

### Fundamentals of Occidental Astrology

Astrology is the most sophisticated system for mapping the pantheon of symbols to the individual human psyche.

Astrology readings are a way of <u>building up</u> <u>your self-concept</u> — a method to get you in touch with a bigger-picture view of yourself & your personality.



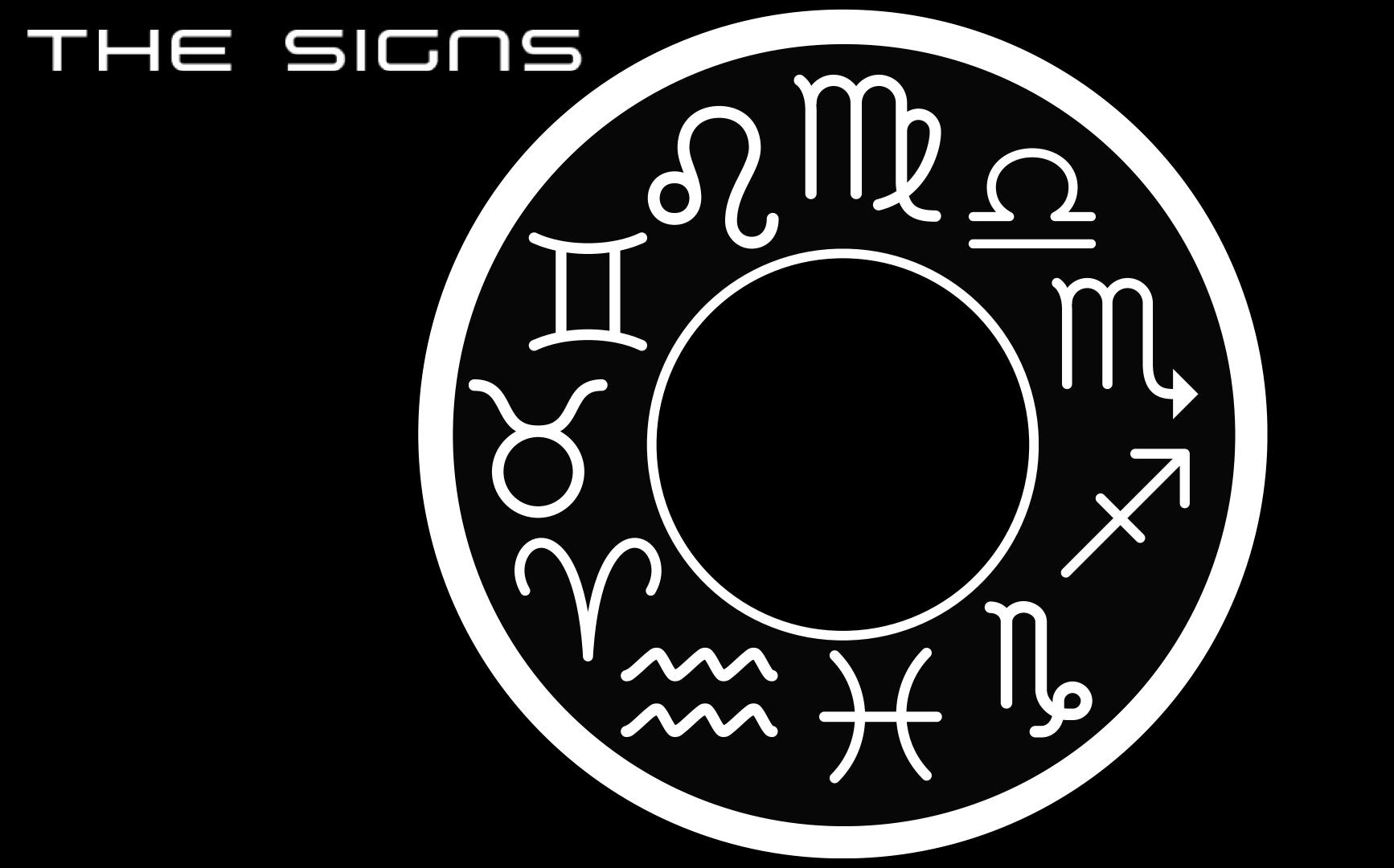
Each sign represents <u>a 30-degree segment</u> of the ecliptic and *influences/symbolizes* distinct personality characteristics.

The ecliptic is <u>the apparent path</u> that the Sun traces out in the celestial sphere over the course of a year, as observed from Earth

The word "astrology" comes from the Greek words "astron," meaning star, and "logia," meaning study or talk.

"Horoscope" derives from the Greek words "hora" (time or hour) and "skopos" (observer).

"Zodiac" has its roots in the Latin word "zodiacus," which comes from the Greek "zodiakos kyklos," meaning "circle of little animals."



#### Cardinal

#### Initiators of the seasons

Action



Leadership



**New Ventures** 

#### Fixed

Mid-Season



Persistence



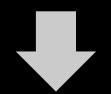
Stability



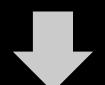
Maintenance

#### Mutable

**Bring Seasons to their Close** 



Adaptability



Change



**Transition** 

#### **Fire**

Energetic, passionate, and dynamic. They are associated with inspiration and action.

#### **Earth**

Practical, grounded, and focused on material realities.

They're about stability and manifestation.

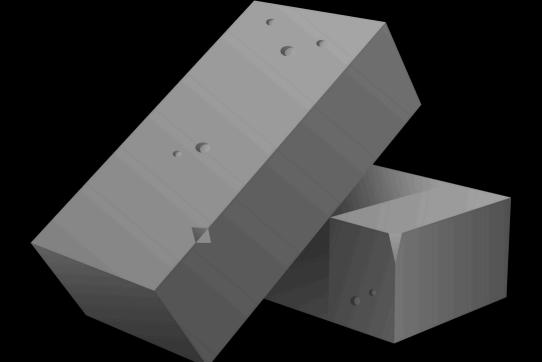
#### Air

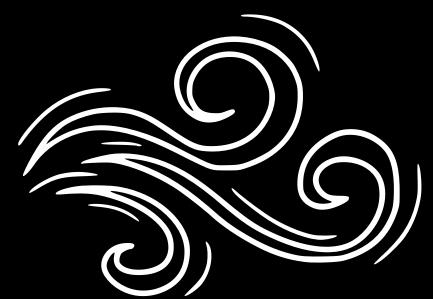
Intellectual,
communicative, and
social. These signs deal
with ideas, connections,
and the exchange of
information.

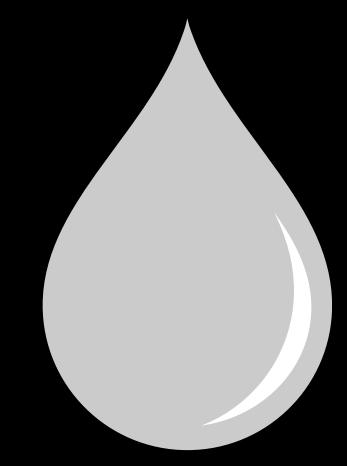
#### <u>Water</u>

Emotional, intuitive, and sensitive. They govern feelings, empathy, and the subconscious.











# 1st Aries 1st Constant of the second of the



### Cardinal

March 21 -April 19

Courageous, determined, confident, enthusiastic, optimistic, honest, passionate

Impatient, moody, short-tempered, impulsive, aggressive

Aries is the first sign of the zodiac, symbolizing new beginnings, energy, and action. The Ram is known for its pioneering spirit, always ready to take on new challenges with great vigor. Aries individuals are natural leaders, often initiating projects or adventures. Their drive is fueled by Mars, giving them a combative yet dynamic approach to life. They can be quick to anger but also quick to forgive. Their challenge is learning patience and considering others' perspectives.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Taurus

1<sup>st</sup> Earth

Yenus + is the ruler

Fixed

April 20 -May 20



### Reliable, patient, practical, devoted, responsible, stable

Stubborn, possessive, uncompromising, materialistic

Taurus embodies stability, persistence, and a love for the sensual pleasures of life, thanks to Venus's influence. This sign values security and comfort, often showing a strong connection to nature and material possessions. Taureans are known for their determination and ability to stick with tasks until completion. However, their desire for stability can manifest as stubbornness or resistance to change. They appreciate beauty and luxury but need to be wary of becoming too attached to material things or routines.



3 rd Gemini

1<sup>st</sup> Air

YMercury Fistheruler

### Mutable

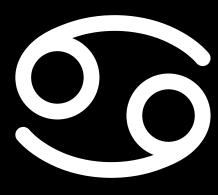
**May 21 - June 20** 

### Adaptable, versatile, communicative, witty, intellectual, lively

Nervous, inconsistent, indecisive, superficial

Gemini is all about communication, duality, and versatility. The Twins symbolize the dual nature of this sign - they can be both outgoing and introspective. Governed by Mercury, Geminis are quick thinkers and excellent communicators but can struggle with focus due to their curiosity about everything around them. They thrive on change, ideas, and social interactions, but this can also lead to a lack of depth or commitment in some areas of life.

### 4 Cancer



1<sup>st</sup> Water



### Cardinal

June 21 -July 22



### Intuitive, nurturing, emotional, sensitive, protective, tenacious



Moody, clingy, overly sensitive, manipulative

Cancer is deeply tied to emotions, home, and family. The Crab's hard exterior protects a soft, sensitive interior, symbolizing Cancer's need for security and their protective nature. The Moon's rulership gives Cancer strong intuition and emotional depth, often leading them to be very caring and empathetic. They are the nurturers of the zodiac, but their sensitivity can lead to mood swings or being overly protective.



Lec 2nd Fire

Sun is the ruler

Fixed

**July 23 -**August 22

### Creative, passionate, generous, warm-hearted, cheerful, humorous

Arrogant, stubborn, selfcentered, lazy Leo represents creativity, leadership, and self-expression. The Lion is regal, proud, and loves to be the center of attention, much like the Sun which rules this sign and gives it life. Leos are warm, loyal, and generous, often shining brightly in social settings or leadership roles. However, their desire for acclaim can sometimes translate into arrogance or a need for constant validation.

## 6th Virgo M 2nd 2nd Earth

Mercury is the ruler

### Mutable

August 23 -September 22



### Analytical, kind, hardworking, practical, reliable, meticulous



Overly critical, perfectionistic, conservative, worrisome

Virgo is associated with analysis, service, and detail orientation. The Virgin symbolizes purity, health, and craftsmanship. Governed by Mercury, Virgos are methodical thinkers who excel in problem-solving and organization. They are often seen as the helpers of the zodiac, always ready to assist but sometimes overly critical of themselves and others. Their challenge is to find balance between perfectionism and practicality.



7 Libra
Libra
2 nd Air

Henus is the ruler

Cardinal

September 23 - October 22

### Cooperative, diplomatic, gracious, fair-minded, social

Indecisive, avoids confrontations, self-pitying, can be manipulative

Libra is about balance, harmony, and relationships. The Scales signify Libra's quest for fairness and justice. Venus's influence gives them a love for beauty, art, and social interaction. Libras are peace-makers, often going out of their way to avoid conflict, which can lead to indecisiveness or a tendency to please others at their own expense. They excel in partnerships but need to learn to assert themselves.

## Scorpio Scorpio 2 Mater

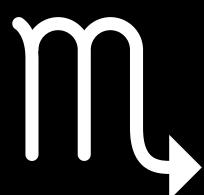
+Pluto is the ruler

Mars was traditionally

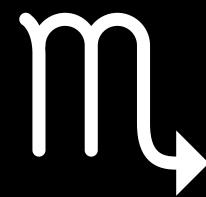
### Fixed

October 23 -November 21





### Resourceful, brave, passionate, stubborn, a true friend



Jealous, obsessive, suspicious, manipulative, unyielding

Scorpio delves into the depths of emotion, transformation, and mystery. The Scorpion's sting represents their intensity and ability to regenerate or transform situations. Governed by Mars (war) and Pluto (transformation), Scorpios possess a profound inner strength and a desire to uncover truths, often leading them to explore psychological or metaphysical realms. Their passion can turn into jealousy or possessiveness if not managed well.



9<sup>th</sup> Sagittarius



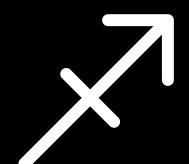
3<sup>rd</sup> Fire

2 Jupiter is the ruler

### Mutable

November 22 - December 21

### Generous, idealistic, great sense of humor, optimistic



Irresponsible, careless, tactless, overconfident

Sagittarius embodies exploration, philosophy, and freedom. The Archer symbolizes aiming high, both in physical and intellectual pursuits. Ruled by Jupiter, they seek growth, knowledge, and truth, often through travel or education. Sagittarians are naturally optimistic and love adventure, but their love for freedom can sometimes make them seem irresponsible or non-committal.

10<sup>th</sup> Capricorn

3<sup>rd</sup> Earth

Saturn is the ruler

#### Cardinal

December 22 - January 19



#### Responsible, disciplined, selfcontrol, good managers

Know-it-all, unforgiving, condescending, expecting the worst

Capricorn signifies ambition, discipline, and structure. The Sea-goat symbolizes the ability to climb high while maintaining depth. Saturn's rulership imbues Capricorns with a sense of responsibility and a drive for achievement. They are often seen as the builders or planners of the zodiac, focusing on long-term goals and success, but this can lead to a focus on status or a fear of failure.



11<sup>th</sup> Aquarius



Uranus

is the ruler

Saturn

was traditionally

#### Fixed

January 20 -February 18

### Progressive, original, independent, humanitarian, idealistic

Runs from emotional expression, temperamental, uncompromising, aloof

Aquarius is about innovation, community, and eccentricity. The Water Bearer represents the distribution of knowledge and enlightenment. Governed by Saturn (traditionally) for structure, and Uranus (modern) for revolution, Aquarians are forward-thinking, often more concerned with humanity's future than personal gain. They are visionaries but can struggle with emotional connections or seem detached.

Pisces

Pisces

Water

Neptune is the ruler

Jupiter was traditionally

#### Mutable

February 19 - March 20

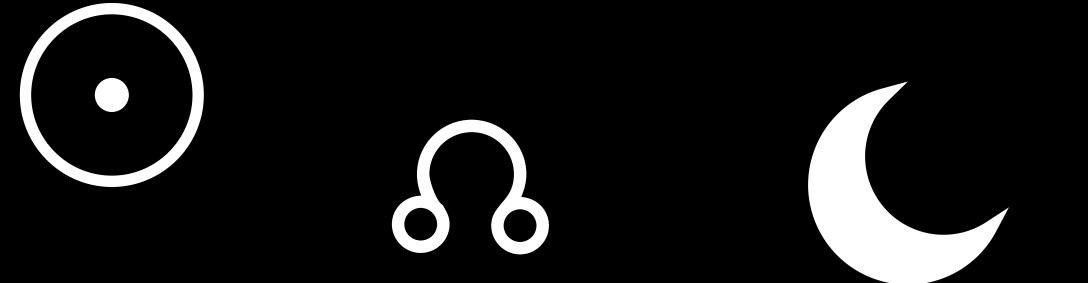


## Compassionate, artistic, intuitive, gentle, wise, harmonious

+ Fearful, overly trusting, sad, desire to escape reality, can be a victim or a martyr

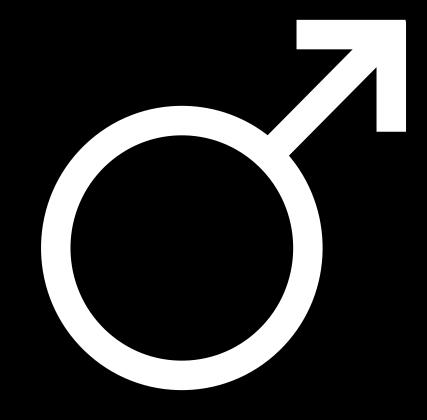
Pisces embodies empathy, imagination, and spirituality. The two Fish swimming in opposite directions symbolize the duality of this sign spiritual depth versus escapism. Neptune's modern rulership adds layers of mysticism, dreams, and illusions. Pisceans are deeply intuitive and creative, often connecting with others on an emotional level. However, they can be prone to escapism or feeling overwhelmed by life's harshness.





#### Mars

Mars embodies energy, aggression, passion, and action, traits that are deeply reflected in the mythological stories surrounding him:



#### **Energy and Drive**

Mars is considered the planet of primal energy and motivation. Just as Mars, the god, was instrumental in the founding of Rome through his sons Romulus and Remus, in astrology, Mars signifies the drive to initiate, to conquer, and to build something enduring. It's about the pioneering spirit, much like Romulus founding Rome.

#### Aggression and Conflict

Reflecting the god's warlike nature, Mars in astrology is associated with conflict, competition, and aggression. It dictates how we handle disputes, assert ourselves, and pursue our desires, often with a combative or confrontational approach reminiscent of Mars' battles and the story of Mars Ultor, where he avenges wrongs.

#### Passion and Desire

The passionate affair between Mars and Venus in Roman mythology highlights Mars' connection to desire, not just in a martial sense but also in the realm of love and sexuality. In astrology, Mars governs our libido, our sexual energy, and what we desire deeply, pushing us to pursue these desires with vigor.

#### Courage and Valor

Mars is seen as the embodiment of <u>courage</u>, <u>valor</u>, and <u>bravery</u>. His marriage to Nerio, who personifies martial strength, underscores this aspect. Astrologically, Mars placement in a chart can show where and how an individual expresses courage, how they stand up for themselves, and their capacity for endurance in the face of adversity.

#### Leadership and Protection

Mars' mythological role as the protector and progenitor of Rome translates into astrological interpretations where Mars signifies <u>leadership</u>, <u>especially in competitive or challenging situations</u>. It's about taking command, similar to the founding myth of Rome or his role in the rituals of the Salii, where his influence was sought for both martial success and societal order.

#### () Impulsivity vs. Strategy

While Mars shares the impulsive nature of Ares in Greek myth, Roman Mars is often depicted with a more strategic approach, paralleling the disciplined Roman legions. In astrology, Mars can indicate both rash actions and well-thought-out strategies, depending on its placement and aspects in the natal chart.

#### Connection to Agriculture

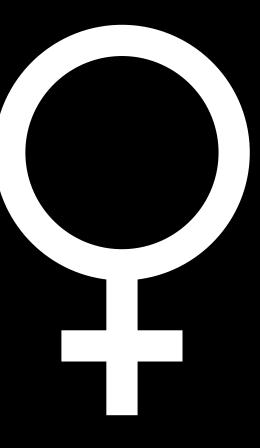
Mars' lesser-known agricultural aspects, as seen in rituals like the October Horse, blend into his astrological symbolism. Mars can also signify the drive to cultivate, whether it's the land or personal projects, embodying the idea of fertility and growth through action.

#### In an astrological chart

The sign and house placement of Mars will color these traits with specific nuances. For example, Mars in Aries might be more direct and fiery, echoing the god's founding myth, while Mars in Libra might struggle with the assertion of self in harmony with others, reflecting a more strategic or diplomatic approach to conflict.

#### Venus

Venus embodies qualities of attraction, harmony, and valuation, which are deeply reflected in her mythological stories and astrological interpretations:



### Love and Relationships

Venus is the planet of love in astrology, mirroring her mythological affair with Mars. This connection signifies her role in all forms of love - romantic, platonic, and familial. Venus governs how we express affection, what we find attractive in others, and how we seek to form bonds. Her affair with Mars also suggests a dynamic where love and passion intersect, highlighting her influence on both emotional and physical desires.

### Beauty and Aesthetics

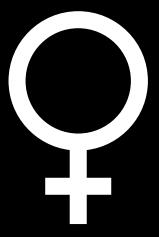
Venus, the embodiment of beauty, influences our sense of aesthetics, art, and fashion. Just as Venus was revered for her beauty in mythology, in astrology, the placement of Venus in a chart can indicate one's taste, style, and what they find appealing or beautiful in the world around them. It's about how we adorn ourselves and our environments, seeking harmony and pleasure in visual and sensual experiences.

# Pleasure and Sensuality

Venus is all about pleasure - not just emotional but sensual and physical. Her mythological background as a goddess of sensual pleasure translates into astrology as ruling over our enjoyment of life, our indulgence in food, art, and luxury. Venus' position can reveal where and how an individual seeks or finds pleasure, from simple joys to more hedonistic pursuits.

### Yalue and Possessions

In Roman myth, Venus' association with wealth through her connection to prosperity and growth (especially seen in her agricultural aspects) ties into her astrological role as the ruler of money, personal values, and material possessions. Venus in a chart shows what we value, how we manage resources, and our approach to finances and comfort. It's about what we consider worth pursuing or preserving.



### Harmony and Peace

Venus seeks balance and harmony, reflecting her peacemaking nature in mythology where she often soothes conflicts. Astrologically, Venus governs our social graces, diplomacy, and our ability to attract or negotiate through charm rather than force. It's about how we foster peace in relationships and environments.

## **Seduction and Attraction**

Much like the goddess who captivated gods and mortals alike, Venus in astrology signifies our seductive qualities, our capacity to attract, and what we find seductive in others. This extends beyond physical attraction to include what we're drawn to in terms of ideas, environments, or even philosophies.

## Cultural and Artistic Influence

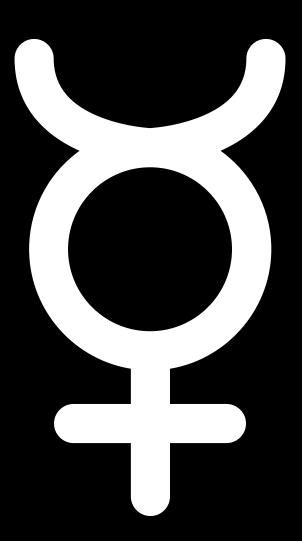
Venus' patronage of the arts in mythology translates into astrology where her placement might indicate artistic talent or appreciation, the kind of culture one enjoys, or the artistic expressions one might pursue. She encourages creativity as a means of expression and connection.

### In an astrological chart,

The sign Venus occupies in a natal chart adds flavor to these themes. Venus in Taurus, for instance, might emphasize sensuality, stability, and a love for luxury, while Venus in Libra might highlight a pursuit for aesthetic harmony, balance in relationships, and social grace.

#### Mercury

Mercury embodies qualities of intellect, communication, adaptability, and curiosity, which are mirrored in his mythological narratives and astrological interpretations:



### **Communication and Expression**

Mercury, known as the messenger of the gods, is all about communication in all its forms - speaking, writing, listening, and understanding. Astrologically, Mercury governs how we communicate, our style of thought, and how we process and convey information. Its placement in a chart can reveal whether one is more analytical (Virgo) or more verbally expressive (Gemini), reflecting Mercury's dual rulership.

## Intellect and Learning

The god Mercury was associated with intelligence, wit, and cunning, which translates into astrology as the planet influencing our cognitive functions, learning style, and mental agility. Mercury dictates how we learn, our approach to education, and our curiosity for new knowledge or experiences.

## Adaptability and Versatility

In mythology, Mercury was known for his ability to move between worlds (the divine and the mortal, the upper and lower realms), symbolizing adaptability. In astrology, Mercury represents our adaptive skills, our ability to multitask, and how we navigate through life's changes. This planet is linked with versatility, quick thinking, and the capacity to juggle multiple interests or tasks.

## **Commerce and Exchange**

Mercury's patronage of commerce and trade in mythology reflects his astrological significance in matters of business, negotiation, and the exchange of goods or ideas. The placement of Mercury can indicate one's approach to money-making, negotiation skills, and how one deals with daily transactions or contracts.

## Travel and Transportation

As the swift-footed messenger, Mercury is connected to travel and transportation. Astrologically, this extends to not only physical travel but also the journey of the mind - how we explore new places, ideas, or cultures. Mercury's position can also reflect one's relationship with their immediate environment, like the daily commute or short trips.

## Trickery and Deception

Mercury's mythology includes a reputation for being a trickster or a master of deception, which in astrology might manifest as a knack for persuasion, salesmanship, or even a tendency to be mercurial or elusive in communication. This aspect can also highlight one's ability to see through deceit or to use cleverness for problem-solving.

# Technology and Media

In modern interpretations, Mercury's domain has expanded to include all forms of media and technology that facilitate communication. This includes everything from traditional books to digital communication, emphasizing Mercury's role in the digital age.

# Mercury Retrograde

Perhaps one of the most famous aspects of Mercury in astrology is its retrograde periods, where communication, technology, travel, and agreements can face delays or misunderstandings. This mirrors the myth of Mercury's trickster nature, where things aren't always as they seem.

# In an astrological chart,

The sign Mercury occupies in a natal chart colors these qualities. For example, Mercury in Gemini might emphasize a love for communication, social interactions, and a curiosity that's broad but potentially shallow, while Mercury in Virgo might focus more on detail-oriented communication, critical thinking, and a methodical approach to learning.

#### Jupiter

Jupiter, named after the Roman king of the gods, embodies expansion, growth, wisdom, luck, and abundance, reflecting his mythological stature and influence:

#### 2 Expansion and Growth

As the largest planet in our solar system, Jupiter symbolizes growth in all aspects of life - physical, spiritual, intellectual, and financial. In mythology, Jupiter's dominion over the heavens parallels his astrological role in expanding one's horizons, pushing for personal development, and encouraging exploration. His placement in a natal chart can indicate areas where growth is likely or where one seeks to expand their influence or knowledge.

#### 2 Wisdom and Education

Jupiter is the patron of wisdom, philosophy, and higher learning. His mythology includes him as a lawgiver and dispenser of justice, which translates into astrology as an inclination towards seeking truth, exploring belief systems, or pursuing higher education. Jupiter's position can highlight where one might find wisdom or how they approach philosophical or spiritual questions.

#### 2 Luck and Fortune

Known as the "Great Benefic," Jupiter is associated with luck, good fortune, and prosperity. In mythology, Jupiter's blessings were sought for success in ventures, much like how astrologers look to Jupiter's aspects in a chart for signs of where one might experience ease, opportunity, or abundance. His transit through signs or houses can signal times of increased luck or beneficial circumstances.

#### 2 Optimism and Generosity

Jupiter's jovial nature reflects in astrology as optimism, generosity, and a sense of abundance. His mythological character was known for his benevolence, and astrologically, Jupiter encourages a positive outlook, faith in the future, and a generous spirit. This can manifest in one's willingness to share knowledge, resources, or kindness.

#### 2 Travel and Exploration

Jupiter rules long-distance travel and exploration, both physical and metaphorical. In line with his mythological role of overseeing the world from above, Jupiter in astrology can signify one's desire to travel, study abroad, or explore different cultures and philosophies. It's about broadening one's worldview.

#### Wealth and Abundance

Jupiter's association with prosperity in Roman mythology extends to his astrological influence over wealth. Not just monetary, but wealth in experiences, knowledge, and spiritual richness. His placement might show how one attracts wealth or where they might find abundance in life.

#### 2 Legal and Ethical Matters

As the god of justice in Roman lore, Jupiter's astrological influence includes legal matters, ethics, and the moral compass. His position can reflect one's approach to justice, integrity, or how one navigates through legal or ethical dilemmas.

#### 2 In an Astrological chart,

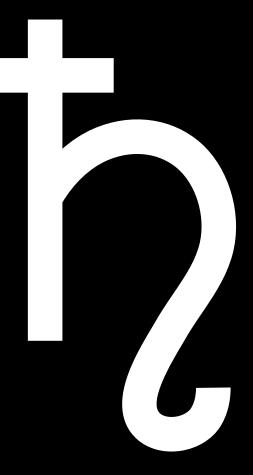
The sign Jupiter occupies in a natal chart adds specific flavors to these themes. Jupiter in Sagittarius, one of its ruling signs, might emphasize a love for adventure, philosophy, and truth-seeking, while Jupiter in Capricorn could manifest as growth through discipline, structure, and hard work.

#### Jupiter's Cycles

Jupiter returns to its natal position approximately every 12 years, marking significant growth phases in life. These "Jupiter returns" are seen as periods of expansion, where one might reassess or expand their life's direction, much like how Jupiter in mythology would periodically influence human affairs from his lofty throne.

#### Saturn

Saturn, named after the Roman god of agriculture, time, and the harvest, embodies qualities of limitation, structure, responsibility, and maturity, reflecting both his mythological character and astrological influence:



# Structure and Discipline

Saturn is often referred to as the "taskmaster" of the zodiac, symbolizing the necessity for discipline and structure in life. In mythology, Saturn was associated with the orderly cycles of agriculture and time, paralleling his astrological role in creating boundaries, enforcing discipline, and the importance of hard work. His placement in a natal chart can indicate where one needs to apply discipline or where life's lessons in responsibility are learned.

# **2** Limitation and Restriction

Just as Saturn in mythology was seen as a god of boundaries, in astrology, he represents limitations, not as punishment, but as a means for growth. Saturn teaches through restriction, showing where we must overcome obstacles, confront fears, or work within limits to achieve maturity and success.

## Time and Aging

Saturn is often equated with Father Time, highlighting his connection to the passage of time, aging, and the lessons learned over a lifetime. Astrologically, this translates into an awareness of time's value, the aging process, and the wisdom that comes with age. The Saturn return, which happens approximately every 29.5 years, is a significant period of life reassessment and maturation.

### Responsibility and Duty

Saturn's mythology includes themes of duty, often through his role in the golden age where he brought order and civilization. In astrology, Saturn signifies our sense of duty, our responsibilities, and how we handle them. This can range from personal obligations to professional duties, highlighting where one must take on the mantle of responsibility.

# Karma and Lessons

Known for its karmic lessons, Saturn in astrology is about the consequences of our actions over time. Like the god who judged and governed, Saturn's position in a chart can show where we face life's tests, where we might experience delays or hardships, but also where we can achieve mastery and gain wisdom.

#### Authority and Leadership

Saturn's association with authority figures in mythology (as the father of Jupiter and other gods) aligns with his astrological influence over our relationship with authority, both as subjects and leaders. Saturn can indicate how one navigates power structures, deals with authority, or steps into leadership roles with a sense of duty.

#### Commitment and Endurance

Saturn demands commitment and endurance, teaching perseverance through challenges. His mythological reign was one of order and stability, which in astrology translates to the areas where one must show long-term commitment, patience, or where one's endurance is tested.

#### Saturn's Transits

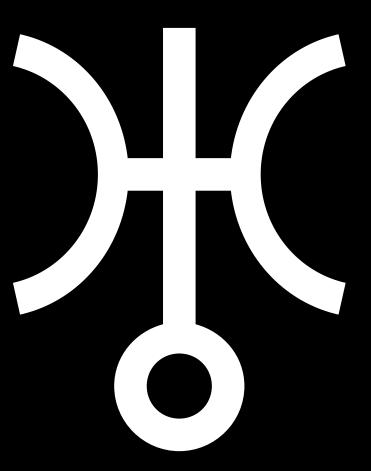
Saturn's slow transit through the zodiac, taking about 2.5 years per sign, brings periods of testing and consolidation. These transits are often times when we must face reality, work hard, and sometimes restructure our lives or priorities.

# In an Astrological chart,

The sign Saturn is in at birth gives a specific context to these themes. For example, Saturn in Capricorn (one of its ruling signs) might emphasize ambition, structure, and a serious approach to achieving goals, while Saturn in Aquarius could focus on innovation within structure or the tension between individualism and collective responsibility.

#### Uranus

Uranus, named after the Greek god of the sky, embodies qualities of innovation, rebellion, sudden change, and individuality, reflecting both his mythological origins and astrological significance:



#### Hand Control of the second of

Uranus is often associated with breakthroughs, inventions, and original thinking, much like the sky god who represents the vast expanse of possibilities. In astrology, Uranus signifies where and how we challenge the status quo, innovate, or think outside the box. His placement in a chart can indicate areas where one might express uniqueness or where unexpected insights occur.

## Rebellion and Freedom

The myth of Uranus being overthrown by his son Saturn (Cronus in Greek myth) speaks to themes of rebellion against established order. Astrologically, Uranus represents the urge for freedom from traditional constraints, pushing for liberation in thought, action, or lifestyle. It's about breaking free from the norms to forge one's path, often with sudden or disruptive changes.

#### Sudden Change and Disruption

Uranus is known for its suddenness - unexpected events, revelations, or shifts in circumstances. This mirrors the chaotic, revolutionary nature of the sky god, whose very essence was the boundless and unpredictable sky. In astrology, Uranus transits or aspects can bring about abrupt changes, awakenings, or upheavals, urging us to adapt or transform quickly.

#### Individuality and Eccentricity

Uranus encourages individuality and can manifest as eccentricity or nonconformity in one's personality or life path. Just as Uranus in mythology was unique among the gods, his astrological influence fosters a desire to be one's authentic self, often leading to unconventional choices or lifestyles.

#### Technology and Progress

Given its discovery during the Industrial Revolution, Uranus has come to symbolize technology, electricity, and all forms of modern advancement. Astrologically, this planet's influence might be seen in one's affinity for technology, interest in science, or the desire to push societal progress forward.

#### Humanitarianism and Social Change

Uranus rules Aquarius, linking it to collective consciousness, social justice, and humanitarian efforts. This reflects the mythological Uranus' vast, encompassing nature, suggesting a focus on the greater good, social reforms, or revolutions aimed at improving human conditions.

# Awakening and Insight

Often called the "Great Awakener," Uranus in astrology can trigger moments of epiphany or awakening, where one sees life or themselves in a new light. This mirrors the myth where Uranus' fall led to a new order, symbolizing new beginnings born from chaos.

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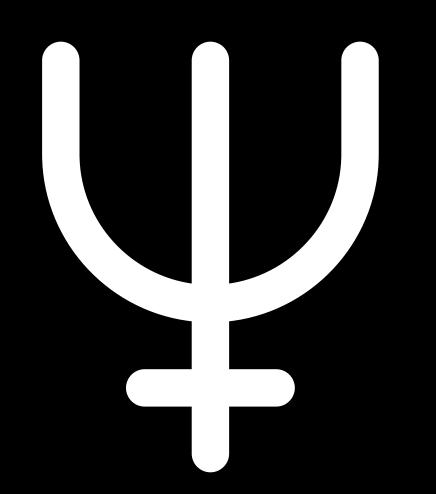
The sign Uranus occupies at birth adds flavor to these themes. For instance, Uranus in Aries might manifest as an impulsive, pioneering spirit, while Uranus in Libra could focus on revolutionary changes in relationships or social justice.

## Hanus Transits,

Uranus takes about 7 years to transit through each sign, affecting generations with its influence. Its transits, particularly the Uranus opposition around age 40 (often called the "mid-life crisis"), can be times of significant personal transformation, where one reevaluates life's direction with a rebellious or innovative spirit.

#### Neptune

Neptune, named after the Roman god of the sea, embodies qualities of spirituality, imagination, dreams, illusion, and dissolution, reflecting both his mythological essence and astrological significance:



# Spirituality and Transcendence

Neptune is often linked with the mystical, the spiritual, and the transcendent aspects of life. Just as Neptune in mythology ruled the vast, mysterious depths of the ocean, in astrology, he governs the realm of the subconscious, dreams, and our connection to the divine or to a higher consciousness. His placement in a natal chart can indicate where one might find spiritual fulfillment or where one's spiritual journey might take them.

# Imagination and Creativity

The fluid, boundless nature of the sea under Neptune's domain translates into a rich imagination and creativity in astrology. Neptune inspires artistic expression, music, poetry, and all forms of creative arts where one can escape into or express the ethereal. It's about vision, not just in art but in one's life path or understanding of reality.

#### Illusion and Deception

Neptune's waters can be deceptive, mirroring the myths where the sea could hide or reveal. In astrology, Neptune often deals with illusions, confusion, or deception - both self-deception and from others. It challenges us to see through the fog to find truth or to recognize when we're lost in fantasy or denial.

#### Dreams and the Subconscious

Neptune rules the dream world and the subconscious mind, encouraging us to explore our inner depths where hidden truths and fears reside. Dreams under Neptune's influence might be vivid, prophetic, or serve as a gateway to understanding one's psyche or spiritual state.

### Compassion and Empathy

The god Neptune was known for his mercy, paralleling the astrological Neptune's association with compassion, empathy, and unconditional love. This can manifest in a desire to help others, a sensitivity to others' pain, or involvement in causes that require a deep understanding of human suffering.

### Escapism and Addiction

Neptune's shadow side includes the desire to escape reality, which can lead to addiction or escapism through various means, including drugs, alcohol, or even through excessive daydreaming or spiritual pursuits that avoid real-world responsibilities.

### Dissolution and Release

Much like water dissolves boundaries, Neptune in astrology can signify where we dissolve personal boundaries, where we might lose ourselves in others or in ideals, or where we experience dissolution of structures in our life, leading to transformation or loss.

### In an Astrology chart,

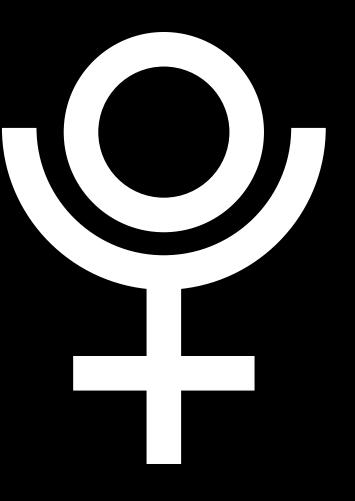
The sign Neptune occupies at birth colors these themes. For example, Neptune in Pisces (its modern ruling sign) might emphasize a deep spiritual connection, artistic sensitivity, or a tendency towards escapism, while Neptune in Virgo could manifest as a need to serve, heal, or find practical expressions for spiritual ideals.

#### Neptune transits,

Neptune takes approximately 14 years to transit each sign, influencing generations with its themes of spiritual awakening, confusion, or the blending of boundaries. These transits can be periods of profound spiritual growth but also times when reality might seem more fluid or less defined.

#### Pluto

Pluto, named after the Roman god of the underworld, embodies qualities of transformation, power, rebirth, and the unconscious, reflecting both his mythological role and astrological significance:



## Transformation and Change

Pluto is the planet of profound change, echoing the myth where Pluto (Hades in Greek mythology) governs death and rebirth. In astrology, Pluto signifies where we undergo deep, often painful transformations, leading to personal evolution. His placement in a natal chart can indicate areas of life where radical change or regeneration occurs, pushing one towards a new iteration of oneself.

# Power and Control

As the ruler of the underworld, Pluto deals with themes of power, control, and the manipulation of resources. Astrologically, this translates into how we manage or are subjected to power dynamics, both in personal life and on a larger scale. Pluto can show where one seeks or fears power, or where one might experience power struggles.

## Rebirth and Regeneration

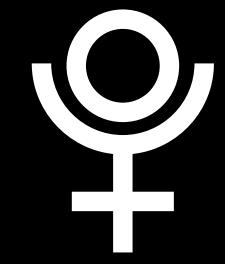
Pluto's domain includes not just death but also the rebirth that follows, symbolizing cycles of destruction and creation. This can manifest in astrology as the capacity to rise from one's ashes, to regenerate after crises, or to embrace profound inner changes that lead to a new beginning.

## The Unconscious and Secrets

Much like the hidden depths of the underworld, Pluto rules over the subconscious, secrets, and everything that is hidden or taboo. In a chart, Pluto can highlight where we confront our shadow selves, deal with psychological undercurrents, or uncover deep-seated truths about ourselves or others.

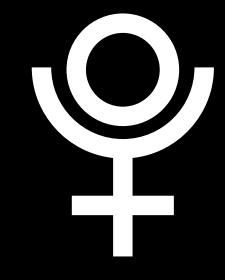
## Obsession and Compulsion

Pluto's intense energy can lead to obsessions or compulsive behaviors, reflecting the god's obsessive nature over his realm. Astrologically, this might show where we are drawn to investigate deeply, where we might become fixated, or the areas in life where we need to confront our compulsions for personal growth.



#### Destruction for Renewal

Pluto's influence often involves a process of destruction or purging as a precursor to renewal. This mirrors the myth where old forms must die to make way for new life, suggesting in astrology that sometimes we must let go of what no longer serves us to make room for new growth.



#### Healing and Therapies

Given its association with the subconscious and transformation, Pluto also relates to deep healing, psychoanalysis, and therapies that deal with the root causes of behaviors or conditions. It's about digging deep to heal at the core.

## In an Astrology chart,

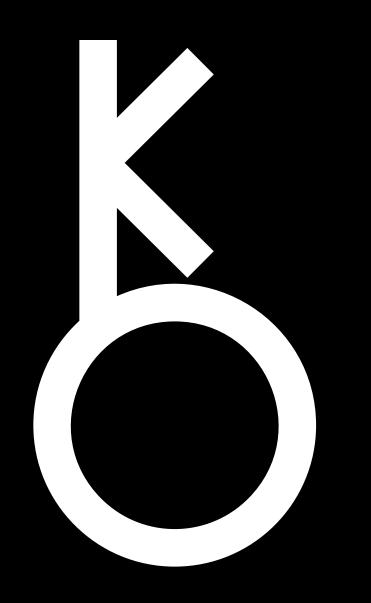
The sign Pluto occupies at birth adds specific nuances to these themes. For instance, Pluto in Scorpio (one of its ruling signs) might intensify experiences of transformation, depth, and control, while Pluto in Libra could explore power dynamics within relationships or social justice.

# Pluto Transits

Pluto takes about 12 to 31 years to transit each sign, affecting generations with its themes of transformation, upheaval, or the exposure of hidden truths. These transits are often associated with significant societal shifts or personal crises that lead to profound change or rebirth.

#### Chiron

Chiron, named after the wise centaur in Greek mythology, embodies qualities of healing, wounds, and the journey from pain to wisdom. Here's an exploration of Chiron's astrological significance:



#### The Wounded Healer

Pluto takes about 12 to 31 years to transit each sign, affecting generations with its themes of transformation, upheaval, or the exposure of hidden truths. These transits are often associated with significant societal shifts or personal crises that lead to profound change or rebirth.

#### From Pain to Insight

Chiron's placement shows where our greatest pain can turn into our greatest gift. This transformation process is central to Chiron's mythology - where suffering leads to wisdom. It's about learning from our wounds, integrating them into our being, and then using that wisdom to guide or heal others.

## The Educator

Just as Chiron in myth taught heroes like Achilles, in astrology, Chiron represents where we might become teachers or mentors, sharing our hard-earned knowledge or healing techniques. This can be in literal teaching roles or in how we help others navigate their own struggles.

#### Embracing Imperfection

Chiron's journey is also one of self-acceptance, recognizing our imperfections as part of what makes us human and unique. It's about healing the parts of ourselves we might reject or feel ashamed of.

## In an Astrology chart,

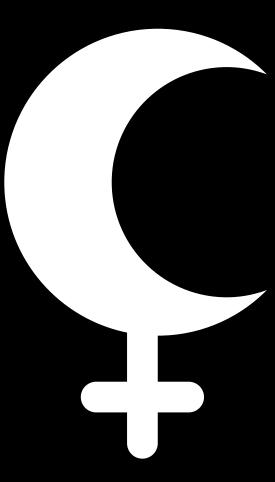
The sign Chiron is in at birth can color the nature of the wound or healing process. For example, Chiron in Aries might deal with themes of self-identity and courage, while Chiron in Cancer might relate to emotional wounds from family or home life. The house placement further specifies the life area where these themes play out.

## Chiron Return

Around age 50, one experiences a "Chiron return," where Chiron returns to its natal position in the sky. This is often a period of significant healing, reflection on past wounds, and a shift towards embracing one's life lessons with wisdom.

#### Black Moon Lilith

This is not a physical body but a mathematical point, representing the Moon's apogee. Lilith represents where we resist societal norms, particularly those that constrain our autonomy or sexuality.





Lilith is often associated with raw, unfiltered feminine energy, symbolizing sexual liberation and the darker, more taboo aspects of sexuality. She highlights where we might feel shame or empowerment around our sexuality, encouraging us to embrace these aspects without guilt.

# Confronting the Dark Side

Lilith points to the parts of ourselves that we might repress or deny, the shadow aspects that we're afraid to acknowledge. She brings to light what is hidden or what we fear in ourselves, urging us to integrate these parts for wholeness.

# Challenging Patriarchy

In mythology, Lilith refused to be subservient, making her a symbol of resistance against oppressive structures, especially patriarchy. Astrologically, Lilith can show where we challenge power structures or where we might feel marginalized by them.

# From Shame to Power

Similar to Chiron, Lilith's position can indicate areas where, through confronting and integrating our darker or more rebellious sides, we can transform shame into power.

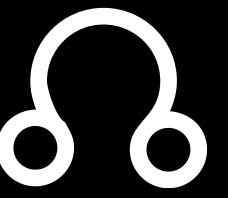
# In an Astrology chart,

The sign and house where Lilith is located can specify how these themes manifest. For example, Lilith in Aries might indicate a struggle for self-assertion or identity, while in Libra, it might relate to balance in relationships or the fight for equality. The house placement further contextualizes these themes in different life areas.

#### The Lunar Nodes 29

The North Node and South Node embody the concepts of destiny, karma, and personal growth. They are not physical bodies but mathematical points where the Moon's orbit intersects the Earth's path around the Sun, symbolizing the path of our soul's journey through life. Eclipses always happen near the Nodes, bringing significant life changes or revelations that align with the themes of the Nodes, often catalyzing the soul's growth or karmic lessons.

#### The North Node



The North Node represents the direction in which we are evolving, our life's purpose, or the lessons we're here to learn. It points to the qualities, experiences, or traits we need to develop to achieve fulfillment and spiritual growth.

#### The South Node 25

The South Node signifies our past, including past life experiences or innate talents we carry into this life. It represents where we feel at ease, our natural inclinations, but also where we might become too complacent or stuck.

# Karmic Axis of Development

The Nodes are often viewed through a karmic lens, where the South Node represents what we've brought with us and the North Node what we're here to learn or balance out. They symbolize the journey of the soul, suggesting that life's challenges are opportunities for karmic resolution or spiritual advancement. Since the Nodes are always in opposite signs and houses, they form an axis of personal development. For instance, if your North Node is in Gemini, your South Node will be in Sagittarius, highlighting a life path that might involve balancing communication and exploration with wisdom and philosophical understanding.

#### THE HOUSES

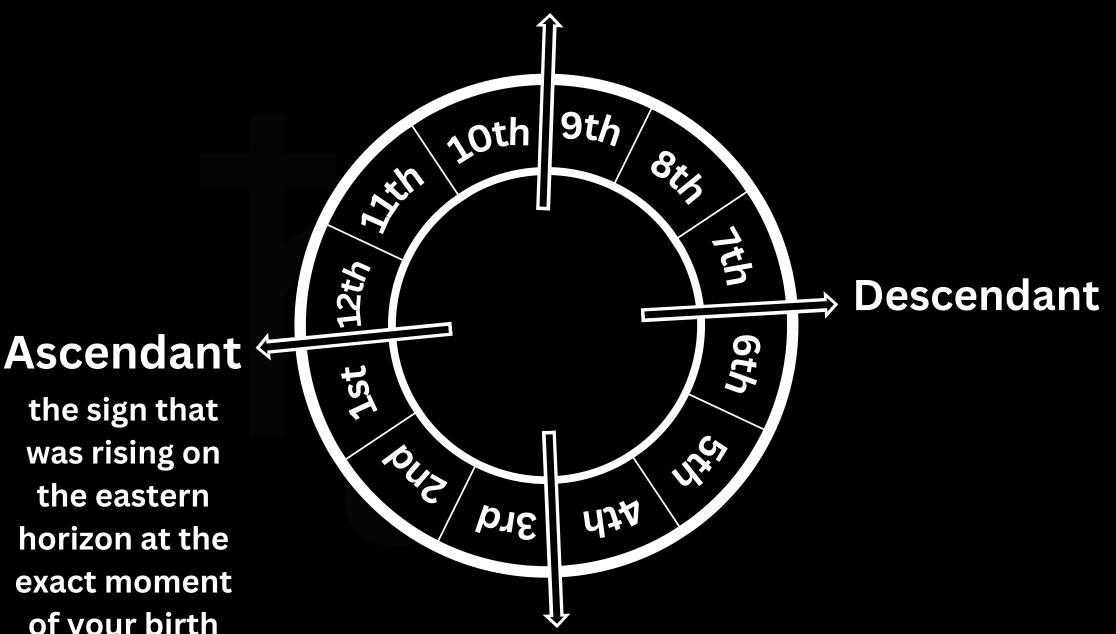
the sign that

was rising on

the eastern

of your birth

#### MC for Mid-heaven



IC for "Bottom of the Sky"

The planet that rules the sign on the Ascendant becomes known as the chart ruler. This planet holds significant influence over the entire chart because it's seen as setting the thematic tone for the individual's life. For instance, if your Ascendant is in Libra, Venus (Libra's ruling planet) would be your chart ruler.

The personal houses or individual houses deal with aspects of life that are more personal, private, and directly related to the self and one's immediate environment:

**1st House**: Self, identity, personal outlook.

**2nd House**: Personal resources, values, self-worth.

3rd House: Communication, siblings, short travels, early education.

4th House: Home, family, roots, emotional security.

5th House: Creativity, pleasure, romance, children.

6th House: Daily routines, health, work, service.

The interpersonal, social, or collective houses extend beyond the self to consider relationships with others & one's role in the larger world:

7th House: Partnerships, marriage, open enemies.

8th House: Shared resources, transformation, the occult.

9th House: Philosophy, higher education, long-distance travel.

10th House: Career, public image, reputation.

11th House: Friendships, groups, social causes, hopes and dreams.

**12th House**: The subconscious, spirituality, endings, isolation.

<u>Angular Houses</u> (1st, 4th, 7th, 10th): These are considered the most dynamic houses, where action and initiative are strong. They align with the cardinal points of the chart (Ascendant, IC, Descendant, Midheaven).

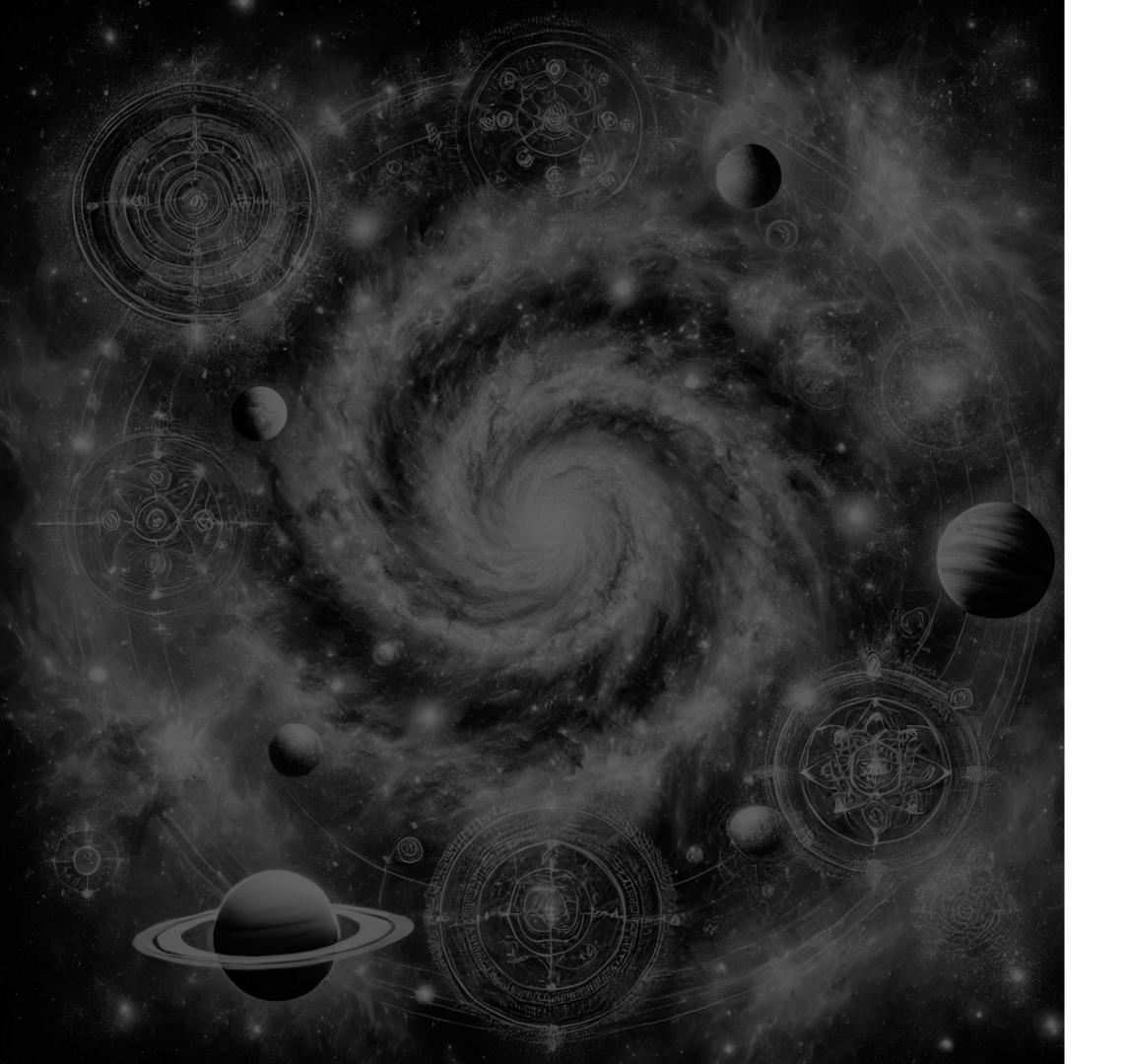
**Succedent Houses** (2nd, 5th, 8th, 11th): These houses follow the angular houses and are associated with stability, consolidation, and resources. They correspond to the fixed signs in their natural rulership.

Cadent Houses (3rd, 6th, 9th, 12th): These are houses of change, learning, and adaptation. They are linked to mutable signs, suggesting movement or transition.

MC stands for Medium Coeli, which translates to "middle of the sky" it signifies your public face, how you are seen by others in professional contexts, and your career path or vocation. It outlines your ambitions, achievements, and the kind of reputation you aim to build or have in the world, your highest aspirations, long-term goals, and what you strive for in terms of success or societal standing. It also describes your relationship with authority figures, including bosses, parents, or any figures who have influenced your path to success.

IC stands for Imum Coeli, which translates as "bottom of the sky." It is associated with your family background, roots, ancestry, and the foundations of your life, where you come from, including your cultural, familial, and emotional heritage. This point in the chart deals with your home environment, your sense of security, and your private or inner life. The IC often describes the influence of parental figures, particularly the nurturing or maternal parent. How you are when you're alone or in your most intimate settings: your deepest emotional needs and how you process your past.

The **Descendant** (often abbreviated as **DC**) is located directly opposite the Ascendant on the horizontal axis of the astrological chart. The Descendant symbolizes what you seek in others, particularly in intimate relationships like marriage or long-term partnerships. The sign on the Descendant can reflect traits that you may not fully acknowledge or express in yourself but recognize or project onto others. It also gives insight into how you behave in close relationships, what you bring to the table, and what you might unconsciously expect from others. This can involve themes of compromise, negotiation, and how you handle the balance between independence and interdependence.



# Fundamentals of Occidental Astrology