



The Seal of Bernalillo County Symbolizes the following:

The ZIA Sun Symbol:

New Mexico's distinctive insignia is the Zia Sun Symbol, which originated with the Indians of Zia Pueblo in ancient times.

Four is the sacred number of Zia, and the figure is composed of a circle from which four points radiate.

To the Zia Indian, the sacred number is embodied in the earth, with its four seasons; in the day, with sunrise, noon, evening and night; in life, with its four divisions—childhood, youth, manhood and old age. Everything is bound together in a circle of life and love with out beginning, without end.

The Two Mountain ranges symbolize the Sandia and Manzano ranges in the eastern quadrant of Bernalillo County.

The eight sheep grazing in the valley represent the eight Spanish land grants which comprise Bernalillo County : Pajarito, Alameda, San Pedro, Elena Gallegos, Los Padillas, Antonio Sedillo, Atrisco and Chilili Grants.

These sheep also symbolize the primary occupation of the first settlers of New Mexico, sheep herding.