



# Athena's Shield

Medusa and her sisters Stheno and Euryale were a terrifying trio of Gorgons. Gorgons are mythological creatures portrayed in Greek mythology, art, and architecture. Below are several depictions of Gorgons courtesy of the The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Art Institute Chicago, as well as an illustration from our podcast cartoonist Jason Adam Katzenstein. The ways artists have depicted the Gorgons has changed over time.

**What similarities do you notice among the depictions? What differences do you notice? How might you imagine Medusa based on these images and how she is described in the *Live from Mount Olympus* podcast?**



IMAGE CREDIT:  
Terracotta pelike (jar)  
Attributed to Polygnotos\_ca.  
450–440 BCE Greece  
Metropolitan Museum of Art



IMAGE CREDIT:  
Medusa  
Jason Adam Katzenstein



IMAGE CREDIT:  
Drachm (Coin)  
Depicting the Gorgon  
Medusa Struck  
411 BCE–356, Neapolis  
Art Institute Chicago

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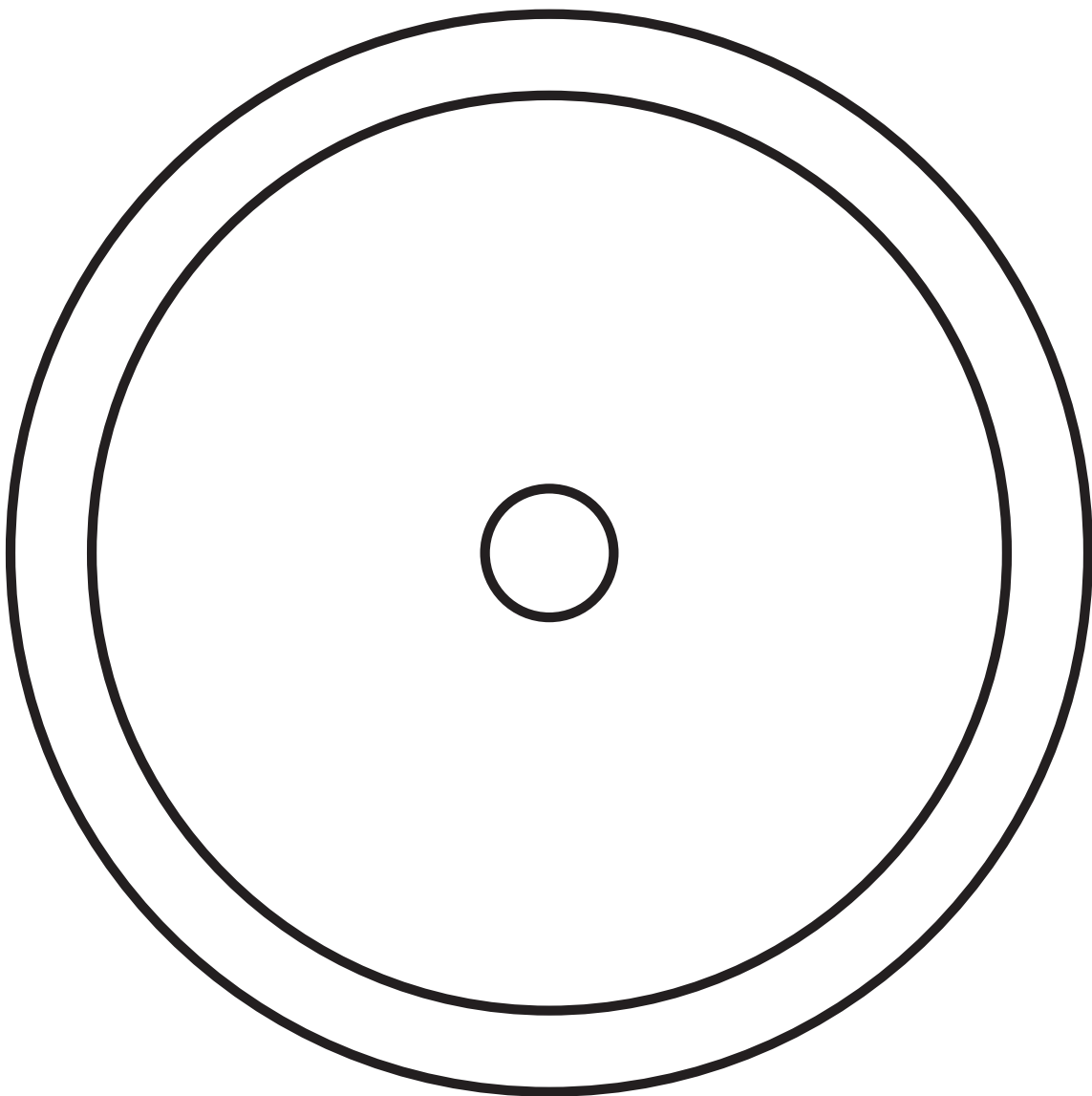
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Perseus was said to have given Medusa's head to Athena as an offering of thanks, and she set the head in a mirrored shield to terrify her enemies.

Use the template below to create your own depiction of Athena's shield, or, grab a piece of drawing paper and create your own template for your shield!



Shield template: Mark Warner

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