

DRAWING A LABYRINTH

You'll need a piece of paper, preferably a large piece somewhere from 12 x 16 to 22 x 30. Any paper will do, even a sheet of printer paper will work, but it's best if it doesn't have lines. You'll also need something to draw with. I like chalk pastels or paint best as they're more unpredictable like birth, but colored pencils, crayons, or markers are also fine, especially if that's all you have.



To draw the labyrinth, you'll need to start by "planting" the seed pattern from which your labyrinth will grow. If your paper is a rectangle, turn the paper sideways so that it's wider than it is tall. From left to right, find the center of your paper. Then, find the spot that is one third up from the bottom and two thirds down from the top of the paper and place a plus sign. Next, you'll draw the corner lines, which are right angles that mirror the shape of the inside of each of the angles of the plus sign. Allow enough room for your finger to fit between the plus sign lines and your new right-angle lines.

The last step in making the seed pattern is to place a dot from each of the right-angle corners. Once you have made the plus sign, the right-angle lines and the four dots, your seed pattern is done.

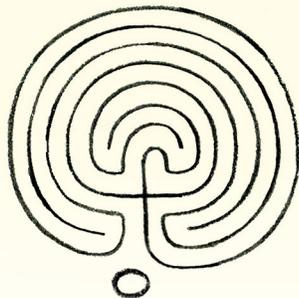
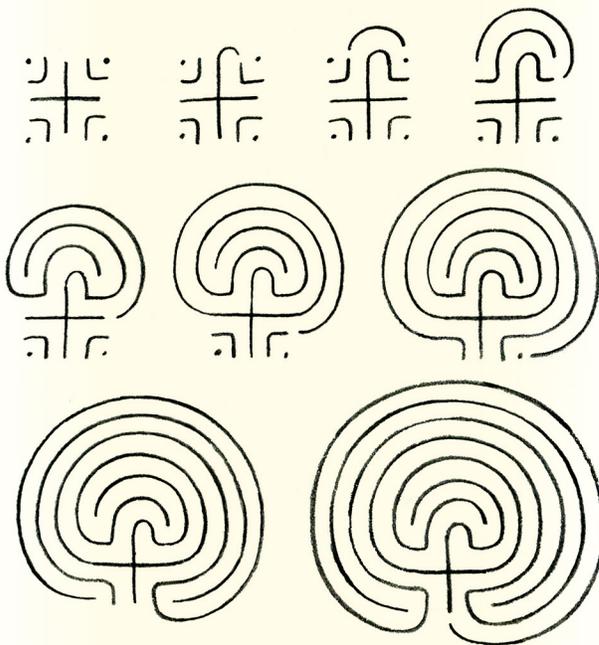
Now, grow the labyrinth from the seed and make the pathways. Start at the top of the vertical line of your plus sign and from there draw an upside-down U that connects the top of that line to the first line on the right.

Next find the first line to the left of the center line and draw a line from the top of it, up and over the previous line you drew to the dot to the right of the last spot you connected making a pathway-like space between the first line and this new line. Go back to the left. This time, you'll connect the dot on the left up and over to the next available line on the right. Keep going from the left up and over to the right, connecting the next line or dot on the left to the next line or dot on the right, always going up and over, until all lines and all dots have been connected to another one and there is only one entrance/exit at the bottom of the labyrinth.

Add a threshold stone near the entrance. Some labyrinths have these, others do not. The threshold stone is a reminder to pause and mark the separation from outside to inside the labyrinth. Thresholds are meant to be places that mark transitions and draw attention to that transition. Threshold stones are helpful for our purpose, so go ahead and draw one just in front of the entrance. It can be as simple or as creatively elaborate as you like. Your labyrinth should resemble the image here.

excerpted from;

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