

SECRET MESSAGES

Traditional Ukrainian eggs (also known as *pysanky*) were decorated with symbols that carried meaning and good wishes. Below are just a few examples.

Design your own egg using traditional symbols, or invent your own!





HORSE: Sun, wealth, prosperity

FLOWERS: wisdom, beauty, elegance





OAK LEAF/ACORN: strength and persistence

DEER: masculinity, victory, leadership

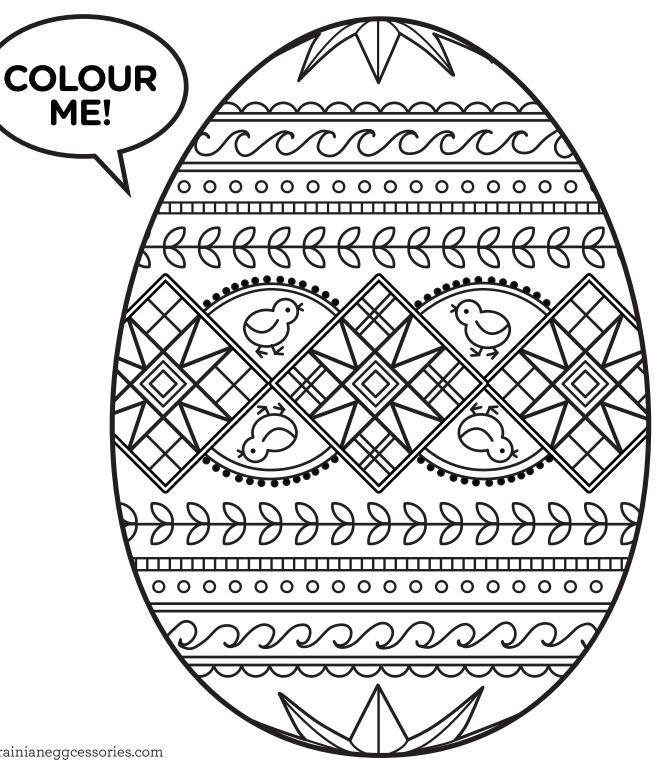




PINE BOUGH: strength, growth, eternal life

BIRD: coming of spring, fertility, fulfillment of wishes





THE SYMBOLISM **OF COLOUR**

Traditional Ukrainian eggs (also known as *pysanky*) were dyed in many colours, and each colour had a meaning.

What colours are not on the list below? What meaning would you give them?

WHITE: purity, light, birth

YELLOW: sun, stars, moon, harvest,

warmth, youth, happiness

ORANGE: endurance, strength,

ambition

RED: happiness, hope, passion, sun

BLUE: sky, air, good health

GREEN: spring, hope, freshness,

renewal

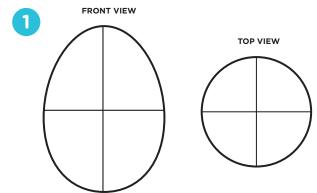
BROWN: mother earth

BLACK: darkest time before dawn,

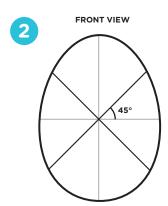
eternity, respect for the dead



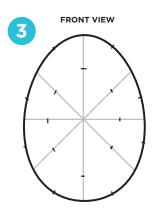
STEP-BY-STEP Pysanka Pattern



With an HB pencil and a light touch, divide egg into 8 sections as shown.

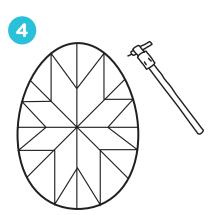


Add diagonal lines from centre, making sure to keep them at 45 degrees from the first lines.

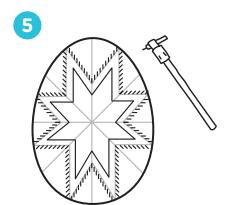


SIDE VIEW

Make a mark halfway from centre to the end of each "spoke" Make a mark halfway along the side sections, as shown.

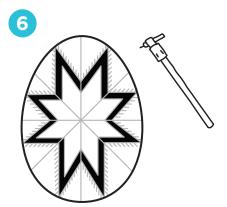


With the kistka, wax in the base lines and connect the marks from step 3.



Using your wax lines from step 4 as reference, add the lines shown.

Dye the egg first (lighter) colour. See samples on the right for ideas, or feel free to experiment!



Wax in the area shown above.

Dye the egg in the second (darker) colour.

For complete instructions on pysanky-making, check out our instructional booklet, *Pysanky Party* by Doris Mielke available at ukrainianeggcessories.com

SAMPLE COLOUR COMBINATIONS



Gold and blue



Red and



Green and black



Pink and purple



Gold and pink



Turquoise and blue

