
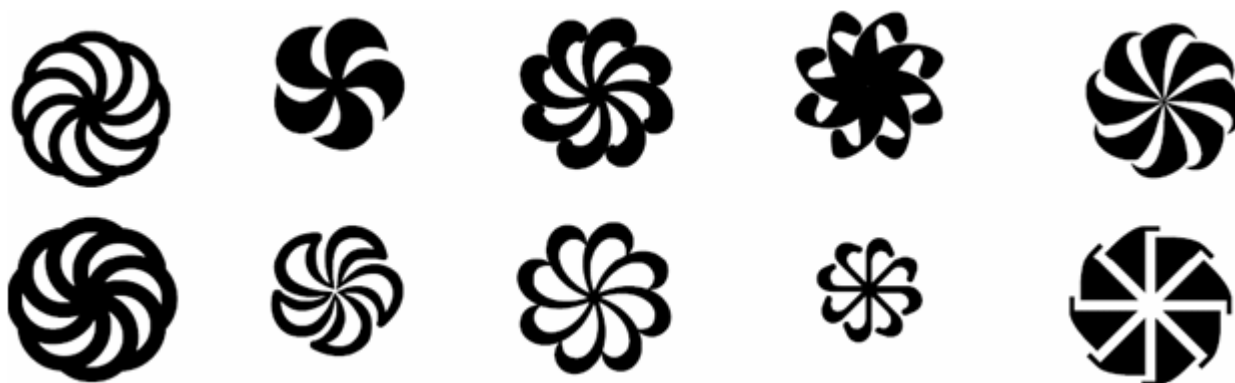


## Armenian Eternity Sign

SYMBOL	NAME	SHORT NAME, NICK	ASSUMED PLACE IN <b>UNICODE ISO 10646</b>
	ETERNITY SIGN	armeternity	<b><i>Dingbats</i></b> Range 2700-27BF No proposed position Reason: the range is filled up

### History

Armenian Eternity Sign is the ancient national symbol and in Armenian reality it can be met in many variations. The appearance of the Sign resembles both clockwise and anti-clockwise rotating ornament, which is composed with curves running from center of the symbol. As a rule the Sign should have eight curves, as this number stands for revival, rebirth and recurrence. However, the symbol may be represented with four and more curves as well.



Right and left rotations have accordingly active and passive meanings, as in case of Swastika, and are used in order to accentuate these meanings. For example, a cradle for a boy is decorated with the right whirling eternity sign and a cradle for a girl with the left whirling eternity sign.

It can be performed both two-dimensionally and three-dimensionally.

Eternity Sign opens the list of symbols included in ArmSCII\* .

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\* Armenian Standard Code for Information Interchange, in <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ArmSCII>

Armenian Symbol of Eternity is the direct descendent of the pre-historic Swastika and has clear Armenian interpretation. It symbolizes the identity of Armenian nation suchlike a David's star for Hebrews.

The earliest roots of round whirling sun-like symbols in the Armenian Highland are rock inscriptions from the Stone Age.



Ancient Armenian stone pictures (Stone Age)

In Armenia the eternity sign can be found everywhere, in architecture; on doors, walls and etc. The sign of Eternal Life, or turning wheel, was carved on numerous Khatchqar (Cross-Stones) and church walls in ancient Armenia.



**Yeghegnadzor Province**

The village of Martiros

Khatchqar built in 1499 AD



**Vardenis**

Dashkend

Khatchqar built in 1539 AD



The **Monastery of Harich** or **Harichavank**, 7th century, located near the village of Harich, Armenian

Besides the meaning that “Everything Armenian starts from the eternity sign”, this sign has a punctuation function also: it is applied to divide a text into parts (chapters), as well as to design a text or a poem or to make references like an asterisk sign (\*).

**Example**

**My Heart's In The Highlands ❁**



My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,  
My heart's in the Highlands a-chasing the deer -  
A-chasing the wild deer, and following the roe;  
My heart's in the Highlands, wherever I go.



Farewell to the Highlands, farewell to the North  
The birth place of Valour, the country of Worth;  
Wherever I wander, wherever I rove,  
The hills of the Highlands for ever I love.



Farewell to the mountains high cover'd with snow;  
Farewell to the Straths and green valleys below;  
Farewell to the forests and wild-hanging woods;  
Farwell to the torrents and loud-pouring floods.



My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,  
My heart's in the Highlands a-chasing the deer  
Chasing the wild deer, and following the roe;  
My heart's in the Highlands, wherever I go.

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❁ Famous Armenian writer William Saroyan's poem by Robert Burns

Armenia today, is arguably the only nation on earth where the Symbol of Eternity is a prominent and integral part of artistic expression and spiritual symbolism.