



Martha's Tarot

Tarot Suits And The Arcanas /Court Cards And Relationships

Think of the tarot as representing your walk through life towards achieving your soul's purpose. The tarot highlights the learning process every step of the way - on the soul level and in the physical world.

Divided Into Two Sections, The Major Arcana And The Minor Arcana.

Major Arcana Is The Soul's Journey

- Major Arcana represents the evolution of and the experiences of the soul here on earth on the path to spiritual awareness.
- They hold more weight in a reading.

In a spread

- They may indicate that the person is going through big events that stimulate spiritual growth. They can represent lessons they are learning, avoiding or facing. They play out over a longer time frame.

Minor Arcana Is The Journey Here On Earth.

- Minor arcana represents detailed expectations we have in the physical world.
- Day to day lessons, insight, challenges, trials of our daily life .
- They are insights into the energy operating in your life now, guidance on how to work with it, steps to take to get you to happiness.

In a spread

They represent the different experiences we would encounter in our day to day life. They represent all the facets of emotions, relationships, intellectual, passion, creativity. They play out over a short period of time.



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To Help Us Understand Those Experiences, The Minor Arcana Is Divided Into Suits.

Earth/Pentacles * Water/Cups * Fire/Wands * Air/Swords

The Nature Of The Elements

- The suits in the tarot all correspond to the four elements - giving us 4 cards within each element.
- In astrology, there are 3 zodiac signs per element.
- The suits loosely conveys what each of these court cards are preoccupied with - what they care about, what they bring to the world and where their skills lie

Earth/Pentacles

- Associated with finances, home and body.
- Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn
- External experiences: health, finances, work. Grounded, practical, material.

Steady, solid, reliable and strong. Building a solid foundation with practical, sensible application to material well being.

- In a spread they often represent career, studies and financial wealth or any kind of physical well being.

At its best it is steadily growing or with blocks it may be stubborn.



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Water/Cups

- Associated with feelings, relationships and love.
- Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces
- Internal experiences emotions, intuition, relationships, understanding and processing feeling
- Intuitive, creative and sensitive. It carries vibration and seeks depth. Emotion and may need room to ebb and flow. It's receptive, adaptable, healing and cleansing.
- It can be soft and gentle like a gently running stream or a calm deep lake or powerful like a raging rapid river.

In a spread it is often about relationships and your emotional connections with yourself or others.

At its best it is responsive and supportive. With blocks it may be self absorbed or experience confusion

Air/Swords

- Associated with intellect, thoughts and ideas.
- Gemini, Libra, Aquarius
- Logical, communication, action, and intellect.

The Suit of Swords/Air represents thoughts, words and actions with a certain amount of logic.

- The Swords/Air cards often appear regarding communicating ideas, making decisions, and asserting power.

At its best it is clear, unattached and insightful. With blocks it may indicate emotional detachment, harsh judgements.



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Fire/Wands

- Associated with creativity, willpower, and action.
- Aries, Leo, Sagittarius
- New ideas, action, creativity, vision.

The Suit of Fire/Wands represents energy, motivation, passion and vision.

- Often appearing in a spread about life purpose, spirituality and new ideas, sexual energy, charisma. There is a feeling of excitement with them.

At its best it is visionary, embracing inspired action. With blocks it can show extreme ups and downs and self centeredness.



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**Each Suit contains 10 numbered cards
and 4 Court Cards (Page, Knight, Queen and King).**

The Court Cards

The court cards represent different personality characteristics or people. We can each embody those characteristics at any time. In a spread they certainly can and do often represent another person. They can describe the person and the significant characteristics they embody or display in that situation.

You can look at their energy this way:

- *The Page conceives ideas*
- *Knights take action on those*
- *Queens nurture ideas*
- *Kings bring those ideas to fruition*

Or this way:

- *The Page is a young person, full of naïve energy and enthusiasm ready for adventure and learning*
- *The Knight is more mature and ready to use their new skills with their unbridled enthusiasm to begin a venture*
- *The Queen is mature, wise and compassionate who know how to support the ideas and influence others to support it*
- *The King is fully matured and has achieved the success is wise and generous*



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Individual Court cards and their elements.

Page - *Youth, discovering oneself, energetic, learning, growth, at the beginning of the journey. Think teenagers are always full of impetuous enthusiasm.*

The Page of Cups/Water

- The beginning of a creative project.
- A positive message or news, an invitation.
- A message may be unexpected but welcomed, and you are likely to respond to the news in an emotional way - usually uplifting.

The Page of Earth/Pentacles

- The desire to manifest dreams into the material world.
- A new project such as a hobby, business or education. Skill building, planning action put in place practical plans.
- Education or certification, learning or perfecting skills.

Page of Air/Swords

- Energy, passion and enthusiasm, impatience.
- The start of new projects, ventures. The beginning always looks good but something else is needed in order to maintain the steady growth.
- Moving forward to get the wheels in motion, despite any challenges or setbacks that may potentially stand in the way.

Page Fire/Wands

- Free, inspired spirited new beginnings.
- Passion for life, and experiences. Understanding is not yet fully developed.
- Catalyst for inspired change. Creative restlessness, or on the verge of some sort of discovery or new phase of life.



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Knight - *Young adult, first steps of putting learning into action.*

Knight of Water/Cups -

- As a person usually represents a young adult, usually male. Peace loving, diplomatic, tactful and gracious.
- Gentle person offering an invitation or proposal. Sensitive, imaginative, energy. Romantic proposals, invitations, following your heart.
- As a masculine energy, it indicates respectful behavior, charming.
- There are balanced and unbalanced expressions of those characteristics.
- **Positive and negatives**
 - Romantic/Over emotional
 - Imaginative/Fanciful
 - Sensitive/Temperamental
 - Introspective/Introverted

Knight of Earth/Pentacles

- As a person, represents a young adult who shows they care by working hard to provide for the people they love.
- Patient, practical, loyal, responsible, persistent.
- Making your dreams/wishes come true through persistent, practical applications.
- It can also represent being environmental conscientiousness and an animal lover
- **Positive and negatives**
 - Unwavering/Stubborn
 - Cautious/Unadventurous
 - Thorough/Obsessive
 - Realistic/Pessimistic
 - Hard-Working/Grinding



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Knight Air/Swords

- As a person, this often represents a confident and articulate intelligent young man.
- Assertive, direct, honest, quick witted.
- They can act impulsively and although ready for action with their idea, may need to implement practical guidance.
- It signifies being dashing, daring, brave, courageous or rebellious. Often shows one who can rise to challenges and find creative, smart solutions.

- **Positives and negatives**
 - Direct/Blunt
 - Authoritative/Overbearing
 - Incisive/Cutting
 - Knowledgeable/Opinionated
 - Logical/Unfeeling

Knight of Fire/Wands

- Often a person with high energy, enthusiasm and charisma
- Excitable, restless.
- Exciting things to come.
- Strong communication of ideas, perhaps they don't have a full grasp of their energy or power.
- Positives and negatives
 - Charming/Superficial
 - Self-confident/Cocky
 - Adventurous/Restless
 - Passionate/Hot-tempered



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Queen - *Mature and nurturing of ideas and people. The feminine aspect. Not necessarily women but usually. Maturity or deeper understanding of the self. Mastering persuasion without imposing their view. Strongly influential without being pushy or dominating.*

Queen Water/Cups

- Nurturing, emotional, caring, compassionate and sensitive.
- Empathic, intuitive/psychic healer.
- Achievements by the use of imagination and creativity.
- Often shows one who is affectionate and romantic.

- Positives and negatives
 - Nurturing/manipulating
 - Affectionate/insecure
 - Imaginative/confused

Queen Earth/Pentacles

- Down to earth, easy going, welcoming, comforting.
- Good mothering, nurturing
- Good business planner,
- Financial stability, practical.
- Gives love and support freely and often shows love of nature and animals.
- Positives and negatives
 - Easygoing/stubborn
 - Nurturing/smothering
 - Loving/controlling



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Queen Air/Swords

- Unbiased, perceptive, intellectual
- Strong sense of independence or individualism.
- Decisive, upfront and honest in their opinions.
- Communication, clarity, and logic.
- Often shows a woman who is solitary, or single.
- Positives and negatives
 - Unbiased/Judgemental
 - Independent/guarded
 - Logical/dogmatic

Queen Wands/Fire

- Energetic, vivacious, strong willed
- Passionate and courageous.
- Good at teamwork, good manager of people and diverse energies.
- She is both encouraging and challenges others to grow.
- Often shows a need to apply their focus to their own needs and desires or their own self discovery.
- Positives and negatives
 - Energetic/scattered
 - Team player/self-centered
 - Courageous/reckless



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King - represents the masculine aspects to women. Pinnacle of maturity, understanding of the self and being able to understand the needs of others and take responsibility for others. Stable and solid, capable of directing their energy to achieve their visions and goals.

King Water/Cups

- Deeply caring for oneself and others.
- Understand their emotions.
- Romantic, creative
- This represents the balance between the emotions and the intellect..
- One who is compassionate and kind and understanding.
- Charitable or altruistic. Often shows strong emotional bonds in a relationship
- Positives and negatives
 - Aware emotionally/emotionally immature
 - Empathic/melancholy
 - Creative/ungrounded

King of Earth/Pentacles

- Abundance, security, ambition, stability, kindness, trustworthy.
- One likes to take care of others providing advice, guidance and wisdom as well as financial support.
- One who enjoys their accomplishments
- Generous
- Protective of loved one and family
- Attainment. Enjoying the success and the richness of life, not just financially but also spiritually, which will set you up for the future.
- Often shows good finances, business, and a good dad.
- Positives and negatives
 - Protective/controlling
 - Secure/rigid
 - Generous/miserly



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The King of Swords/Air

- Authority, intellectual leader and advisor, with impartiality.
- Emotions kept in check allowing for insights or guidance based on high standards of ethics or morality and integrity.
- Excellent communication skills, love of conversation, the ability to express ideas in a comprehensive way.
- Often shows the communicator - writer, speaker, lawyer whose advice/opinion are of high regard
- Positives and negatives
 - Authority/authoritarian
 - Ethics and morality/unfeeling
 - Impartial/biased

King of Wands/Fire

- A natural-born leader of all kinds of people, a visionary.
- Inspiring action in others, a person with charisma.
- Tendency to be self focused on expansion
- Confident, strong, energetic.
- Freethinking, motivated and action-orientated.
- Rather than being the doer, or creator - the energy is applied in motivating others to do.
- Fun and free spirited.
- Strong sexual energy.
- Positives and negatives
 - Free spirit/lack direction
 - Energetic/up and down
 - Focus on expansion/selfish



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The Court Cards In Relationship To One Another.

These descriptions are how I interpret the combinations when I see them in the context of a reading.

Based on the natural relationship between each element both in nature and typical descriptions of the tarot. I look at the elements in nature to gain more insights into how they can be compatible or where there can be a lack of balance - what could be described as the conflicting nature. Think of the elements in nature and imagine how the combinations might interact and use your intuition. Each reading might not conform to these suggestions.

EARTH

- **Earth and Earth** = two of the same. Similar likes and dislikes, mutual understanding. Plenty of support for growth and expansion. A nice comfort zone for each other. If mature it can provide a safe space for growth and nurturing.
- *The challenge - both being practical and maybe creatures of habit, they can butt heads. There may be a lack of stimulation and experience stagnation.*

- **Earth and Water** = natural connection and mutual support. As the earth holds the space for water to flow. They feed and sustain each other.
- *The challenge - it can become out of balance as Earth can be seen as too set in ways or the Water can be seen as overly emotional or changeable as water overflows the banks of a river. Or if Earth presents obstacles to the natural flow.*

- **Earth and Air** = At its best in this relationship there can be inspiration that takes off. As the wind carries seeds to be planted. Earth can provide a sense of grounding for the Air person, Air person can help the Earth person take action with less hesitation or be more decisive.
- *It can present challenges in a relationship as the Air person can be difficult to bring down to earth and connect in an emotional way. The Earth person may be too methodical or practical for the Air person.*



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- **Earth and Fire** = this can be an exciting combination as they can really offer each other fuel to grow. Earth may provide the Fire with the practical foundation to allow the inspired vision to reach maturity. The Fire person can add creative sparks to the Earth - igniting passion and encouragement to think out of the box.
The challenge can be that the Earth grows weary and needs more sustenance. The Fire can see Earth as limited. Think of an uncontrolled fire in the desert.
- **Fire and Fire** = this can be a dynamic combination. They can stroke each other. Inspire creativity, imagination. They can respect the others' need to explore and expand while offering mutual understanding and support. Think of how firefighters use fire to control another fire.
At its worst they can thrive in drama, and experience many ups and downs.
- **Fire and Air** = This can be an exhilarating combination where the Air person feeds, teaches, inspires and expands the Fire person. The Air person could learn a lot from the Fire person, building a greater sense of self-esteem or accessing their own power. The Air person can help the Fire person understand just how good they really can be. Think of an amazing new concept catching on and going viral.
At its worst the Fire person could be demanding and take a lot without giving back. Or the Air person can snuff out the passion or alternatively let the Fire person operate without boundaries.
- **Fire and Water** = the fire person can "heat up" the water person and help them get a little needed self focus. The water person can inspire the fire person to be more sensitive or compassionate.
At its worst it can show an empath and a self-centered (think narcissist) partner, having created the unhealthy dynamic together.
- **Fire and Earth** = this can be an exciting combination as they can really offer each other fuel to grow. Earth may provide the Fire with the practical foundation to allow the inspired vision to reach maturity. The Fire person can add creative sparks to the Earth - igniting passion and encouragement to think out of the box.
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- **Water and Water** = this combination can be so soothing, comfortable and romantic. Both are compassionate, deeply caring about the other and there may often be a psychic link between each other.
- *Out of balance they can create emotional confusion or depression for each other.*
- **Water and Air** = This combination can bring the best out of each other. Water can bring more feeling to the air person, the air person can inspire the water person to come out of their shell and really be able to express themselves.
- *At its worst the air person can be insensitive to the water person, creating a feeling of not good enough. The water person can get their feather ruffles by the air person.*
- **Water and Earth** = natural connection and mutual support. As the earth holds the space for water to flow. They feed and sustain each other.
- *The challenge - it can become out of balance as Earth can be seen as too set in ways or the Water can be seen as overly emotional or changeable as water overflows the banks of a river. Or if Earth presents obstacles to the natural flow.*
- **Water and Fire** = the fire person can "heat up" the water person and help them get a little needed self focus. The water person can inspire the fire person to be more sensitive or compassionate.
- *At its worst it can show an empath and a self-centered (think narcissist) partner, having created the unhealthy dynamic together.*



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- **Air and Air** = this combination can be intellectually stimulating, the ideas flow between them. Ideals and aspirations expand and they grow with each other.
- At its worst they may need to find direction and purpose. Think tumbleweed - blowing around gathering more stuff without any real aim or purpose. They may strive for more but may lack the emotional maturity to attain it.
- **Air and Earth** = At its best in this relationship there can be inspiration that takes off. As the wind carries seeds to be planted. Earth can provide a sense of grounding for the Air person, Air person can help the Earth person take action with less hesitation or be more decisive.
- *It can present challenges in a relationship as the Air person can be difficult to bring down to earth and connect in an emotional way. The Earth person may be too methodical or practical for the Air person.*
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Seasons in the Tarot

There are many different interpretations for seasons.

Match the Four Seasons to the Tarot Suits				
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Cardinal Signs	Wands (Aries, Cardinal Fire)	Cups (Cancer, Cardinal Water)	Swords (Libra, Cardinal Air)	Pentacles (Capricorn, Cardinal Earth)
Neo-Pagan Ritual	Swords (East=Air, Dawn, Beginning)	Wands (South=Fire, Noon, Fullness)	Cups (West=Water, Sunset, Decline)	Pentacles (North=Earth, Midnight, Ending)
Fixed Signs	Pentacles (Taurus, Fixed Earth)	Wands (Leo, Fixed Fire)	Cups (Scorpio, Fixed Water)	Swords (Aquarius, Fixed Air)
Natural Symbolism	Cups (Rain)	Wands (Heat)	Pentacles (Fruit)	Swords (Reaping)
Swapped Suits	Cups (Overflowing Rivers)	Pentacles (Green Growth)	Wands = Air (Blowing Leaves)	Swords = Fire (Warmth and Protection)

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In my practice, I just asked them to show me the seasons. My interpretation is Summer = Water/Cups, Winter = Air/Swords, Fall = Wands/Fire, Earth/Pentacles = Spring.

You can determine your own and just tell your guides that's what it means (just like when you assign a context to a card position)



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Numerology and the Tarot

Numerology is the study of numbers and how the vibration of the numbers and life are interconnected. The creators of your deck already have applied these senses to the card meanings.

0. Conception, the blank slate with the power to create anything we want. Embracing dreams and hopes, Faith.
1. New, motivational, pioneering, ground-breaking, new endeavors. It is a natural leader and a proactive force. Independent, self-sufficient.
2. All about partnerships, cooperation, peace, balance.
3. Creativity, manifestation, abundance, optimism, celebration.
4. Solidity, foundations, rooting down, taking care of day to day matters.
5. Freedom, curiosity, change, transition, review, for some religions, and others prosperity.
6. Family, home, health, beauty, harmony, stability.
7. Spiritual insight, wisdom, some say it represents having found God and therefore wholeness.
8. The material world, manifesting our desires. Merging of the spirit world and physical world (as above so below) infinity, strength, victory, prosperity. Some say karma, judgment.
9. Ending of one cycle and beginning anew. Altruism, spiritual awakening, universal love, humanitarianism, selflessness.