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Ogham is the ancient alphabet of the Celts. It is written as a series of one to five straight or vertical lines along another central line- perfect for easily carving into wood or stone . In addition to being a traditional alphabet used for the gaelic language, each letter is associated with a tree or sacred plant. In recent times, a number of authors have translated this concept into a series of archetypal meanings so that the ogham alphabet may be used for divination in a manner similar to the norse runes.

To do a reading, pull 3 tiles from the bag at random, placing them in a straight line. the first represents the past, the second one the present, and the third, the future. If clarification is required, you may draw a fourth.

This simple guide will help get you started with deciphering the meanings of the symbols. There are a number of books and online resources that can help you with further study, including *The White Goddess* by Robert Graves, or *Ogam: Celtic Oracle of the Trees* by Paul Rhys Mountfort. There are also a number of scholarly works that will give you more information on ogham without the more modern influences.

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Tree</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
	B	Birch	Birth and new beginnings. The continuing cycle of rebirth.
	L	Rowan	Protection
	F	Alder	Guidance, prophecy, and intuition.
	S	Willow	The Moon, emotions, and witchcraft
	N	Ash	Change, growth, and shape-shifting
	H	Hawthorn	Obstacles, hostile forces, of complications
	D	Oak	Endurance, strength, and maturity. Also nobility.

	T	Holly	A test or challenge
	C	Hazel	Wisdom, knowledge, and enlightenment
	Q	Apple	Health and healing, also rest and recuperation.
	M	Vine	Harvest, celebration, and a successful finish to a task.
	G	Ivy	The primal force of the survival instinct. Tenacity, ruthlessness.
	Ng	Broom, or Dwarf Elder	Medicine or cleaning, especially in a purgative sense.
	Z	Blackthorn	Harm. Pain or wounding.
	R	Elder	Regret, shame, or humiliation. The balancing of karma. May sometimes signify revenge.
	A	Fir	Wonder, awe, or a heightened consciousness
	O	Gorse, or Furze	Sexuality, passion, eros
	U	Heather	Lovers, partnership, or the bond of male and female
	E	White Poplar	A rite of passage. Coming to terms with one's own fear.
	I	Yew	Death, an ending. Also gateways or the otherworld.