

Draw Your Own Rangoli!

A *rangoli* is a Indian folk art form that consists of patterns created with colored rice, dry flour, colored sand, grains, or flower petals in entryways, backyards or any place that has a smooth surface.

Rangolis are created during festivals like Diwali and other auspicious occasions like weddings to welcome guests, bring good luck, and simply decorate the home. Many Hindus create fresh *rangolis* sometimes on a weekly, even daily basis, sweeping away the old design and creating a new one. This reminds us that change is constant.

The spiritual significance of this exercise requires focusing your mind on creating intricate designs. This beautiful art form has traditionally been done by the women in the family but now everyone joins in and participates.

Our “Draw Your Own Rangoli!” activity is a great way to try out different designs and get some practice!

Examples of Rangolis



Draw Your Own Rangoli!

Directions

Are you ready to create your own rangoli artwork?

It is actually quite easy. Once you create the first part, the pattern repeats. Take a look at the example provided.

Step 1: Pre-planning.

- › Divide the dot grid in equal parts from the center like a pie. Think about how complex you want the design to be. Remember, it is traditionally a repeating pattern. The dot grid will serve as basic guidance.

Step 2: Start drawing!

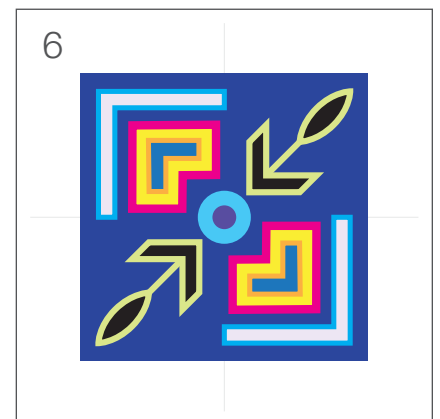
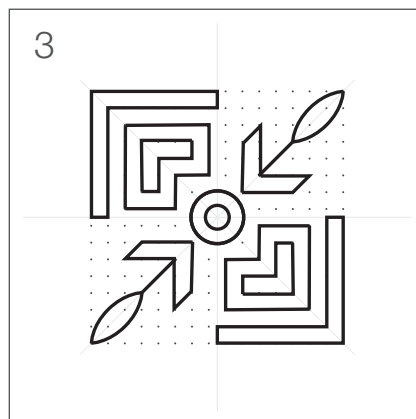
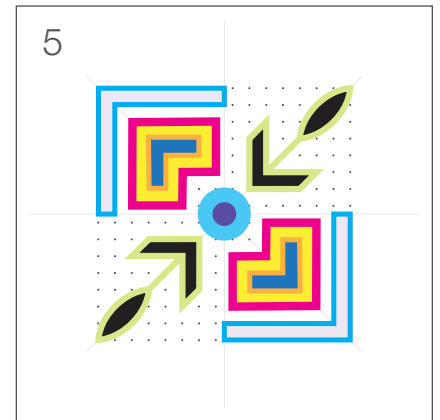
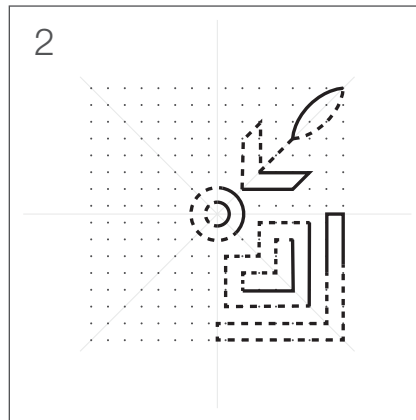
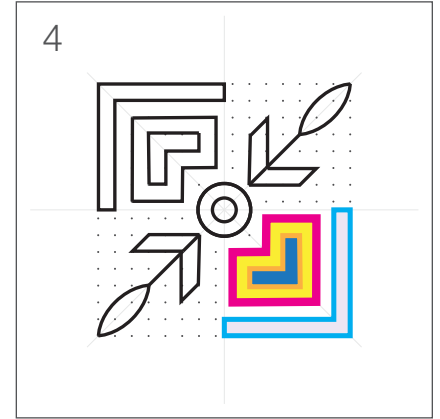
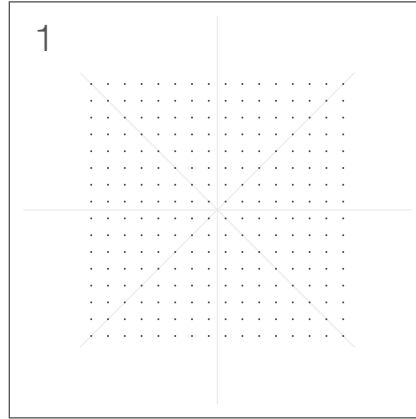
- › Let's put pencil to paper! Pick a half, quadrant or an eighth based on how you've decided to create the repetition. We recommend that you start with small design elements to get practice with pattern making.

Step 3: Repeat the pattern.

- › Using the section you've designed, rotate from the center and repeat the pattern in the other sections.

Step 2: Color it in.

- › Have fun coloring it in as you see fit.
- › Remember, it doesn't need to be a square. It can be however you want. Some don't even follow a pattern. The key is to have fun!



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Now you try it by using markers, crayons, or glitter to make your own rangoli design!

