

## Lambskin Apron Lecture

Contributed by the Grand Jurisdiction of Maine.

<i>Who may witness:</i>	Closed meeting only.
<i>Purpose:</i>	To explain the Masonic significance of the Lambskin Apron to new members of Rainbow.
<i>Participants:</i>	Master Mason.
<i>Paraphernalia:</i>	White leather apron.
<i>Other:</i>	This lecture should be given to new initiates immediately following their Initiation or at a meeting soon thereafter.

**Master Mason:** You, my young woman, have just been presented with a miniature Lambskin Apron when you received your traditional lecture on the contents of the Pot of Gold at the station of Charity. We, as Masons, also wear a Lambskin Apron, and so that you may better understand its meaning, I will explain some of its symbolism to you.

At our Initiation into Masonry, we receive a Lambskin, or white leather apron. It is presented during the Rite of Investiture, or the Rite of Purity. At that time, we begin our Masonic life, pure and essentially spotless. The Apron is the first Masonic symbol that we receive and we can truthfully and whole-heartedly say that the Apron represents one of the greatest lessons of the Masonic Fraternity.

The triangular flap, with its three equal sides, represents the three persons of God: Omniscient, which means having total knowledge of all things; Omnipotent, which is having unlimited or universal power, authority or force – a being that is all powerful; and Omnipresent, which is the fact of God's being present everywhere and in all things.

The four equal sides of the Apron represent the four great personal virtues that all Masons strive for in their personal lives. The first is temperance, or the exercise of moderation in all things. Second is fortitude, or the strength of mind to tolerate the pressures of life. Next, we have the virtue of prudence, which is the right to freely, but carefully, make personal judgments in regard to one's actions. And last, is the virtue of justice, entered out fairly for one and all.

The total of seven sides formed by the Apron and the flap are indicative of the seven liberal arts and sciences that are recognized by all freemasons. These are: grammar, as it applies to the rules of an art of science; rhetoric, as the skill of effective speech; logic, with its powers of reasoning; arithmetic, which is the science that deals with real numbers and their computations; geometry, or the science that deals with measurements and their relationships; music, that lends melody and harmony of life; and astronomy, or the science of the heavens. These are the basics on which Freemasonry is founded.

The two string ties represent the practice of equality in that they are equal in length. They also stand for the double tie of God and Man; the obligation of God toward Man, his creation; and Man's obligation to God, his creator.

We wear a white apron each time we enter our Lodges and each time we put on the Lambskin Apron, we are reminded of our Masonic obligations. And so may it be with you – when you as a Rainbow Girl look upon your miniature Lambskin Apron, may you be reminded of the solemn obligation which you took before your Maker, sisters and friends as you knelt before the White Altar of Holy Promise and rededicated yourself to Service as represented by the seven colors of your Rainbow, and manifested in a life filled with Faith, Hope and Charity.