



Pennsylvania German

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Folk Art

This project focuses on two types of Pennsylvania German Folk Art: Fraktur and Hex Signs. Both types of art use symbolism of images and color to convey ideas and hopes for family, home, safety, and love.

Named after the calligraphic script, fraktur folk art creates a stylized presentation of important documents: birth and baptismal announcements, marriage certificates, house blessings, and book plates. Hex signs do not typically include text, but images and color choices are often similar to illustrations in fraktur.

Materials Needed

- Paper
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Circular object to trace
- Colored pencils, crayons, marker, etc
- Included reference materials

Directions

- Decide what event you'd like to commemorate with your fraktur or hex sign art – a birthday? Wedding? New home?
- Watch the [calligraphy video](#) and practice what you'll write.
- Draw, trace, or print images. Add calligraphy if you'd like.