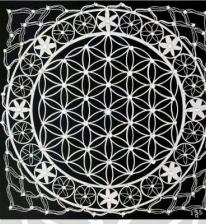


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SIPE

FLORIS VITAE

(The Flower of Life - The Manifestation of the Universe in Nature)

The Sacred Geometrical form known as "The Flower of Life" is a symmetrical form containing 6 circles intersecting at a point, with a 7th circle centered on that intersection, making a hexafoil or six-petal rosette. The oldest known occurrence of this "overlapping circles" creating this pattern is dated to the 7th century BC, found on the threshold of the palace of Assyrian king Aššur-bāni-apli in Dur Šarrukin (North Palace (Nineveh)) (now in the Louvre and in the British Museum) (left photos). This drawing of mine includes 24 circles around the main design, manifesting the circles with the 6 original petals, multiplied by 4 parts of the figure, ensuring a balanced symmetry.





Other of the older examples are five patterns of 19 overlapping circles drawn in red ochre on the granite columns at the Osireion in the Temple of Seti I (1290–1279 BC) in Abydos, Egypt (right photo).







Patterns of this overlapping circles are also found on Roman mosaics, for example at Herod's palace in the 1st century BC and on a Cup with mythological scenes, 8th–7th centuries BC, dalion, Cyprus. (left photos).



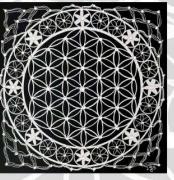


In Asia, the design found expression in 16th Century Indian temples (as Hampi and The Golden Temple of Amritsar) and under a Lion's claw orb at Beijing's 15th Century Forbidden City (right photos).

It is later found as an ornament in Gothic architecture, and in European folk art.

Original Art Work - Framed with Wood and Glass Frame
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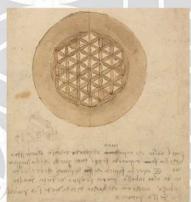
High medieval examples with the use of the Hexafoil include the Cosmati pavements in Westminster Abbey (13th century) (left photos).





Leonardo da Vinci explicitly discussed the mathematical proportions of this design on his Codex Atlanticus, fol. 307r–309v, 459r (dated between 1478 and 1519):





Because of Its Antique, Symmetrical and Simple form, The Flower of Life design is one of the Principle Symbols of Sacred Geometry and maybe consider one of the first ones called this way.

It is seen as a Symbol of Union with the Forces of Nature and Energy which inhabits the entire Universe, possessing a Energy Field around it, that creates Harmony and Balance in each place where it is placed and on a person who wears it as a talisman or pendant.

In Islamic art, the pattern is one of several arrangements of circles (others being used for fourfold or fivefold designs) used to construct grids for Islamic geometric patterns. It is used to design patterns with 6- and 12-pointed stars as well as hexagons in the style called Girih. Left, a window cage at the Topkapi Palace, built with this Girih pattern.





