



RE

Hinduism

Symbols and Meanings



Aim

- I can name and explain the meanings of Hindu symbols.

Success Criteria

- I can correctly match Hindu symbols with their names.
- I can explain what the main Hindu symbols mean or represent.

Religions and Symbols



Can you match the religions with their main symbols?

Christianity

Judaism

Hinduism

Sikhism

Buddhism

Islam



Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Aum

This is the most important symbol in Hinduism.

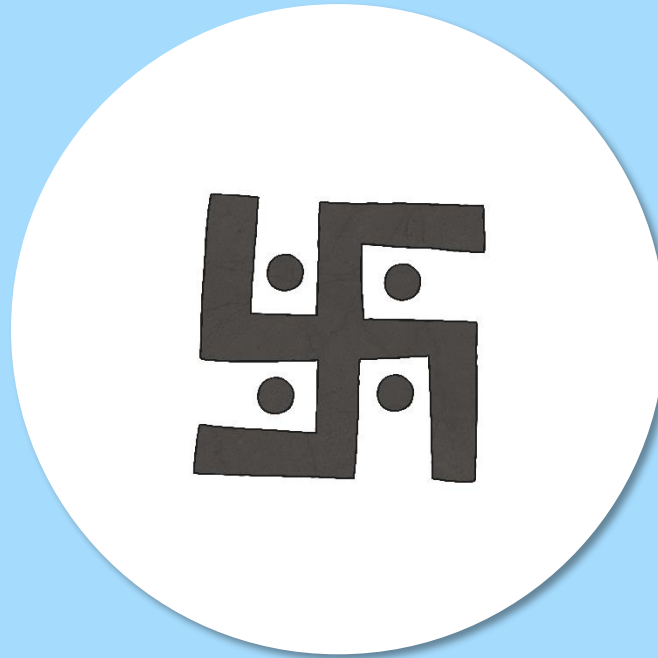


It represents the Atman (soul) and the Brahman (the ultimate reality).

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Swastika

The swastika is a very holy symbol, representing the Sun god Surya.



It shows how Hinduism is part of every aspect of a Hindu's life.

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Lotus Flower (Padma)

This is a very important symbol, as Hindus believe that Brahma (the Creator) came from a lotus flower.



Despite growing in muddy waters, the lotus turns into a beautiful flower.

It represents how people should always become kind and good.

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Hands Together

When Hindu people greet each other they place two hands together, bow their head slightly and say Namaste.



This is the same when they greet a god in a temple or a holy person.

This is seen as offering respect to the atman (soul) of whoever is being greeted.

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Conch Shell

This is used as part of the ritual while praying.



It is one of the symbols of Lord Vishnu.

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Trident (Trishul)

The Trident is the symbol of the Lord Shiva.



Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Kalasha

The kalasha is a coconut circled with mango leaves on a pot.



It is often used in rituals such as the fire sacrifice.

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Cow

Cows are considered to be symbolic of purity, motherhood and ahimsa (non-violence).



It is often used in rituals such as the fire sacrifice.

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Diya

Diya lamps are the symbols of light.



Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

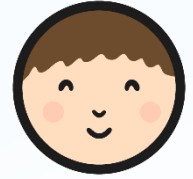
Pranama

This is considered a respectful greeting for an elder in the family, for someone who is deeply respected and for statues of deities.













The pranama is usually followed by a blessing from the person (or is assumed in the case of a deity statue).

Hindu Symbols and their Meanings



Matching Hindu Symbols

Cut out the symbols, names and meanings.

		Hands
		Lotus
		Hindu
		Aur
		Dwe

Matching Hindu Symbols and their Meanings

Symbol	Name	Meaning

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