

## Good Luck Charms Around the World

### GOOD LUCK CHARMS AROUND THE WORLD

#### 1. Maneki-Neko.

*Lucky in Japan.*

In Japan, these cat figures are believed to bring good luck to their owners. They are often displayed in front of the entrances of shops, restaurants, and businesses and vary in size and design.



#### 2. Carp scales.

*Lucky in Poland.*

In several countries in central Europe, carp is a traditional Christmas meal. Once the meal is over, people will often retrieve the carp's scales and sometimes put them in their wallets until the following Christmas Eve for good luck.



#### 3. Elephants.

*Lucky in India.*

Elephants are seen as a symbol of good luck and representations of power, stability, and wisdom in many countries – especially India. Ganesha, one of the most-worshipped Hindu deities, even has the head of an elephant.



#### 4. Hamsa.

*Lucky in Israel.*

The hand-shaped charms can often be seen decorating family homes, public spaces, or offices, and they are believed to ward off the evil eye.



#### 5. Pigs.

*Lucky in Germany.*

In Germany, possessing pigs was seen as a sign of wealth and prosperity during the Middle Ages, indicating that their owners would never go hungry.



#### 6. Dreamcatcher.

*Lucky in Native American culture.*

When hung over or near one's bed, the dreamcatcher is believed to catch the dreams as they flow by, letting the good ones through.



#### 7. Red bats.

*Lucky in China.*

Red bats are thought to ward off evil and are often worn as lucky charms in China. Five red bats also stand as a representation of the five good fortunes of health, longevity, love, wealth, and virtue.



#### 8. Figa charm.

*Lucky in Brazil.*

Figa charms are known for repelling bad energy and bringing good fortune. It is thought that the charm stores all of the luck that you haven't used yet.



#### 9. Scarab.

*Lucky in Egypt.*

The scarab is associated with the daily rising of the sun and of continual birth and rebirth in Egypt. It is thought to stand as a representation of new creation and eternal life and to protect the bearer from evil.



#### 10. Nazar.

*Lucky in Turkey.*

A nazar is an eye-shaped amulet believed to protect one from the "evil eye" and is typically made of handmade glass in blue, white, light blue, and black. The amulet can be seen in many countries, including Armenia, Turkey, Romania, Albania, Iran, and Afghanistan.



#### 11. Dala horse.

*Lucky in Sweden.*

The horses, which originated from the Dalarna region in Sweden, are thought to represent strength, faithfulness, wisdom, and dignity.



#### 12. Acorns.

*Lucky in England.*

Acorns are considered representations of youth, spiritual growth, and prosperity. They have long been considered symbols of luck and power and were carried by the English during the Norman Conquest.



#### 13. Worry dolls.

*Lucky in Guatemala.*

According to folklore, people who cannot fall asleep reveal their worries to the doll, which is then believed to take over their concerns, allowing them to sleep.



#### 14. Tumi.

*Lucky in Peru.*

In Peru, it is considered good luck to hang a tumi on the wall. The ceremonial knife, usually made of bronze, gold, silver, or copper, was used in ritual ceremonies in the past.



#### 15. Dolphins.

*Lucky in Rome.*

Dolphins are often seen as a symbol of protection and, in ancient times, sailors who would spend months at sea would often see the sight of dolphins to indicate that land is nearby.

