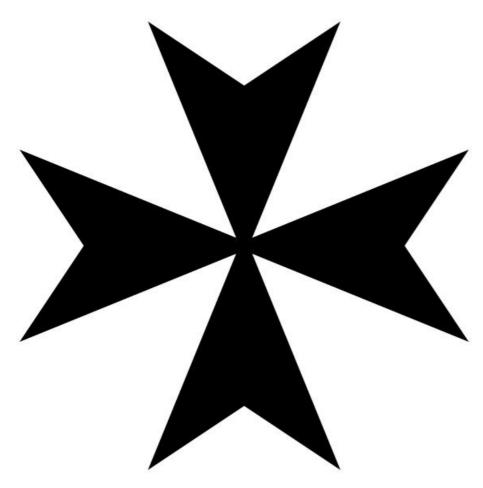
## **Maltese cross**

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The Maltese cross is a cross with four arms of equal length that expand outward and end in a "V" shape. The cross was originally the symbol of a group of 11th century knights, known as the Order of Knights Hospitaller (later the Knights of St. John), who cared for the sick in a Jerusalem hospital. Firefighters around the world now wear the Maltese cross as a symbol of honor and courage.



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