(Left) A pendentive (or three-dimensional spandrel) formed as a necessarily triangular space where a round dome meets two rounded arches at right angles. (Right) "Classical" two-dimensional spandrels; the necessarily triangular spaces between rounded arches and the rectangular frame of surrounding walls and ceilings.

Source: Stephen Jay Gould, "Evolution, The Exaptive Excellence of Spandrels as a Term and Prototype," *Proceedings of the National Acadamy of Sciences of the United States of America* 94, (September 1997): 10750-10755, http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/full/94/20/10750