

Rangoli

Rangoli is a decorative folk art from India that is created on the floor in front of entrances to homes, inside the homes, or in courtyards during celebrations to bring good luck and welcome Hindu Gods and Goddesses. This art has both religious and cultural significance in Hinduism. The details in Rangoli decorations can include lotus flowers, mango leaves, geometric shapes, or other elaborate designs made of rice flour, coloured sand, rangoli powder or flower petals.

How to draw Rangoli:

If this is your first time making Rangoli, use a white paper to practice. This will make drawing on the floor easier. For this technique you will need:

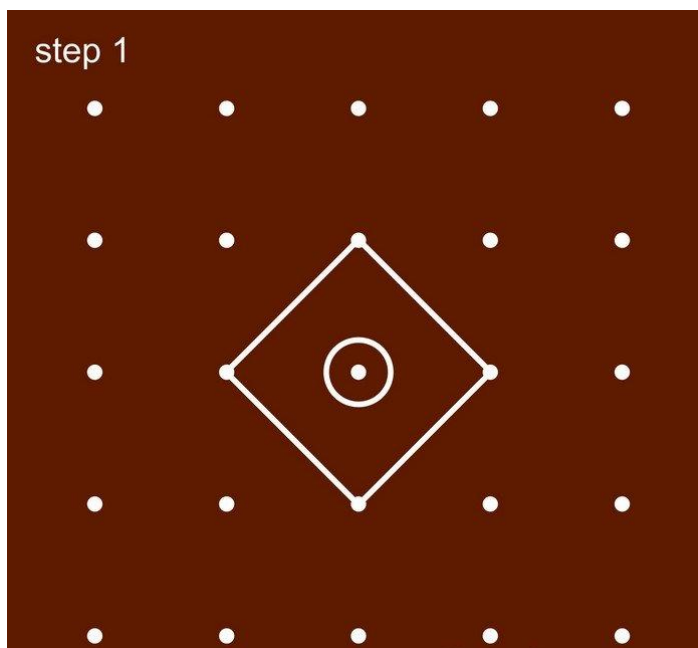
- A paper or clear space on the floor to make Rangoli
- Chalk /Paint, Crayons or paint colours (for making Rangoli on Paper)
- Sawdust/Rangoli powder in different colours to fill in (for making Rangoli on the floor)

Let's get started:

Place the paper on a table, on the ground or any space you find it easy to draw and work with. Here you will be using a grid of dots as your reference as a guide on how to make Rangoli design step by step.

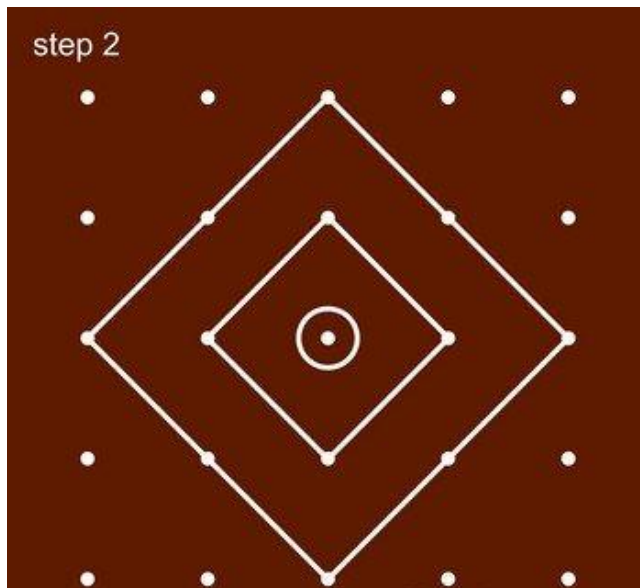
Step 1:

You will first draw a big grid of small dots. Then use chalk or any other material to draw your selected shape and pattern using the dots. Make sure the small dots are at equal distances like this:



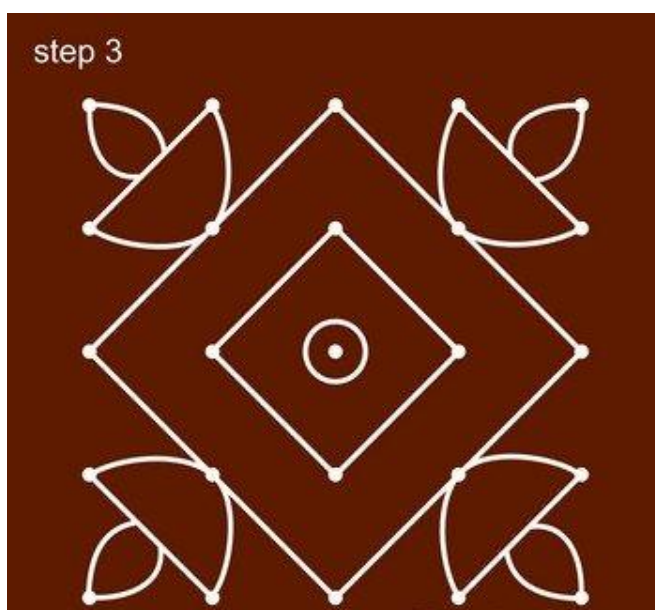
Step 2:

Try to keep the design small & simple for the first few attempts before trying the complex ones. You can put the dots in any shape you want for example: square, rectangle, hexagon etc. Here we are using the square shape, a very popular grid choice.



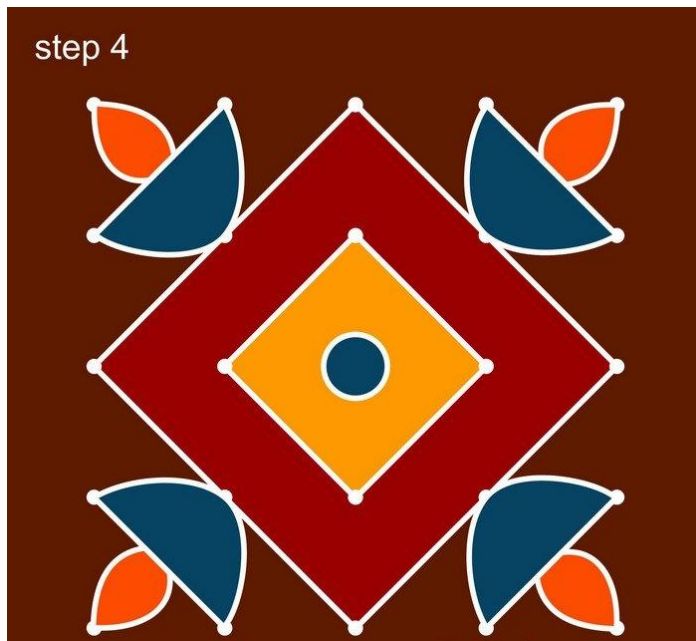
Step 3:

Join the dots using a chalk and then go over it with the White sawdust/Rangoli colour.



Step 4:

Now comes the best part, adding colour to your design. Using coloured sawdust/Rangoli powder, fill in the designs liberally. You can also use dried leaves, flower petals, or even mix them with colour chalk powder to give a creative touch to your design.



Once you are done filling in colour, add some finishing touches like another coat of white powder on the border. You can write wishes and add 'Diyas' or candles/tealights to make it even more beautiful.

A note for all Rangoli enthusiasts:

No one has ever created a fabulous Rangoli in one day or on their first attempt, so take it slow and with patience. Soon enough you will be ready and geared up to take on more challenging designs.