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# Witches in Magic

Magic Arcana  
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The witch is a popular icon of Halloween that also has a place in the **Magic** multiverse. The term “witch” refers to a person who practices black magic, which has obvious usefulness in a game about spell-hurlers that has the color black as part of its identity. However, **Magic** strives to stay away from gender-specific terms in card names, or to use what are usually gender-specific terms for both genders. There are counterexamples, but in most cases, these are exceptions that prove the rule. Most of the time, a nonlegendary creature’s name does not imply whether the creature is male or female. **Knights** and **sorcerers** and **shamans** in **Magic** can all be men or women.

The same is true of witches. To an English speaker, “witch” usually implies a *female* practitioner of the dark arts, but in **Magic** it’s a gender-neutral term. The art of various creatures named “witch” shows this is the case:



Divining Witch

Art by Donato Giancola

Bog Witch

Art by Gao Yan



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Note also that the term "warlock," generally considered to be the male counterpart to "witch," does not appear in **Magic**. So what's the word for a male witch? "Witch"!

Happy Halloween!



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