

Mastering The Magick Of Witchcraft
<http://www.masteringmagickwitchcraft.com>

Rose Ariadne Blog
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A Witches Spell Books

Keeping one's own spell book, more commonly known as a Book of Shadows, is a common practice in Wicca. It is not hard to see why, as it can be very helpful to keep a Book of Shadows. It is a way to keep all of your spells, rituals, and magical experiences together in one place, which makes for efficient and therefore effective spell casting.

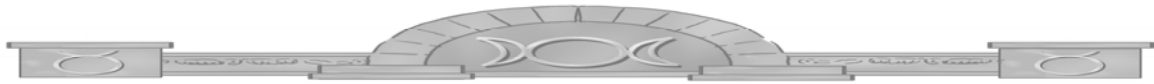
Keeping a Book of Shadows is an opportunity to let your creative side come out, as well. Illustrate the pages, use different colored inks, and include pictures. Write the whole thing in calligraphy if you like, or use black paper with silver ink! Remember, your Book of Shadows is your personal, private habitat, so don't let anything stop you from transforming it in the way that feels best to you.

A Book of Shadows is all well and good, but where does the new witch begin learning spells and ritual? Well, there are plenty of spell books out there to purchase. I recommend reading everything you can get your grubby paws on, and then writing down the spells and rituals that work best for you in your own Book of Shadows. Also write down the spells and rituals you've modified, and the results of those modifications. This way you have everything you need close to hand and in one book, which makes it so you don't have to dig out a number of different books to gain access to the spells you need at any given time.

Some of the spell books I like are Aoumiel's Green Witchcraft, The Mysteries of Isis by DeTraci Regula, and The Druid Animal Oracle. These books are appropriate for the beginning witch as well as the witch who has been practicing for a while. Aoumiel's Green Witchcraft focuses on nature and herb magic, and can give you some ideas for starting an herb garden. She also explains how she found her Craft Name, which we'll discuss in more detail in a future article. She is a witch that comes from a family tradition, and brings that experience to her discussions of nature magic. Her book is also written for the solitary practioner, but a witch that practices as part of a group can still glean some useful wisdom from Amiouel's writings.

The Mysteries of Isis is a great book to start with for the witch called to follow Isis and her teachings. The author includes incantations, blessings, spells, and rituals.





Regula's book also expands on the ritual for a purification bath discussed in the article on beginning spells. Her writing is accessible and holds the reader's interest, which makes the history lessons that are included fun, especially since the author takes the time to suggest modern uses for the ancient traditions of worship. Pick up her book and you won't be sorry!

The Druid Animal Oracle does not include spells or rites. Instead it is a companion to a deck of animal cards. These function something like a Tarot deck, but even without the cards, the book is worth it. It lists all the animals important in Celtic tradition, complete with lovely illustrations and descriptions of each animal's symbolism. This can be a great resource when you are just learning to communicate with animal spirits and totems. Even the most seasoned witch may, at times, need a reference book. No one should be worried about including this one in his or her library!

There are hundreds and hundreds of books out there on Witchcraft. Be sure to do your homework, and read more than one book on a subject if you can, to compare what each author tells you is correct. Get on Amazon or go to your local bookstore and browse. Happy hunting!

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