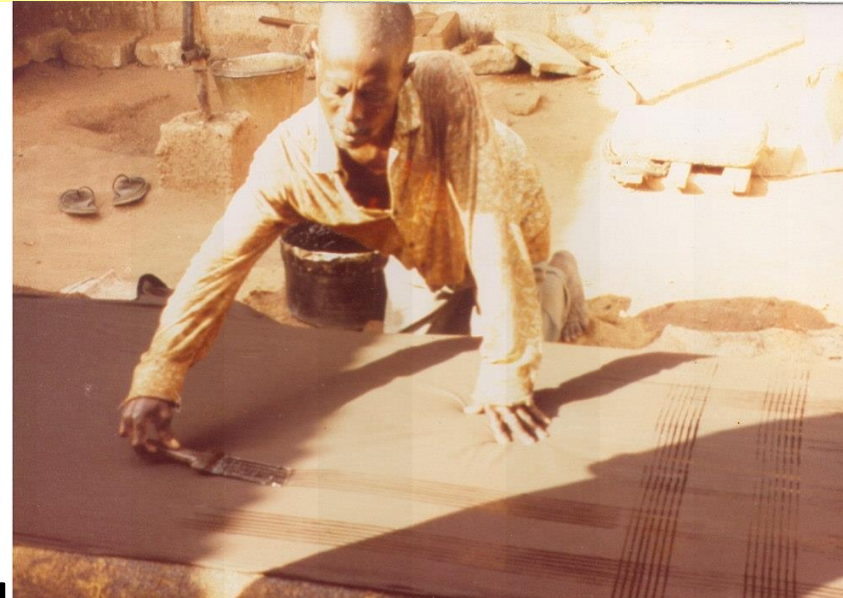
Making of the dye or ink

- Badie bark is boiled with iron scraps. When the colour (deep brown) emerges from the pulp it is sieved and engraved onto a piece of calabash or pot.



The stamp process

- The Adinkra cloth was originally printed from hand carved stamps from calabash or gourd (apakyiwa).
- The various stamps carved from the calabash are tinted with dye and pressed in sequence onto plain cotton cloth, pegged on the ground.



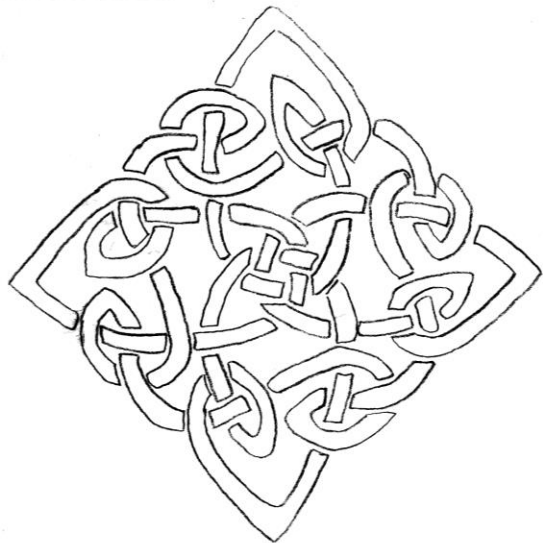
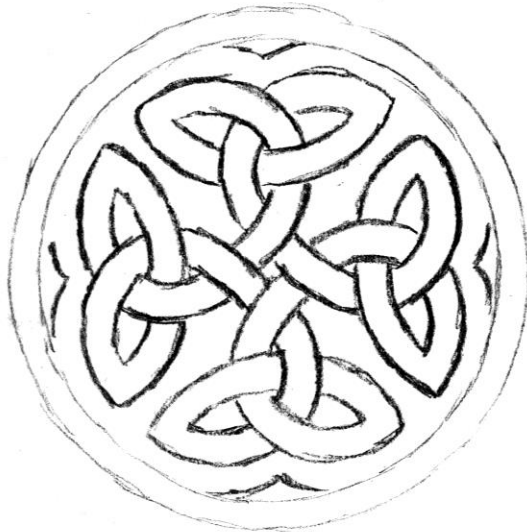
Everyday symbols



→ , ! (→ 09:00).
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 (,)
 → 07:40 ! (→). ,

Here are some students finished pieces

1. Draw your design(s)



2. Transfer design* and
carve in to linoleum block



***You will be making
2 DESIGNS**

Just a few more steps...

3. Grid your paper and background design



4. Printing your design as a finished piece. (in black ink)



Our Assignment Today

- Find a symbol that represents **your culture**.
- You can research on the internet/cell phone for ONLY this purpose or find symbols that would represent you. Start to DRAW some ideas.
- **Tomorrow** we will be adding one last spread to our Sketchbooks. But...
- On **Monday** we will try an activity using apples or another source as a stamp.