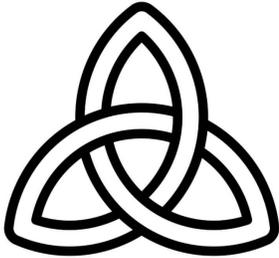


# What's it all mean?



## Irish Celtic Symbols:



### Triquetra (Trinity Knot)

The trinity knot can have several meanings. Some common ones are listed here:

- Maiden, mother, wise woman
- Three forces of nature of Earth, Fire and Water
- Three elements of Earth, Sea and Sky
- Christian Trinity. (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
- A symbol of Ireland's ancient culture.
- Eternal love (it is also known as an Irish Love Knot).
- As a gift to convey a wish of longevity, as it represents an uninterrupted life cycle.

Can be encased in a circle as a means to emphasize unity or eternit



### Triskele (Triskelion)

Derived from the Greek word *Triskeles*, tri meaning three and skelos meaning leg, its literal meaning is three legs. Similar to the trinity knot, it can symbolize many things:

- Life, death, rebirth
- Spirit, mind, body
- Earth, water, sky
- Land, sea, sky
- Maiden, mother, wise woman
- The spiritual world, present world, celestial world



### Tree of Life

The Tree of Life represents a connection between the lower and upper worlds to the Earth's plane and symbolizes forces of nature coming together in harmony and balance.



## Celtic Cross

The Celtic Cross predates Christianity and is believed to be a symbolic compass. It represents the four cardinal directions of Earth, Fire, Wind and Water. It also represents mind, body, soul and heart.



## Celtic Harp

The Harp is the official symbol or emblem of Ireland, and Ireland is the only country whose official emblem is a musical instrument.



## Celtic Knot

A Celtic Knot is a symbolic pattern of a looped knot that has no start or finish. The looped pattern goes on infinitely, which is thought to symbolize the eternity of life.

A Celtic Knot's Meaning can vary, since they have a lot of different interpretations. They're generally viewed as a positive symbol, which can signify emotions such as love and happiness, as well as virtues such as faith and friendship. The overarching meaning seems to be the interconnectivity of life.



## Shamrock

The Shamrock is the national flower of Ireland and is a well-known symbol of Ireland. It is a young sprig and is not to be confused with a four-leaf clover. It has been associated with the Celtic goddess Ana/Anu with the three leaves representing her status as maiden, mother and crone of Ireland. It is believed to have been used as a metaphor for the Christian Holy Trinity by St Patrick.



## Claddagh

The Claddagh is a traditional Irish symbol representing love (heart), loyalty (crown) and friendship (hands). It originated in the small Galway fishing village of the same name and was first produced in its current form in the 17th century.

	<p><b>Scottish Thistle</b></p> <p>The thistle is renowned in Scotland where it is not only the country's national emblem but also the base of Scotland's ancient order of chivalry known as "The Order of the Thistle." Given the legend surrounding the Scottish thistle, the plant clearly connotes <b>bravery, courage, and loyalty in the face of treachery.</b></p>
	<p><b>Celtic Moon</b></p> <p>Another type of Celtic knot generally representative of the infinite nature of the cycles of life</p> <p>The moon is often tied to female spirituality and the goddesses of Greek and Roman origin. The phases of the moon represent the stages of a woman's life: maiden (waxing), mother (full), crone (waning).</p>
	<p><b>Four-leaf Clover</b></p> <p>Four-leaf clovers, aside from being considered good luck, are said to be symbols of faith, love, hope, and good fortune. Unlike shamrocks, which have three leaves, four-leaf clovers aren't considered religious symbols.</p>

## Irish Sayings:

### **Erin Go Bragh** (*"Erin Go Brah"*)

**Meaning: Ireland until the end of time.**

To respond to Erin Go Bragh, one can say "Cheers!" or "Happy St Patrick's Day." The word "Sláinte" which means "cheers" or "good health" can also be used.

### **Sláinte** (*"Slawn-cha"*)

**Meaning: Cheers or Good Health.**

### **Fáilte** (*"Fal-cha"*)

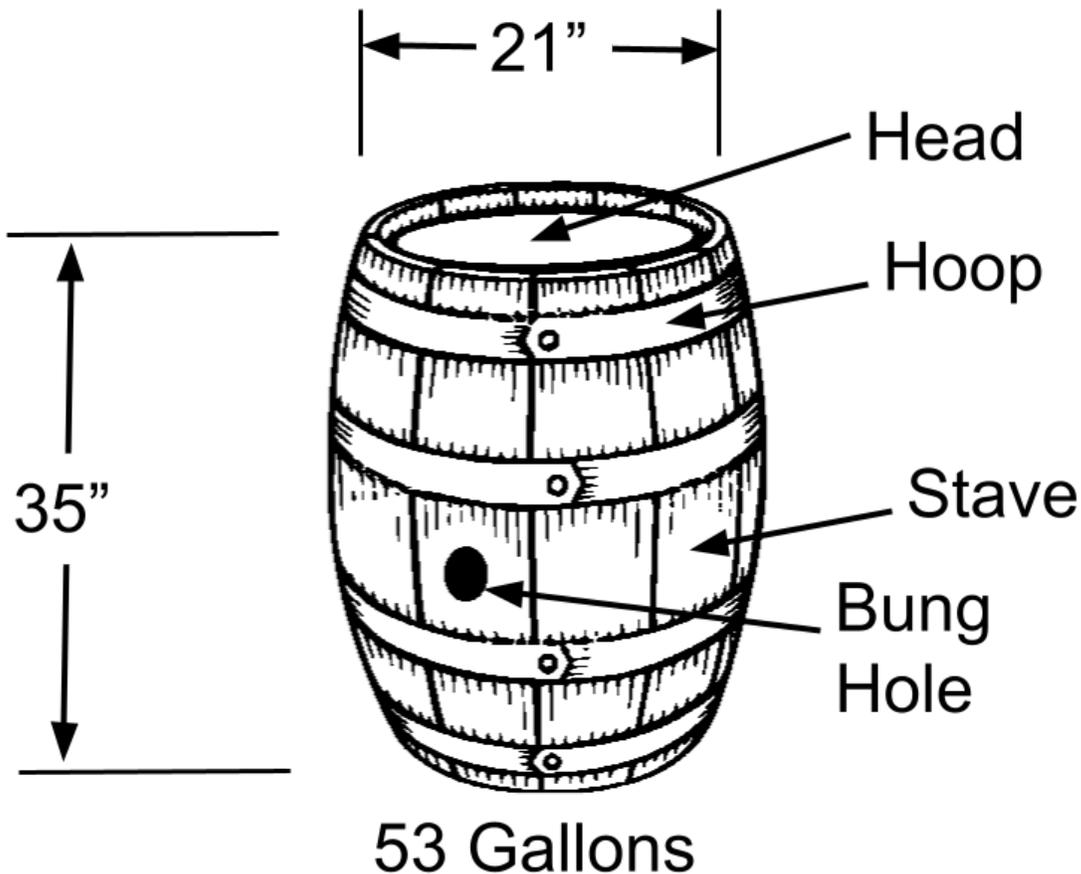
**Meaning: Welcome**

### **Céad Míle Fáilte** (*"Kade Mila Fal-cha"*)

**Meaning: One Hundred Thousand Welcomes**

# Barrel Anatomy

## Standard Whiskey Barrel



## Whiskey Facts:

### Is it whiskey or whisky?

That depends where it's made. Yes, whisk(e)y can be spelled both with an "e" and without, The Irish use the "e," a tradition that carried over to American-made whiskeys.

The Scots do not use the "e," and distillers in Canada and Japan follow their lead.

## Types of Whiskey

### Irish Whiskey

Irish whiskey has a smoother flavor than other types of whiskey. It's made from a mash of malt, can only be distilled using water and caramel coloring, and must be distilled in wooden casks for at least three years. The result is a whiskey that's easy to sip neat or on the rocks, though [you can use Irish whiskey to make cocktails](#).

### Scotch Whisky

Scotch whisky (aka just scotch) is made in Scotland with either malt or grain. The Scots take their whisky-making seriously and have laws in place that distillers must follow. The spirit must age in an oak barrel for at least three years.

Plus, each bottle must have an age statement which reflects the youngest aged whisky used to make that blend. This is a whisky to sip neat—it makes an excellent [after-dinner drink](#).

## Japanese Whisky

A little later to the game than Irish and scotch, Japanese whisky has made its mark on the spirits world for its high standards. Japanese whisky was created to taste as close to the scotch style as possible and uses similar distilling methods. It is mostly imbibed in mixed drinks or with a splash of soda.

## Canadian Whisky

Like scotch, Canadian whisky must be barrel-aged for at least three years. It's lighter and smoother than other types of whiskey because it contains a high percentage of corn. You will find that most Canadian whiskies are made from corn and rye, but others may feature wheat or barley.

## Bourbon Whiskey

An American-style whiskey, bourbon is made from corn. In fact, to be called bourbon whiskey, the spirit needs to be made from at least 51% corn, aged in a new oak barrel and produced in America. It has no minimum aging period and needs to be bottled at 80 proof or more.

## Tennessee Whiskey

While Tennessee whiskey is technically classified as bourbon, some distillers in the state aren't too keen on that. Instead, they use Tennessee whiskey to define their style. All current Tennessee whiskey producers are required by state law to produce their whiskeys in Tennessee and to use a filtering step known as the Lincoln County Process prior to aging the whiskey.

## Rye Whiskey

Rye whiskey is made in America with at least 51% rye, while other ingredients include corn and barley. It follows the distilling process of bourbon. Rye that has been aged for two or more years and has not been blended is dubbed "straight rye whiskey." Rye tends to have a spicier flavor than sweeter, smoother bourbon.

## Blended Whiskey

Blended whiskey is exactly what the name highlights—it's a mixture of different types of whiskey, as well as colorings, flavors and even other grains. These types of whiskeys are ideal for cocktails, as the process allows for the flavor to come through but keeps the spirit at a lower price point.

## Single Malt Whisky

Single malt whisky needs to be made from one batch of scotch at a single distillery. Additionally, it must be aged for three years in oak before being bottled. The term "single malt" comes from the ingredients, as the main ingredient is malted barley. However, these rules did not make their way to U.S. distilleries. For example, in America, single malt is sometimes made from rye and not barley.