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Symbols Used on a Yantra

Shapes and patterns commonly employed in Yantra include squares, triangles, circles and floral patterns but may also include more complex and detailed symbols, for instance:

- **The lotus flower** typically represent chakras, with each petal representing a psychic propensity (or vritti) associated with that chakra
- **A dot, or bindu**, represents the starting point of creation or the infinite, unexpressed cosmos
- **The shatkona** (Sanskrit name for a symbol identical to the star of David) composed of a balance between:
 - An upwards triangle denoting action (or service), extroversion, masculinity or Shiva
 - A downwards triangle denoting introversion, meditateness, goddess energy or Shakti
- **A swastika** represents good luck, welfare, prosperity or spiritual victory
- **Bija mantras** (usually represented as characters of Devanāgarī that correspond to the acoustic roots of a particular chakra or vritti)

The *Shri Yantra* is one of the most famous and ancient Yantra.

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