

FEHU

F A Y - H O O

MEANING

Wealth, cattle

ESOTERIC MEANING

Abundance, success, new beginnings

HISTORICAL USAGE

Used in early Germanic societies to denote wealth, particularly in the form of livestock.

INTERESTING FACTS

Fehu is often associated with Freyr, the Norse god of fertility and prosperity. It is the first rune of the Elder Futhark.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Wealth is a comfort to all men; yet must every man bestow it freely, if he wish to gain honour in the sight of the Lord."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Symbolizes prosperity, financial strength, and new ventures. Used in modern rune readings to suggest financial gain or fresh starts.



NURUZ

OO - ROOZ

MEANING

Aurochs (wild ox)

ESOTERIC MEANING

Strength, endurance, courage

HISTORICAL USAGE

Symbolized raw physical power
and untamed potential.

INTERESTING FACTS

The aurochs was a now-extinct
species of large wild cattle.

Uruz is often linked to
overcoming obstacles and
personal growth

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"The aurochs is proud and has
great horns; it is a very savage
beast and fights with its
horns; a great ranger of the
moors, it is a creature of
mettle."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents inner strength, persistence, and primal energy in
rune readings.



Þ THURISAZ

THOO-REE-SAZ

MEANING

Giant, thorn

ESOTERIC MEANING

Conflict, defense, reactive force

HISTORICAL USAGE

Associated with the giants (Jötnar) of Norse mythology; represents powerful natural forces.

INTERESTING FACTS

Thurisaz is sometimes linked with Thor, the thunder god, due to the shared root with the word 'thorn' and his connection to protective force.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"The thorn is exceedingly sharp, an evil thing for any knight to touch, uncommonly severe on all who sit among them."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Seen as a warning or indication of a necessary confrontation; protection through strength.





ANSUZ

A H N - S O O Z

MEANING

God, ancestral deity

ESOTERIC MEANING

Communication, wisdom,
divine inspiration

HISTORICAL USAGE

Associated with the god Odin,
often seen as a symbol of
divine authority and spiritual
insight.

INTERESTING FACTS

Ansuz is strongly connected to
Odin, who is known for
sacrificing himself to gain
wisdom and the runes.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"The mouth is the source of all
language, a pillar of wisdom
and comfort to wise men, a
blessing and joy to every
knight."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Signifies messages, clarity of thought, and intellectual or
spiritual breakthroughs in divination.



R RAIDHO

R I D E - H O

MEANING

Ride, journey

ESOTERIC MEANING

Travel, life path, rhythm

HISTORICAL USAGE

Represented physical journeys such as horseback travel or spiritual journeys of growth.

INTERESTING FACTS

Raidho suggests the right way to proceed, and it can represent justice or lawful order.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Riding is said to be the worst thing for a horse; by the same token, it is much worse for him who does not know it."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Symbolizes movement, progress, and the cycles of life in modern readings.



< KENAZ

K A Y - N A Z

MEANING

Torch

ESOTERIC MEANING

Enlightenment, knowledge,
creativity

HISTORICAL USAGE

Associated with fire and
transformation, as well as the
forge and craftsmanship.

INTERESTING FACTS

Kenaz may be linked to Loki
due to its associations with
fire, change, and chaos
leading to renewal.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"The torch is known to every
living man by its pale, bright
flame; it always burns where
princes sit within."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Symbolizes personal illumination, clarity, and the creative
spark in rune readings.



X GEBO

G A Y - B O

MEANING

Gift

ESOTERIC MEANING

Generosity, exchange,
partnership

HISTORICAL USAGE

Represented both literal gifts
and the reciprocal bonds of
obligation and honor in Norse
culture.

INTERESTING FACTS

Gebo implies not only the act
of giving but also the spiritual
contract it creates between
people or with the divine.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Generosity brings credit and
honour, which support one's
dignity; it furnishes help and
subsistence to all broken
men."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Symbolizes balance in relationships, giving and receiving,
and meaningful connections.



WUNJO

WOON-YO

MEANING

Joy

ESOTERIC MEANING

Harmony, joy, well-being

HISTORICAL USAGE

Symbolized fellowship and shared happiness within a tribe or family.

INTERESTING FACTS

Wunjo is the culmination of the runes before it—after challenge comes clarity and happiness.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Bliss he enjoys who knows not suffering, sorrow nor anxiety, and has prosperity and happiness and a good enough house."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Suggests success, inner peace, and emotional satisfaction in rune readings.



H H A G A L A Z

H A H - G A H - L A H Z

MEANING

Hail

ESOTERIC MEANING

Disruption, uncontrolled forces, transformation through crisis

HISTORICAL USAGE

Associated with natural forces beyond human control, such as storms or destructive weather.

INTERESTING FACTS

Hagalaz may signal a time of chaos, but also a crucial turning point or opportunity for renewal.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Hail is the whitest of grain; it is whirled from the vault of heaven and is tossed about by gusts of wind then it melts into water."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents necessary upheaval, cleansing change, or karmic forces.



† NAUTHIZ

N O W - T H E S E

MEANING

Need, necessity

ESOTERIC MEANING

Constraint, hardship,
resistance

HISTORICAL USAGE

Represented unavoidable need
or scarcity, often indicating
inner trials.

INTERESTING FACTS

Nauthiz encourages facing
hardship as a source of
strength and transformation.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Need is distress of the heart;
yet it often becomes a source
of help and salvation to the
children of men."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Suggests patience, self-discipline, and learning from
resistance.





ISA

EE - SAH

MEANING

Ice

ESOTERIC MEANING

Stillness, pause, clarity
through suspension

HISTORICAL USAGE

Represented frozen stillness,
inactivity, or halting forces in
nature

INTERESTING FACTS

Isa often suggests the need
for patience; it can represent
clarity or a protective freeze.

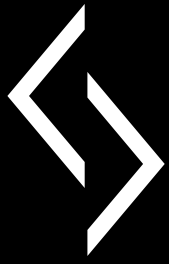
RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Ice is very cold and
immeasurably slippery; it
glistens as clear as glass and
is most like to gems."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Indicates a standstill, time of reflection, or preservation.





JERA

Y E H R - A H

MEANING

Year, harvest

ESOTERIC MEANING

Cycles, reward, fruition

HISTORICAL USAGE

Symbolized the harvest year and natural cycles of sowing and reaping.

INTERESTING FACTS

Jera is a rune of timing and rewards aligned with effort and the season.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Year is a joy to men, when God, the holy King of heaven, suffers the earth to give forth bright fruits for rich and poor alike."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

A sign of positive outcomes due to previous efforts; natural rhythms.





EIHWAZ

A Y - W A H Z

MEANING

Yew tree

ESOTERIC MEANING

Endurance, protection,
initiation

HISTORICAL USAGE

Associated with the yew tree,
which was sacred and
symbolic of life, death, and
rebirth.

INTERESTING FACTS

Yew wood was used for making
bows; the tree's longevity and
toxicity made it a powerful
symbol.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Yew is a tree with rough bark,
hard and fast in the earth,
supported by its roots; a
guardian of flame and a joy on
native land."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents strength through transformation, resilience, and
spiritual connection.



PERTHRO

PER - THRO

MEANING

Lot cup, mystery

ESOTERIC MEANING

Fate, chance, hidden
knowledge

HISTORICAL USAGE

Possibly related to games of
chance or divination tools.

INTERESTING FACTS

Perthro's exact historical
meaning is unclear, adding to
its mystique in divinatory
contexts.

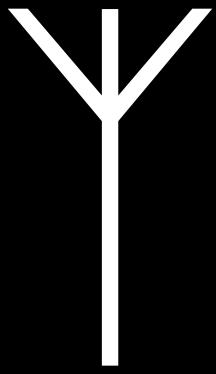
RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Lot-box is always play and
laughter among bold men,
where warriors sit cheerfully
in the beer-hall."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents mystery, secrets revealed, and the workings of
fate.





ALGIZ

AHL - GEEZ

MEANING

Elk, protection

ESOTERIC MEANING

Protection, higher self, connection to the divine

HISTORICAL USAGE

Believed to invoke protection and act as a shield against danger.

INTERESTING FACTS

Often interpreted as the outstretched hand or elk antlers, symbolizing reach and divine defense.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"The elk-sedge is mostly to be found in the fen; it waxes in water and wounds grimly, burning with blood any warrior who tries to grasp it."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Signifies safety, spiritual guardianship, and alertness.



ᚱ SOWILO

S O H - W E E - L O H

MEANING

Sun

ESOTERIC MEANING

Success, vitality, illumination

HISTORICAL USAGE

Associated with the sun's life-giving energy and victory.

INTERESTING FACTS

Sowilo was a rune of guiding light—used symbolically as a beacon of clarity and truth.

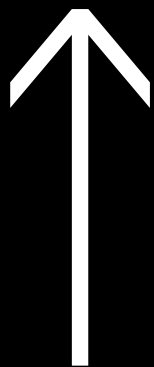
RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"The sun is ever a joy in the hopes of seafarers when they journey away over the fishes' bath, until the courser of the deep bears them to land."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents enlightenment, hope, and triumphant energy in readings.





TIWAZ

T E E - W A H Z

MEANING

The god Tiw (Tyr)

ESOTERIC MEANING

Honor, justice, leadership

HISTORICAL USAGE

Associated with Tyr, the god of law and heroic sacrifice.

INTERESTING FACTS

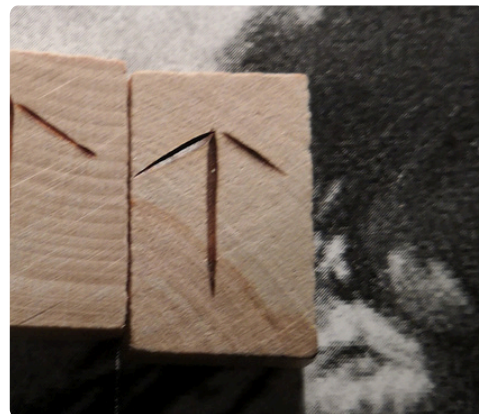
Tyr sacrificed his hand to bind the wolf Fenrir; Tiwaz reflects bravery and moral strength.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Tiw is a guiding star; well does it keep faith with princes; it is ever on its course over the mists of night and never fails."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Signifies courage, self-sacrifice, and doing what is right.



BERKANO

BEHR - KAH - NOH

MEANING

Birch tree

ESOTERIC MEANING

Growth, birth, nurturing

HISTORICAL USAGE

Symbol of fertility and family, especially linked to feminine energies.

INTERESTING FACTS

The birch tree was often one of the first to grow after a forest fire, representing rebirth.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Birch has no fruit; yet without seed it brings forth suckers, for it is generated from its leaves. Splendid are its branches and gloriously adorned, its lofty crown which reaches to the skies."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents renewal, healing, and personal growth.



M EHWAZ

A Y - W A H Z

MEANING

Horse

ESOTERIC MEANING

Movement, partnership, trust

HISTORICAL USAGE

Horses were essential in Norse and Germanic society, representing mobility and loyalty.

INTERESTING FACTS

Ehwaz often symbolizes journeys both literal and metaphorical, as well as reliable relationships.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"The horse is a joy to princes in the presence of warriors, a steed in the pride of its hoofs, when rich men discuss it; it is a comfort to the restless."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents cooperation, progress through unity, and a trusted bond.



M MANNNAZ

MAHN - NAHZ

MEANING

Man, humanity

ESOTERIC MEANING

The self, awareness, social order

HISTORICAL USAGE

Reflected the human condition, community roles, and individual responsibility.

INTERESTING FACTS

Mannaz suggests cooperation, intelligence, and the power of human networks.

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Man is the joy of man and the gift of the Lord, the ornament of life, and a source of delight to relatives."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Points to self-reflection, mutual support, and the greater good.





LAGUZ

LAH - GOOZ

MEANING

Water, lake

ESOTERIC MEANING

Emotion, intuition, flow

HISTORICAL USAGE

Connected to the sea, rivers, and lakes—sources of life, danger, and transformation.

INTERESTING FACTS

Laguz encourages going with the flow and trusting intuition, even through uncertainty.

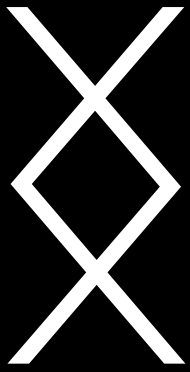
RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Water is to people a source of joy; if they should fare on a ship they are forced to struggle against the sea waves, and the sea has power over them."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Represents the unconscious, adaptability, and emotional depth.





INGWAZ

I N G - W A H Z

MEANING

Fertility god Ing

ESOTERIC MEANING

Potential, gestation, inner growth

HISTORICAL USAGE

Linked to the god Ing (possibly another name for Freyr), associated with peace and prosperity.

INTERESTING FACTS

Ingwaz is a rune of internal development, often indicating a time before fruitful action.

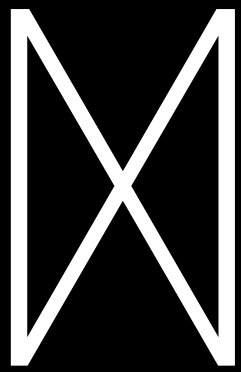
RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Ing was first seen among the East Danes, until he later went eastwards; the wagon ran after him. Thus the warriors named the hero."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Symbolizes stored energy, completion, and familial connection.





DAGAZ

DAH - GAHZ

MEANING

Day, dawn

ESOTERIC MEANING

Breakthrough, awakening,
transformation

HISTORICAL USAGE

Represented daylight and the
clarity it brings; transition
between states.

INTERESTING FACTS

Dagaz is a rune of hope and
revelation, symbolizing the
dawn after darkness.

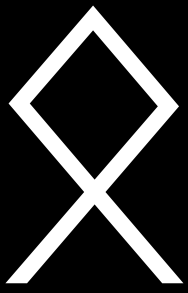
RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"Day, the glorious light of the
Creator, is sent by the Lord; it is
beloved of men, a source of hope
and happiness to rich and poor
alike."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

A rune of radical change, fresh starts, and enlightenment.





OTHALA

OATH - AH - LAH

MEANING

Heritage, inheritance

ESOTERIC MEANING

Ancestral property, homeland,
spiritual

HISTORICAL USAGE

Referred to inherited estate,
family lineage, and cultural
identity.

INTERESTING FACTS

Othala encourages reclaiming
personal and cultural heritage,
and protecting sacred
traditions

RUNE POEM EXCERPT

"An estate is very dear to every
man, if he can enjoy there in his
house whatever is right and
proper in constant prosperity."

MODERN INTERPRETATION

Stands for roots, community, and long-term values.

