



# Ethical Magic



## What is Ethical Magic?

Ultimately, the ethical considerations of using magic will depend on the specific beliefs and practices of the individual or group. Generally speaking, it is always good practice to structure the spells in a manner which balances the intention against the harm it might do.

## Free will

To be a responsible witch, you must understand that everyone is entitled to free will. When practicing any magic, keep in mind how your spell could influence the will of others. For example, it is best to have consent before putting a spell of on another person.

In baneful magic, free will is often disregarded. The same can be said for love spells. A good way to prevent infringing on another's free will is to phrase your spells around a concept instead of a person. For example, instead of doing a love spell on your ex, you can do a spell that attracts healthy romantic love. Or if you want someone to stop talking behind your back, you can make a sigil for yourself that protects you from gossip.

## Ethical Sources

Because witchcraft is becoming more popular, the amount of unethically sourced tools and ingredients is at an all-time high. When looking for affordable magical materials, be sure that you know where they are coming from. Many witches believe that the energy of unethical sources can weaken or ruin a spell!

## Open and Closed Practices

There is a huge problem in the witchcraft community of people pulling ideas and practices from closed cultures and religions. This greatly affects the people in these closed practices - culturally, socially, financially, spiritually, and more. It's imperative that you do your research before incorporating a practice into your craft to prevent any appropriation.

### What is a closed practice?

A closed practice is one that you can only be a part of if you were born into the community or you were initiated into it. A reason a variety of communities may close their practices is that they are deemed as "race locked", indicating that these communities were created as an attempt to unify together during times of hardship, with their beliefs formed around their shared experiences. This includes Santeria, Hoodoo, Vodou, Judaism, and Kabbalah- just to name a few.

### What is an open practice?

Open practices are spiritual and cultural traditions that are open to anyone who wishes to learn about them, regardless of their cultural or ethnic background. These practices are often grounded in spirituality and personal development and are accessible to those with a sincere interest. Examples include Wicca, Neo-Paganism, and many forms of modern witchcraft which often combine elements from various spiritual and cultural traditions.