

Elaborate Koru Art

The distinctive koru spiral is inspired by an unfurling silver fern frond.

It is often described as symbolising birth, regeneration, new life, growth and movement, and in tā moko (traditional Māori tattoo) is often used to represent a new branch of whakapapa (genealogy).

The Koru is also a symbol that represents both harmony and eternal movement. It holds powerful meaning symbolising strength and peace.

Its continuous movement of both inner and outer coil represent movement through life and how life changes, yet stays the same. The inner coil of the koru is said to represent the birthing of our young. As the frond grows to mature into an adult frond it flourishes, and germinates new fronds, depicting the cycle of life. The Koru's balanced shape depicts stability and harmony through life's challenges and pleasures, providing a powerful connection to both lineage and our own experience.

Using items only found in te taiao (nature) create the most elaborate koru that you can.

- 1 Find a suitable location for your koru
- 2 Gather items to use for your Koru
Suggested items: Rau (leaves), putiputi (flowers), kōhatu (stones), oneone (sand), angaanga (seashells), rākau (sticks).
- 3 Create & photograph your koru
Share with friends & whānau.

Things to think about:

what other symbols in nature could you design?

what else could you create with the same items?

ask someone to help and create together

what does the koru mean to you?



Iti noa ana he pito mata.
From the withered tree a flower blooms.

