

PATTERN OR SHAPE? Have a Heart!!!

by Barbara Barrans

Everyone knows what we call a heart is not really the shape or depiction of a actual heart—it is a shape, or design, that represents certain attributes.

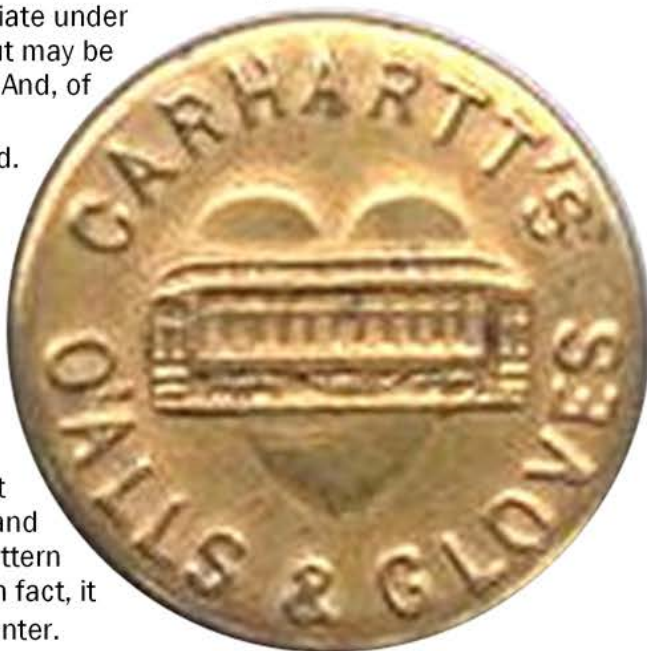
The heart means love or courage in many cultures.

This symbolic shape can be applied to buttons in two ways. If the button is shaped like a heart, it can be used as that "shape" under the 23-10 Shapes Assorted class, whether it has pictorial elements or not. Shape is the only consideration.

If you are representing the 22-1.2.3 Heart class in Patterns, however—where pictorials are not allowed except in the wallpaper types—the heart may not include any other pictorial element along with the heart. So, the heart shaped riveted button, if it has no pictorial design in the center of it, may be used as either a shape (heart) or a pattern (heart). If the shaped rivet has a train car in the center of it, then the button fits under 23-10 Shapes, but not 22-1.2.3 Patterns.

The same logic applies for other patterns such as squares, triangles, stars, crescents, etc. A star-shaped button with a bird in the center is not appropriate under Patterns as a star, but may be used under Shapes. And, of course, it may be used as a bird.

Since words and letters are classed as 22-2.1 Letter/word (verbal) under 22-2 Symbols assorted, which is part of Section 22 Patterns, Symbols, they are not considered pictorial and may accompany a pattern without a problem. In fact, it can be seen as a counter.



Western Regional Button Association is pleased to share our educational articles with the button collecting community.

This article appeared in the August 2013

WRBA Territorial News.

Enjoy!

Please join WRBA! Go to www.WRBA.us

WRBA gladly offers our articles for reprint, as long as credit is given to WRBA as the source.