

Zodiac Symbols

♈ *Aries*

The ram's horns represent Dumuzid, an ancient god associated with shepherds and the golden ram of Greek mythology.

♉ *Taurus*

Taurus is Latin for bull. The constellation gets this name because the stars form the profile of a bull's face in a V-shape.

♊ *Gemini*

Gemini is the Latin word for "twins." In Babylonian astronomy, the two main stars of this constellation were known as the Great Twins.

♋ *Cancer*

The sideways "69" is an abstraction is supposed to be the crab claws. Hera gave him a place of honor in the sky after being crushed by Heracles.

♌ *Leo*

This symbol looks a lot like the constellation of Leo, recognized as a lion by Babylonians as early as 4000 BCE.

♍ *Virgo*

The Latin word for virgin, also known as the Maiden. It represents Shala, the ancient goddess of fertility, and her ear of grain.

♎ *Libra*

The scales were sacred to the sun god Shamash, who was also the patron of truth and justice. The symbol represents balance.

♏ *Scorpio*

It is meant to represent the scorpion and its stinger. It looks like Virgo, except it has its tail pointing out, not curled in on itself like the maiden.

♐ *Sagittarius*

An archer or an arrow pointing upwards. The Babylonians saw it as the god Nergal, a centaur-like creature firing an arrow from a bow.

♑ *Capricorn*

Babylonians called it the "Goat-Fish" as a symbol of their god Enki. The symbol shows the hoof of a mountain goat and the tail of a fish.

♒ *Aquarius*

It depicts the waves of water and represents the destructive floods that Mesopotamians and Egyptians experienced in early February.

♓ *Pisces*

Aphrodite and Eros shape-shifted into fishes to escape the monster Typhon. They tied themselves together not to lose each other.