




Paul Taylor

- www.paultaylor.ws - email:pauldidj@juno.com
- P.O. Box 1427 Laramie, WY 82073 - 307.721.8853

Aboriginal Desert Art Symbols

These are some of the traditional symbols used in desert art. They have many different interpretations: only a few of their meanings are given.

 campsite, waterhole, well	 four women sitting	animal tracks ↓ emu	 bush raisins	 spears
 bowl	 running water, underground passage, snakes, lightning, smoke, worms, grubs	↓ kangaroo	 rain	 honey ant
 traveling sign (circle is a resting place)	 two men sitting	 possum	 rainbow, cloud, cliff, sandhill	 club
 man	 human	 spear thrower	 fire, smoke, water, blood	 digging stick
 tracks, clouds	 people sitting, windbreak, boomerang, clouds	 spear, digging stick, person lying down	 bush plum	 waterholes and running water
 ants, eggs, rain, fruit, flowers	 boomerang	 star	 witchetty grub	

Taken from Desert Dreamings by Deirdre Stokes.
Published by Rigby Heinemann 1993,
ISBN 0 7312 1732 2