

Pagans appear in all walks of life, and they may appear in any setting—so learning visual clues can help identify others. The pentacle may enjoy its status as the beacon of choice for Pagans, but some prefer other symbols. Items with mythological, Sun or Moon, or spiritual warrior themes might also give the clue of a person with Pagan interest. Some individuals may wear jewelry reflective of their specific path of interest, such as a Thor's hammer to represent Asatru or an Egyptian winged pendant to suggest Kemetism.

Expressions might broaden themselves beyond jewelry as well. A T-shirt proclaiming, "I haven't been the same since that house fell on my sister" might be a good indicator, while one stating, "To Know, to Dare, to Will, and to be Silent" is an actual key. Humanity has ventured far into the realm of

The pentacle is the beacon of choice for many Pagans, though some prefer other symbols.

self-decoration and spiritual expression. Pagans are certainly no strangers to these concepts. A person might indicate his or her beliefs via tattoos, rings, clothing, or even body decoration. Take time to familiarize yourself with symbols, but remember that no matter what you read in a book, the individual may assign a personal meaning to a symbol that you do not know.

How to Make Your Approach

There are ways to test a person's receptivity to approach. The best, of course, is to make eye contact and smile. This usually puts people at ease, and evokes an automatic nonverbal response—a smile in return. If the person smiles back and holds eye contact for three seconds, you can likely speak up and expect a positive reception. Use open body language; keep your arms uncrossed and lean slightly toward the person when you speak, but at the same time honor boundaries. Unless invited, do not come closer than five feet. This allows the person you approach a sense of safety while giving yourself an aura of approachability.