



The circle and the triangle logo has long been connected to the A.A. Fellowship. It was adopted as an official A.A. symbol at the International A.A. Convention in St. Louis, MO in 1955, and from that point on was widely in the Fellowship. For the Fellowship, the three legs of the triangle represented the Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service and the circle symbolized the world of A.A. In *"Alcoholics Anonymous Comes Of Age"*, Bill W.'s 1955 speech, in which he describes the adoption of the symbol, is printed:

"Above us floats a banner which is described for the new symbol of A.A., a circle enclosing a triangle. The circle stands for the whole of A.A., and the triangle stands for A.A.'s Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service. Within our wonderful new world, We have found freedom from our fatal obsession. That we have chosen this particular symbol is perhaps no accident. The priests and seers of antiquity regarded the circle and enclosed triangle as a means of warding off the spirits of evil, and A.A.'s Circle of Recovery, Unity, and Service has certainly meant all of that to us and much more" (Page 139)

Nevertheless, in the early 1990's, A.A.W.S. decided to phase out the use of the circle and triangle as a symbol on its literature, letterhead, and other material. In 1994 the General Service Conference resolved that the logo be discontinued on all conference-approved literature. However, the symbol is still associated with Alcoholics Anonymous (and other kinds of 12 Step recovery fellowships) and has a special meaning for A.A. members all over the world.

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See an [A.A. Grapevine](#) article for further details.