

SYMBOLS OF PRIDE



Rainbow Flag

The rainbow flag began as a symbol for the LGBT community in 1978 when it appeared at the San Francisco Freedom Parade with eight colours. In 1979 it was finalized with six colours, each representing a part of the community.

Green for nature

Red for life

Yellow for the sun

Orange for healing

Royal Blue for harmony

Violet for spirit

It is now widely known for the symbol of pride and diversity it is today.



The Pink Triangle

This symbol dates back to Hitler's rise to power in the 1930s. Homosexuality was outlawed and gays and lesbians were sent to the concentration camps. Gay men were forced to wear the pink triangle just as the Jews were forced to wear the yellow star to identify which group they belonged to. In 1970, gay liberation groups reclaimed the pink triangle as a symbol for gay rights, drawing attention to oppression and persecution then and now. Today the pink triangle represents pride, solidarity and a promise never to allow another Holocaust to happen.



The Black Triangle

The black triangle was also used in Hitler's concentration camps. It was used to designate prisoners with anti-social behaviours. Black triangle prisoners included lesbians, prostitutes, women who refused to bear children and women with other "anti-social" traits. The black triangle has become a symbol of pride and solidarity for lesbians.



Bisexual Triangles

The interlocking pink and blue triangles are sometimes referred to as the "biangles." The pink triangle is taken from the gay symbol and the blue has been added as a foil for pink -- pink for girls and blue for boys. The overlapping purple represents the middle ground bisexuals fall into.



Transgender Symbol

The International Foundation for Gender Education Logo, or Transgender Symbol, is the widely recognized symbol for cross-dressers, transvestites, transsexuals and transgendered people.