

BOOMbox at Home

Ghanaian Adinkras

Learn of the history of Adinkra symbols, which originated in Ghana. They adorn clothes, pottery, and walls, and provide the Ashanti people of Ghana visual reminders of their own societal values. Create your own Adinkra to represent your values and adorn textiles in your home.

Supplies

- Scratch paper
- Sponge cloth
- Cardboard
- Tape
- Glue
- Paint brush
- Scissors
- Paint
- Textiles like fabric bags or clothing

Instructions

Spend a few moments reading more about the names and meanings of some of the Adinkra symbols used in Ghanaian culture. A great place to start is [this database of Adinkra symbols](#) and [this overview from Kid World Citizen](#).

Once you're finished, think about which symbol stuck with you most. Which values do we need to see more of now? Use the following instructions to either replicate an existing Adinkra, or create your own.

- Practice sketching the design of an existing or new Adinkra on paper.
- Once you've chosen a design, draw it with a pen onto your sponge cloth surface, or tape your design to the sponge cloth.
- Carefully cut out your design and glue it to a similarly sized piece of cardboard to create your stamp.
- Saturate your stamp with paint and test out some prints on scratch paper.
- Once you are satisfied with the results, use your stamp to decorate your fabric with your Adinkra.