








# MAKE YER MARK

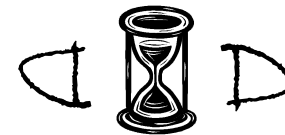
## JOLLY ROGERS:

Most pirates wanted to avoid bloody close-contact fighting when possible, so using a pirate flag was an excellent way to wage war from a distance on the minds and emotions, weakening resistance and forcing a quick surrender. During the Golden Age of Piracy in the 17th Century, pirates started calling their flags Jolly Rogers. The pirates may have been inspired by the name they gave the devil—"Old Roger"—or by the French term for "red flag", *Jolie Rouge*. Below are some examples of the frightening symbols used on Jolly Rogers:

	The hourglass indicates that the victim's time to surrender is running out...
	A heart with drops of blood means a drawn-out and very painful death...
	A dart, spear or sword symbolizes a violent death...
	A skeleton promises a tormented death...
	A cutlass in a hand or an empty fist lets the poor saps know that any of these forms of death are available free of charge and without delay...
	Symbols such as a raised glass to toast death or a captain raising a glass in toast with a skeleton project an attitude of apathy or fearlessness...
	And textual symbols may spell out a pirate's greatest enemies. Here, ABH stands for "A Barbadian's Head" and AMH for "A Martiniquian's Head."

## PIRATE SIGNATURES:

In *The Ghosts of Treasure Island*, Captain Flint marks his treasure map with his own special signature: an hourglass, which means time is up, and two capital D's back to back, which stands for *Dance of Death*. Here is what Flint's signature may have looked like:



Below are signatures of real 16th Century English privateers:



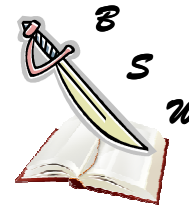
Sir Francis Drake's signature



Sir John Hawkins's signature

### Now try making your own pirate signature!

You can use fancy script, an abbreviation—such as the two D's in *Dance of Death*—symbols from the Jolly Rogers at the left, or made-up symbols of your own devising. Be sure to mention any powers or talents you have that may strike fear into the hearts of your enemies! Arrrgh, matey!



(Beware my Sharp Wit!)



(Brush with Death)

*Adventure Stage*  
*Seize the Day!*