

## Animal Characteristics & Meaning

<http://www.legendsofamerica.com/na-totems.html>

Alligator	Maternal, revenge oriented, quickness, aggression, stealth, efficiency, basic survival instincts.
Ant	Group minded, determination, patient, active, purposeful, unity, self sacrifice and industrious.
Arctomys	Lethargy, curiosity, nosiness, ability to smell out trouble, rooting around for solutions, finding the lost.
Antelope	Active, agile, jumpiness, keen eyesight, survival, willing to sacrifice, mental clarity, intuitive, protective.
Armadillo	Safety, grounded, sensitivity to attack, strong boundaries, trusting, reclusive, neutral, peaceful.
Badger	Courage, aggressive, healer, problems relating to others, energy conduit, determined, focused, confident.
Bat	Rebirth, longevity, secrecy, initiation, good listener, long life, illusion, journeying, inner depth.
Bear	Industrious, instinctive, healing, power, sovereignty, guardian of the world, watcher, courage, will power, self-preservation, introspection, and great strength.
Beaver	Determined, strong-willed, builder, overseer, dreamer, protector, builder, motion, subconscious.
Bee	Organized, industrial, productive, wise, community, celebration, fertility, sweetness, defensiveness, obsessive nature, and enjoys life.
Boar/Pig	A very powerful totem - prosperity, spiritual strength, organized, balanced complacency and activity, fearless.
Buffalo	Sacredness, life, great strength, abundance, gratitude, consistency, blessings, stability.
Bull	Insight into the past, fertility, raw expression, rushing into things, confidence, strength, provision.
Butterfly	Metamorphosis, transformation, balance, grace, ability to accept change, lightness, soul, vulnerability.
Camel	Survival, endurance, obedience, nobility, positive, accomplishment, adaptive, temperance, humility.
Caribou	Traveler, mobility, preference to be nomadic, adaptability to adversity, sensitivity, guidance, surety.
Cat	Guardianship, detachment, sensuality, mystery, magic, independence, astute, watchful.
Cheetah	Swiftness, insight, focus, brotherhood, self-esteem, acceleration, elusiveness.
Cougar	Leadership, loyalty, courage, taking responsibility, foresight, sensing danger, awareness.
Cow	Love of home, community, contentment, joy, easy going, patience, grounded, fertility.
Coyote	Trickster, intelligence, stealth, wisdom and folly, guile, innocence, skill.
Cobra	Swift and decisive, power of life and death, transformation, energy, connected to eternity.
Crab	Good luck, moves sideways, savvy, unorthodox, relaxed, cycles.
Crane	Solitude, justice, longevity, independent, intelligent, vigilant, focus.
Crocodile	Ensuring your emotions are displayed accurately/appropriately.
Crow	Magical, shape shifting, change, creativity, spiritual strength, inelegancy, energy, higher perspective.
Deer	Compassion, peace, intellectual, gentle, caring, kind, subtlety, gracefulness, femininity, gentleness, innocence, and seller of adventure.
Dog	Noble, faithful, loyal, teaching, protection, guidance, obedience, sensory perception.
Dolphin	Kind, salvation, wisdom, happiness, playfulness, prudent, capable of deep emotion, and happy.
Dove	Cross-world communication, spirit messenger, peace, gentleness, love.
Dragon	Longevity, richness, prosperity, infinity, wisdom, power, fiery, mythic.
Dragonfly	Flighty and carefree, strong imagination, higher aspirations, lightness, joy, transformation.
Duck	Water energy, helper of seers, affectionate, community oriented, can clearly see/deal with emotions.
Eagle	Divine spirit, sacrifice, connection to creator, intelligence, renewal, courage, illumination of spirit, healing, creation, freedom, and risk-taker.

Elephant	Strength, power, affection, loyalty, royalty, wisdom, reliability, sense of history, pride.
Elk	Strength and agility, pride, majestic, independence, purification, nobility, sensual.
Falcon	New beginnings, adventure, passionate, leadership, rising above, guardianship, superiority, prophecy.
Fish	Graceful, slyness, open-minded, quick to change one's mind, fertility, good luck, happiness.
Flamingo	Heart healing, psychic, people person, flirtatious, colorful, open, power of illusion.
Fox	Cunning, agility, quick-witted, diplomacy, wildness, feminine magic of camouflage, shape-shifting and invisibility.
Frog	Water, cleansing, rebirth, sensitivity, medicine, hidden beauty, peace, adaptability, metamorphosis.
Gazelle	Awareness, speed, grace, eagerness, lightness, overcomes vulnerability, alert.
Giraffe	Intelligence, intuition, attaining the unreachable, sees the future, elegance, cleverness, beauty.
Goat	Surefootedness, stubbornness, independence, diligence, in the moment, aloofness, virility, sturdiness.
Goose	Self-demanding, reliable, prudent, rigid, vigilance, parenthood, productive, teamwork, fellowship.
Gorilla	Family-oriented, intelligence, strength, environmental protector, keeps peace through aggression.
Grasshopper	Good luck, abundance, forward, progressive, virtuous, forward thinking, creative.
Grouse	Personal power, enlightenment.
Hawk	Messenger, intuition, victory, healing, nobility, recollection, cleansing, visionary power, and guardianship.
Heron/Egret	Aggressive, self-determined, self-reliant, multi-tasking, balanced, calm, present, independent.
Hippopotamus	Power, creation, imagination, healing, birth, mother-fury, protection of family, emotion depth.
Horse	Freedom, stamina, mobility, the land, travel, power, freedom, grace, nobility.
Hummingbird	Messenger, timelessness, healing, warrior, energy, vitality, infinity, affection, playfulness.
Jaguar	Chaos, shape-shifter, aggressiveness, power, confidence, manifestation, breath.
Kangaroo	Forward, balance, creative, stamina, leaping away from danger, nurturing, generous.
Lion	Family, strength, energy, courage, guardian, protector, ferocity, authority.
Lizard	Conservation, vision, self-protection, hidden defenses, shrewdness, variation.
Llama	Comforting to others, secure, responsible, strength, adaptation, hard work, curiosity.
Lynx	Keeper of secrets, guardian, listener, guide, aware, intuitive, unconventional.
Meerkat	Community, precise vision, good boundaries, lively, courageous, intuition, heart energy.
Mole	Sensitivity, guidance, searching, extended senses, underworld, hidden treasure, digger.
Mongoose	Good boundaries, good defense, courage, cleansing, heart-forward, rebellious, impulsive, authentic.
Monkey	Ability to change the environment, health, success, light and dark, communication, swiftness, energy.
Moose	Headstrong, longevity, steadfastness, wisdom, self-esteem, primal feminine energy, crown chakra.
Mouse	Innocence, scrutiny, order, organizer, eye for details, grounded, super-aware, temerity.
Octopus	Intelligence, camouflage, nocturnal.
Opossum	Smart, clever, sensible, grounded, group-minded, proper use of deception, strategic, surprising.
Ostrich	Grounded, practical, avoidant, spiritual truth, understands denial, truth and justice.
Otter	Playful, friendly, dynamic, joy, helpfulness, sharing, love of young, sensibility without suspicion.
Owl	Wisdom, deception, intuition, insight, messenger, mystery, freedom, secrets, stealth, vision.
Ox	Sacrifice, chastity, faith, humble, self-denial, enduring, strong, magical.
Panther	Protection, hidden emotions, introspection, caution, careful decisions, multi-dimensional, dark and light.
Parrot	Communication, beauty, guide for wisdom, mockery, language, prophecy, verbosity, promise.

Peacock	Immortality, dignity, self-confidence, self-esteem, knowledge, refinement, beauty, sexuality, pride.
Pelican	Resilient, unselfish, rising above, friendliness, responsible, safety, camaraderie, bounty.
Penguin	Self-discipline, order, purpose, community-minded, grace, self-confidence, spiritual.
Porcupine	Innocence, companionship, trust, curious, imagination, good-natured, non-interference.
Prairie Dog	Swiftness, industrious, constructive, preparedness, common goals, retreat, family, digger.
Puma	Companion on journeys to other worlds, grace, silent power
Quail	Group-work, team play, creator of harmony and group tolerance, protectiveness (especially toward children)
Rabbit	Fertility, artistic, in motion, hyper vigilant, joyful, lives by own wits, steps through fear.
Raccoon	Curiosity, disguise, explorer, secret, night vision, cleanliness, dexterity, seeker.
Ram	Stoic, sensitive, persevering, curious, imaginative, new beginnings, change, life force.
Rat	Fertility, stealth, scavenging, intelligence, enjoys luxury, intelligent, wealth, success, drive.
Raven	Magical, introspective, self-realized, courageous, transformational, messenger, psychic, divination.
Rhinoceros	Wisdom, solitary, insightful, solid, good judgment, paradox, stamina, freedom, longevity.
Roadrunner	Mental agility, speed, opportunistic, multi-tasking, energy, busy, accomplishment.
Rooster	Persistence, honesty, strength, flamboyant, upward reaching, eager, cocky, watchful.
Salmon	Proud, intense, confident, wisdom, inspiration, can swim upstream, rebirth, determined, spiritual desire.
Scorpion	Transforming, strong, inspiring, chaotic, passionate, altered perception, death and rebirth, seduction.
Seagull	Versatility, loud, easy-going nature, creativity, laziness, resourceful, opportunistic, freedom.
Seahorse	Confidence and grace
Seal	Love, longing, dilemma, active imagination, creativity, protection during change, dreamer, good luck.
Shark	Prowess, perpetual motion, hunter, survival, warning signs, workaholic, savior, guardian, superiority.
Skunk	Reputation, presence, strength, demands respect, sensual, steady, pacifism, taking your time.
Snail	Protective, aware, solitary, tender nature, androgyny, healing, sensitivity, time and cycles.
Snake	Impulsive, primal energy, shrewdness, rebirth, transformation, initiation, and wisdom.
Spider	Balance, wisdom, creativity, communication, networker, cyclical, crafty, fate, protection.
Squirrel	Planner, gatherer, preparedness, awareness, sociable, playful, energy, prudence, resourceful.
Stag	Lord of the forest, masculine power of regeneration, signs.
Swan	Grace, balance and innocence, soul, love, beauty, elegance, transformation, dreams.
Tiger	Strength, valor, power, energy, devotion, tactful, royal, illuminated, unpredictable.
Toad	Inner strength, luck, self-examination.
Turkey	Generosity, life-giver, sharer, abundance, blessings, pride, virility, sacrifice.
Turtle	Nurturer, shy, protecting, patience, strength, innocence, endurance, longevity.
Unicorn	Purity, innocence, dreamer, personal power, gentle, spiritual vision, other realms, faith, healing.
Weasel	Strength, energy, ingenuity, stealth, wild, ferocious, aggressive, commanding.
Whale	Wisdom, provider, intelligence, kindness, deeper awareness, nurturing, navigator, communication.
Wolf	Loyalty, perseverance, success, intuition, spirit, appetite for freedom, can be a loner.
Woodpecker	Sensitive, protective, devotion, prophecy, progress, determination, balance, communication.
Zebra	Clarity, motion, individuality, balance, illusion, instinct, free, wild, communal, playful, social.