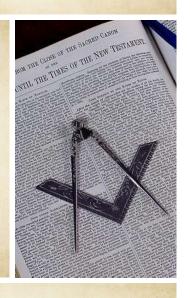
Chapter 12 MASONIC SYMBOLS



The Symbols of Freemasons (such as the Square & Compasses) come from the operative stonemasons, Cathedral builders, and comacines masters.

Mentions of Masonic symbols can be found in the Bible. Lambskin (Peter 1:19, Prov 27:26) Pot of Incense (II Chron. 4:22, Rev. 8:3, Ex 38:3, Heb. 9.4) All-Seeing Eye (Prov. 15:3, Ps 11:4, Ps. 33:18) Anchor and Ark (Heb 6:19, Heb 11:7) Scythe (Job 14:2, Is. 38:10) Sword Pointing to Naked heart (St Luke 2:35) Acacia (Ex 27:1p)

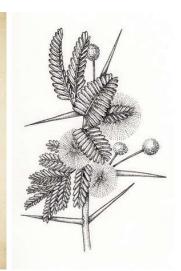




The symbolic covering of a Lodge should be celestial or starry-decked heaven.

The sprig of acacia is used as an emblem in Freemasonry originating from a Jewish custom of planting a branch of acacia vera on the grave.

The acacia was esteemed as a sacred wood among the Hebrews and it symbolizes the immortality of the soul.

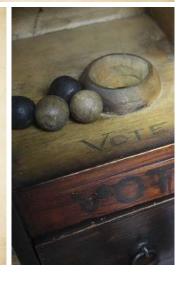


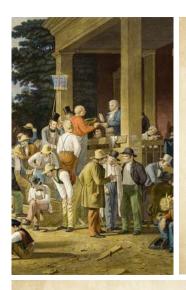


The beehive is another common emblem of Freemasonry because it reveals the power the collective can achieve when faced with a single task.

The concept behind the hive is to gather people with similar interests who can cooperate as work is vital in Freemasonry.

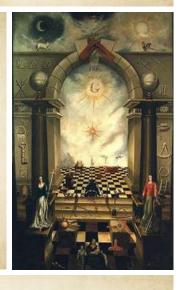
To prevent errors, some Grand Lodges have replaced the "black-ball" in the voting system with a black-cube, which would be easier to identify in low light.





Due to the voting-in systems of Speculative Masonic Lodges, one can confidently say the "government system" used by Freemasons is democratic.

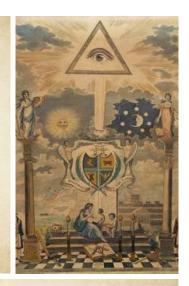
Freemasonry is said to be "veiled in allegory" because its teachings (and applications of those teachings" are infinite in how they can be applied.





Geometry and Astronomy are two sciences that hold special reverence by Freemasons worldwide.

The now infamous term "A Beautiful System of Morality, Veiled in Allegory and Illustrated by Symbols" was coined by Samuel Hemming, the first Senior Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England.





The term "Mystic Tie" stands for the Spiritual tie not easily broken, a fellowship amongst Masons.

The expression was used by poet, lyricist, and Brother - Robert Burns in his farewell to the Brethren of Saint James Lodge, Tarbolton, Scotland.

Charles Lindbergh, an American aviator, military officer, author, and inventor always wore a square and compasses on his jacket "for good luck".

Lindbergh, as a Freemason, represents a long line of explorers and adventurers down through the ages who were members of the craft.





Contrary to popular belief, the Great Seal of The United States has no Masonic significance.

Together, the two sides of the Great Seal are a unique combination of images from nature and culture. But no organization has an exclusive association with any of these symbols.

The Royal Arch Year is calculated by adding 530 to the current year.



