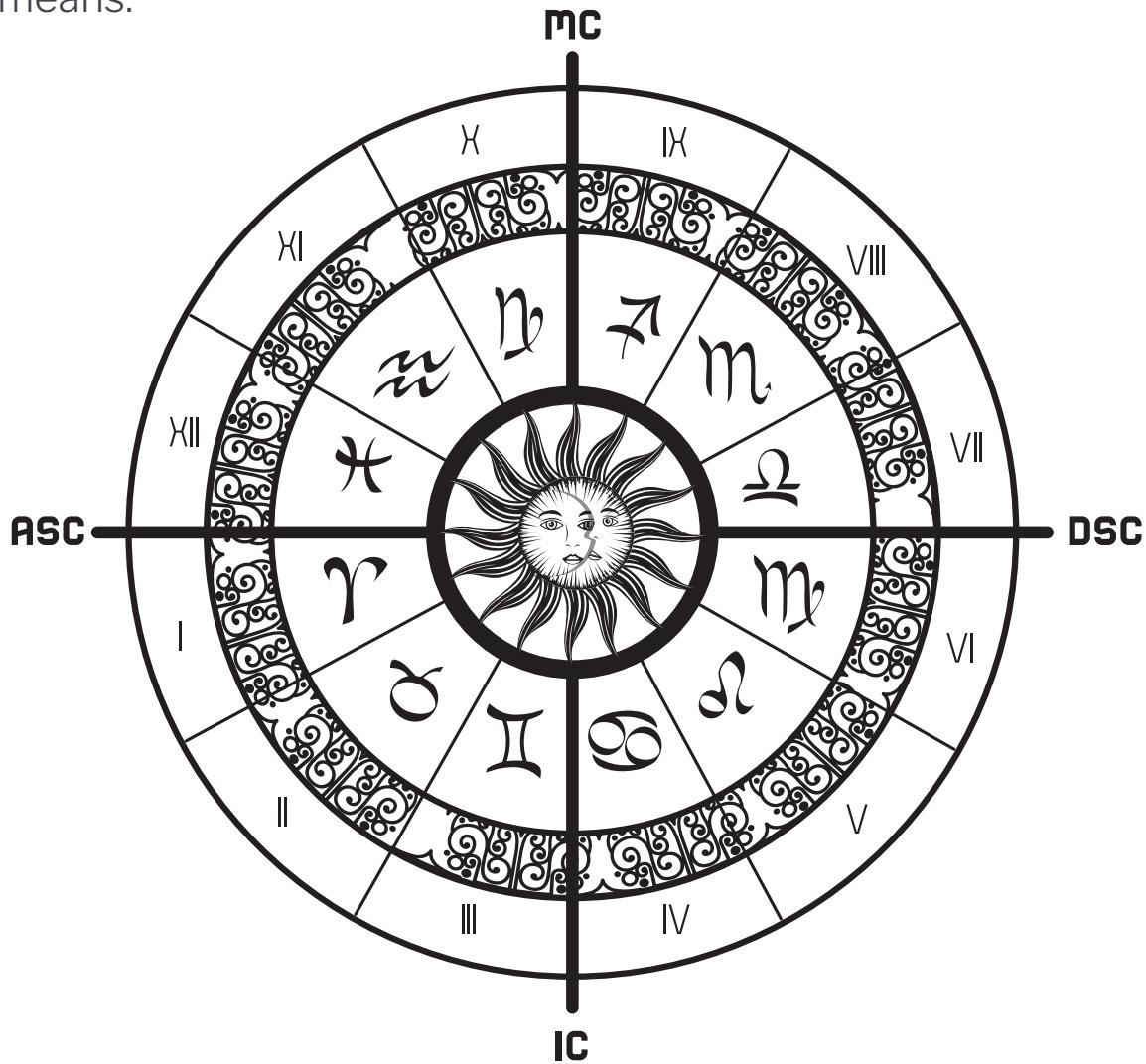




A (Short) Guide to The Zodiac

Each sign of the zodiac is associated with a different month, season, element and area of life. There are twelve signs in total, and we each have all of them in our birth charts somewhere. Knowing the basics of each sign and what it represents can help you determine the energies that are strongest in your life, and how to interpret what that means.





Aries

As the first sign of the zodiac, Aries represents willpower, courage, enthusiasm, energy and self-assertion. Aries is the energy of the Warrior, and points to how we assert ourselves.

Dates: March 20-April 21

Element: Fire

Quality: Cardinal

Ruling Planet: Mars

Symbol: the ram

House: first

Qualities of Aries

- Determination
- Adventurousness
- Enthusiasm
- Energy
- Independence
- Quick-tempered
- Impulsive
- Impatient

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Aries, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Aries, they take on a martial energy and we can feel more assertive, aggressive and direct.

During strong Aries transits we may feel impulsive with our words and actions, or feel the need to grapple with more intensely with our anger.

In our birth charts, Aries rules the First House: the part of our lives that deals with the self, the physical body and the ways in which we're perceived by others.



Dates: April 21-May 21

Element: Earth

Quality: Fixed

Ruling Planet: Venus

Symbol: the bull

House: second

Taurus

As the sign of Mother Gaia, Taurus is all about the material aspects of life, and it's motivated by a need to feel safe and secure. Ruled by Venus, Taurus has a soft side for beauty and abundance, as well as an affinity for flowers and gardens.

Qualities of Taurus

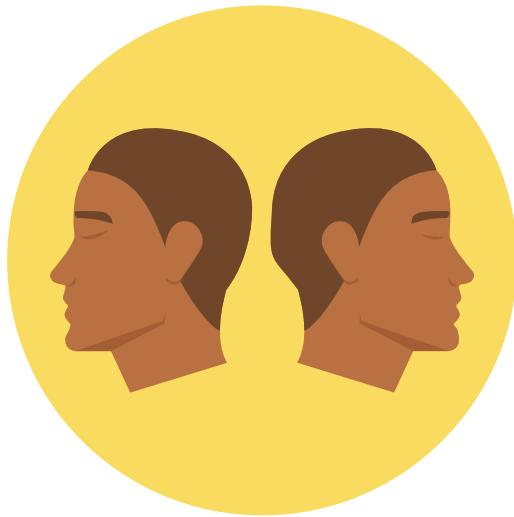
- Patient
- Reliable
- Determined
- Loves security
- Self-indulgent
- Materialistic
- Loving
- Warm-hearted

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Taurus, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Taurus, they take on an earthy, natural quality and we begin to value the natural world, turning to nature to feel grounded and secure.

When there's a lot of Taurus energy in the skies, we may be extra-aware of our security needs, and take steps to feel grounded and safe.

In our birth charts, Taurus rules the Second House: the part of our lives that deals with money, possessions, and the things that we value.



Dates: May 22-June 21

Element: Air

Quality: mutable

Ruling Planet: Mercury

Symbol: the twins

House: third

Gemini ♊

Gemini is represented by the Twins, a symbol that describes the dual nature of this sign. Ruled by Mercury, Gemini is all about communication and the things of the mind. Studiousness and intellect seemingly contradict a lighthearted sense of humour with this sign.

Qualities of Gemini

- Adaptable
- Communicative
- Intellectual
- Eloquent
- Inconsistent
- Superficial
- Good-humoured
- Chatty

If you have your **Sun, Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Gemini, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Gemini, communication is enhanced and the energy around us feels more lighthearted, humorous and fun.

When there are strong Gemini skies we may be more sociable, and find that communication is easier. We may also feel a desire to learn new things.

In our birth charts, Gemini rules the Third House: the part of our lives that deals with communication, siblings, socializing, commuting and short-distance travel.



Cancer



Watery, emotional and intuitive, Cancer is known for its motherly qualities. Ruled by the Moon, it has a reputation for being emotional and sensitive. Cancer is the energy of the Mother, the quintessential divine feminine in her full glory.

Qualities of Cancer

Dates: June 22-July 22

Element: Water

Quality: cardinal

Ruling Planet: Moon

Symbol: the crab

House: fourth

- Emotional
- Loving
- Imaginitive
- Intuitive
- Moody
- Clingy
- Protective
- Compassionate

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Cancer, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Cancer our sense of compassion intensifies as their energies take on more nurturing, motherly qualities.

During Cancer transits we may notice ourselves becoming moody and emotional, feeling the need to brood over things. We also become more nurturing and loving.

In our birth charts, Cancer rules the Fourth House: the part of our lives that deals with our homes, our private lives and our families especially our mothers.



Dates: July 23-August 23

Element: Fire

Quality: fixed

Ruling Planet: Sun

Symbol: the lion

House: fifth

Leo ♌

Leo is the ruler of the zodiac, exuding warmth, generosity and charisma. Known for its powerful creativity and unabashed enthusiasm, Leonine energy needs to be expressed and validated otherwise it becomes insecure and hedonistic.

Qualities of Leo

- Generous
- Creative
- Loyal
- Loving
- Melodramatic
- Bossy
- Vain
- Warm-hearted

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Leo, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Leo, our creativity is emphasized and the dominant energy takes on a lighthearted and playful quality.

During Leo transits we tend to feel playful, spontaneous and full of bright ideas. We may also spend more time around children, or feel more self-involved.

In our birth charts, Leo rules the Fifth House: the part of our lives that deals with romance, dating, children, and our sense of playfulness and creativity.



Dates: August 24-September 22

Element: Earth

Quality: mutable

Ruling Planet: Mercury

Symbol: the Virgin

House: sixth

Virgo



Shy, pedantic Virgo has a reputation for being critical and anxious, but it comes from a keen intellect and sharp eye for detail. Virgo energy is busy and restless, and those with strong Virgo placements are master manifestors.

Qualities of Virgo

- Shy
- Modest
- Meticulous
- Practical
- Analytical
- Critical
- Anxious
- Intelligent

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Virgo, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Virgo we tend to become more analytical and detail-oriented. Our productivity peaks as we feel a sense of restless ambition.

During Virgo transits there can be a tendency to feel nervous, anxious or perfectionistic in the area of life that it falls into in our birth charts.

In our birth charts, Virgo rules the Sixth House: the part of our lives that deals with our health, our bodies, our daily routines and the ways in which we serve others.



Dates: September 23–October 23

Element: Air

Quality: cardinal ★★

Ruling Planet: Venus

Symbol: the scales

House: seventh

Libra ♎

Libra is known for its equitable, justice-loving approach, and Libra energy is all about peaceful compromise. As a cardinal air sign, Libra is full of ideas about how to make things more balanced and harmonious. Libra has a deep dislike for conflict, and is always seeking a middle ground.

Qualities of Libra

- Romantic
- Diplomatic
- Sociable
- Easygoing
- Peaceable
- Gullible
- Indecisive
- Charming

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Libra, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Libra, we tend to seek harmony and balance in various aspects of our lives, as justice and peace become important themes.

During Libra transits we may feel calmer, more balanced and more inclined to see things from others' points of view as our relationships are highlighted.

In our birth charts, Libra rules the Seventh House: the part of our lives that deals with our one-on-one relationships, be they romantic, business or otherwise.



Dates: October 24–November 22

Element: Water

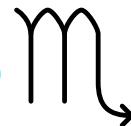
Quality: fixed

Ruling Planet: Pluto

Symbol: the scorpion

House: eighth

Scorpio



Intense, transformative Scorpio is the most powerful sign of the zodiac, with bottomless reserves of energy and the willpower to use it. Driven entirely by raw passion, this energy can seem intimidating and overwhelming but when mastered, it can accomplish nearly anything.

Qualities of Scorpio

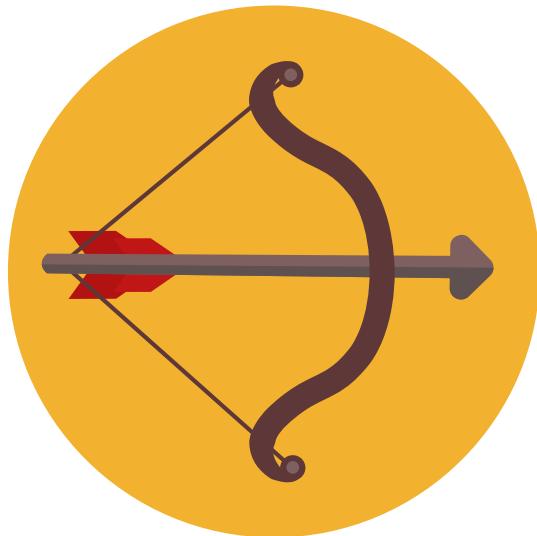
- Determined
- Forceful
- Passionate
- Intense
- Overwhelming
- Secretive
- Obsessive
- Powerful

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Scorpio, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Scorpio, there is a definite intensity in the air. Our lives tend to transform radically as we tap into our personal power.

During Scorpio transits we may feel intense, powerful and passionate, and there's a tendency to obsess over things that are important to us.

In our birth charts, Scorpio rules the Eighth House: the part of our lives that deals with sex, death, transformation, psychology, and other people's "stuff."



Dates: November 23-December 21

Element: Fire

Quality: mutable

Ruling Planet: Jupiter

Symbol: the archer

House: ninth

Sagittarius

Ruled by Jupiter, adventurous Sagittarius is BIG energy. It brings expansion, good fortune and an emphasis on our personal and collective philosophies as well as the rule of law, and foreign travel. Spurred by an insatiable wanderlust, Sagittarius is always seeking a thrill..

Qualities of Sagittarius

- Adventurous
- Optimistic
- Free-spirited
- Philosophical
- Restless
- Tactless
- Philosophical
- Straightforward

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Sagittarius, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Sagittarius, their energies are expanded and their good qualities are emphasized as they help us spiritually grow.

During Sagittarius transits we may feel more optimistic, cheerful and free-spirited as we seek out new adventures and expand our personal philosophies.

In our birth charts, Sagittarius rules the Ninth House: the part of our lives that deals with foreign travel, philosophy, writing, publishing and secondary education.



Dates: December 22-January 20

Element: Earth

Quality: cardinal

Ruling Planet: Saturn

Symbol: the sea goat

House: tenth

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Capricorn, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Capricorn, they take on a serious and somber energy that can feel restrictive and limiting. Strong Saturn transits are meant to make us aware of our limits.

During Capricorn transits we may feel pessimistic, restricted and serious. There's a tendency to focus on our ambitions and be more goal-oriented.

Capricorn ♑

Serious, responsible Capricorn is all about limits, structures and boundaries. Capricorn is a traditionalist at heart, and likes things to be status-quo. Capricorn is the most image-conscious sign of the zodiac, and can sometimes get stuck in its concern over what others think.

Qualities of Capricorn

- Ambitious
- Disciplined
- Responsible
- Serious
- Hardworking
- Pessimistic
- Miserly
- Patient

In our birth charts, Capricorn rules the Tenth House: the part of our lives that deals with our vocation, responsibilities and public life.



Aquarius



Eccentric, unpredictable Aquarius is forward-thinking and primarily concerned with humanitarian pursuits. As the sign that also deals with technology, electricity and innovation, Aquarius is the mad scientist and freedom-fighter of the zodiac who delights in surprises.

Qualities of Aquarius

- Friendly
- Humanitarian
- Inventive
- Original
- Rebellious
- Aloof
- Contrary
- Independent

Dates: January 21–February 18

Element: Air

Quality: fixed

Ruling Planet: Uranus

Symbol: the water-bearer

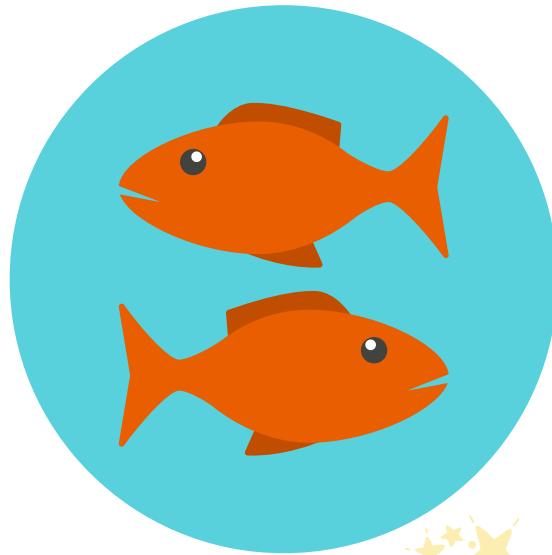
House: eleventh

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Aquarius, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Aquarius, they become more concerned with society at large. During strong Aquarius transits we often see new inventions, technology and revolutions.

During Aquarius transits we may feel rebellious and electrified as we seek to establish our independence, and weird becomes wonderful.

In our birth charts, Aquarius rules the Eleventh House: the part of our lives that deals with society, our friendships, the collective and technology.



Dates: February 19-March 20

Element: Water

Quality: mutable

Ruling Planet: Neptune

Symbol: the fish

House: twelfth

Pisces ♓

Deep and watery Pisces seeks to dissolve and merge with its environment. As the sign of artists, musicians and spirituality, Pisces deals with all things hidden, mysterious and connected to the Divine. It rules our dreams and daydreams, as well as the collective unconscious.

Qualities of Pisces

- Imaginative
- Sensitive
- Intuitive
- Empathic
- Kind
- Escapist
- Ungrounded
- Selfless

If you have your **Sun**, **Moon** or **Ascendant** (rising sign) in Pisces, this energy will be especially strong for you, and describes how you deal with your emotions, what you identify with and how others perceive you.

When planets move into Pisces, they take on a watery, ungrounded energy and things can become obscured and unclear. Dreams are more vivid as music and the arts are emphasized.

During Pisces transits our intuition is enhanced and we may feel extra sensitive, ungrounded and prone to daydreaming.

In our birth charts, Pisces rules the Twelfth House: the part of our lives that deals with art, music, spirituality, hidden places, and our deep subconscious minds.