

First House

The first house represents the physical plane of experience that deals with the totality of the individual. It represents the physical body in general and the general constitution. It is a very significant house in that it deals with what others pick up about you; that all important first impression. It represents some of the very early childhood experiences that shaped your self image and your outlook on life. Look at planets in this house and/or it's cusp ruling planet to get a feel for the individual life approach. The first house corresponds to Aries and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Aries style. Additionally, the first house corresponds to Mars and thus also represents our aggression, motivation, survival modes and self-interest.

Second House

The second house deals with the physical plane of existence with regards to what you have in the material sense. Money, money you earn, debts, and possessions, especially those you value highly. It is also your value system in general and your personal feelings of self worth. In other words, what you can allow yourself to have, based on what you feel you deserve. For example; are life options few because of lack of cash? Do you spend every penny you have and then some because you don't really feel you deserve to have money? Attitudes pro and con about money and material goodies are found here. This is the house of liberty. This refers to the liberty and options in life that having a secure financial picture produces. The second house corresponds to Taurus and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Taurus style. Additionally, the second house, also represents our personal likes or dislikes, deep emotions and attachments.

Third House

The third house deals with the physical plane area that includes close relatives in general, especially brothers and sisters. Elementary school experiences and our first teachers other than mom and dad. It represents individuals that affect our lives by close proximity. Thus, city life, the community we live in and our neighbors fall under the auspices of the third house. It's also short trips and local modes of transportation such as cars, buses, city rail systems, etc. Since the natural ruler Mercury is such a busy fellow, this house also represents reading, networking, writing, letters, small scale advertising, telephones, radios and any other form of communication. The third house corresponds to Gemini and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Gemini style. Additionally, the second house also represents teaching, education, our mentality, the realm of ideas, variety, duality and adaptability.

Fourth House

On the physical plane, the fourth house is primarily associated with our home base and the mother. However, not everyone had the influence of a mother and in this case the fourth house can be relied on to bring insights into our childhood upbringing and the environment we were raised in. The foundation which was laid for our emotional stability and ability to cope with challenges later in life may be revealed by studying the condition of the fourth

house. One's home, real estate and property concerns, domestic issues, our private life and family in general are fourth house domains. The fourth house corresponds to Cancer and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Cancer style. Additionally, the fourth house also represents our sense of security, self-protectiveness, our nurturing ability vs. our need to be nurtured and instinctive emotional responses.

Fifth House

The fifth house is mainly associated with all things pertaining to the creativity which allows you to be recognized as successful in whatever area your heart directs you to, not just the creativity that is commonly associated with artistic pursuits, although those areas are found here also. The resulting attention and praise you may receive from fifth house activities feeds the heart and soul of your inner child. Thus the fifth house rules children in general, as well as children you may someday have yourself. The fifth house rules hobbies, leisure time activities, play and recreation, and all forms of entertainment. Gambling, taking risks and financial speculation fall under the fifth house umbrella, as well. Since the fifth house and Leo corresponds to the heart, this house also represents the area of love, romantic ventures, and dating. Note that a certain element of risk exists when one decides to play the "game" of love. Why do some peaceful dating relationships fall apart when a couple marries? Or, on the other hand why do some couples fight continuously while dating and settle down once married? Look at the fifth to see how a person is when dating. As soon as one marries, the energy shifts to the seventh house and that is where insight into the above questions are often found. The fifth house corresponds to Leo and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Leo style. Additionally, the fifth house also represents our creative potential, false vs. true pride, our own will, getting recognition and the heart's desires.

Sixth House

The sixth house represents the area of work. To expand this idea further, we can include our employees if we have them and co-workers. The work found in the sixth house is work that is necessary, and so everyday chores and daily routines are to be found here, along with service to others and volunteer work. Service to others can run the gamut from nurses to politicians. Politicians often have an active sixth house. Jobs that we take to survive are also described by the sixth house. This is the house of physical labor as well. In order to be able to use our body to perform physical labor, we must take care of it and so the sixth house is also diet, your attitude towards food, health issues and personal hygiene. The sign Virgo suggests discrimination and so these traits are useful when we're making decisions about what to put into our bodies. Small animals, the weather and clothing are other sixth house areas. An area that doesn't get much attention is the sixth house relation to old relatives in general. One astrologer I know reads it as "family karma." It does seem to be a valid definition. The sixth house corresponds to Virgo and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Virgo style. Additionally, the sixth house also represents categorizing and order, worry and concern, self-improvement and using powers of discernment.

Seventh House

Since the first house represents you; the seventh house being directly opposite the first is other people in general. Look at the seventh house for clues about what other people send out to you based on what you send out via your first house? Committed relationships are found here, along with the contracts and legal obligations which often form them, though there are exceptions to this rule. For instance, best friends form a kind of committed relationship that exists outside of legal documents. Marriage and business partners are legal commitments. Here also, is where we find those who might openly oppose us. Someone who is willing to take you to court to file a lawsuit against you, must do so openly as opposed to behind the scenes. Therefore, lawsuits are a seventh house area. Again, as with legal commitments, this opposition may not always take the form of an actual lawsuit. Traits from your first house that need to be balanced are often acted out by those who are opposite to us. For example; a Libra rising person who is too willing to please, may pull in aggressive or selfish partners, shown by the Aries seventh house cusp. If you repress a particular trait, then that too is often acted out for us by our closest partners. The seventh house corresponds to Libra and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Libra style. Additionally, the seventh house also represents giving and receiving and balance of power issues.

Eighth House

Several areas fall under the rule of the eighth house. Sex and sexual intimacy are eighth house matters. Note the word intimate. The eighth house may reveal one's ability to share deep, intimate bonding with another person. Because of this, the eighth house is also connected to the popular notion of meeting one's soul-mate. The eighth house is the house of major lifestyle changes. Whatever planets fall into this house will be completely transformed in some way and the individual's approach to the things represented by that planet emerge drastically altered. Surgery is associated with the eighth house. Death and all matters pertaining to death belong to the eighth house. Inheritances, other people's money in general and the spouses money are eighth house matters. If the seventh house is equivalent to the partners first house in your chart, then your eighth house represents their second house and thus, their finances. Support from others both financial and moral and the value system of others are eighth house issues. The occult is normally associated with the eighth house. In this case, occult refers to the manipulation of natural or psychic forces in order to produce desired outcomes. Mysteries, magic, secrets, ulterior motives and the investigation of these things are all eighth house matters. The eighth house corresponds to Scorpio and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Scorpio style. Additionally, the eighth house also represents extreme conditions, drastic changes, as well as, control and power issues.

Ninth House

The Ninth house represents the development of the mind. Here we find all things related to higher learning, such as universities, professors, and continuing education programs. The ninth house is really like third house matters expanded.

Life philosophies, religion, gurus, preachers, spiritual experiences, your ideas about God and belief systems of any kind belong to the ninth house. The religious aspect of the ninth house is generally more orthodox and dogmatic in nature. Foreign people, places, languages and things are ninth house areas, as well as long journeys and visits overseas. Here in the ninth is where we also find the great outdoors, country life, nature, getting away from it all, large animals, sports and athletic pursuits. First spouse in-laws reside here, too. Large scale publishing and big time advertising campaigns are also ruled by the ninth house. The ninth house is also courts of law, judges and the judicial system in general. The ninth house corresponds to Sagittarius and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Sagittarius style. Additionally, the ninth house represents expansion of anything, wanting freedom, and moral codes and ethics.

Tenth House

In the tenth house we find one's primary career goals. The career found in the tenth house is what we would prefer to be known for vs. the sixth house, where we take certain jobs out of necessity. Hence, the tenth house is also described as one's fame, reputation, honor and highest achievements. It's also the boss; either your attitude towards the authority of others, or you as the authority. When you think of the tenth house, think of traditional institutions that have withstood the test of time. Government and political aims naturally fall into the domain of the tenth house. The tenth house is the public eye vs. the fourth which is your private life. Traditional astrology teaches us that the tenth house is the house that represents the father, based on the fourth house as mother and the tenth being opposite the fourth represents her spouse. I have often found that an accurate description of the father is described by the fifth house. In fact, astrologers have varying opinions concerning which house represents which parent, with some believing that the tenth is mother and the fourth is father. Stick with the traditional meaning to start and experiment if you wish with the other ideas on this matter. The tenth house corresponds to Capricorn and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Capricorn style. Additionally, the tenth house represents taking responsibility, and the rewards of resolving karmic issues.

Eleventh House

Traditionally the eleventh house is related to friendships and acquaintances, though generally not as close as those we consider to be best friends. A less considered aspect of these relationships, but one that I have found to be true is the following; that because of the ancient rulership of Saturn, the friendships found in the eleventh house often have a kind of "karmic alliance" tone to them. These types of relationships form in order to evolve both parties, based on past life issues together. Our personal hopes and wishes is another eleventh house area. Groups of people in general, especially those groups which have a common bond or goal are found in the eleventh house. This can include, humanitarian causes, clubs and social organizations of any kind. Science, technology, computers, airplanes and all things that represent either ideas that are ahead of the times, or progress for mankind are eleventh house areas. This is the house of ingenious ideas and new inventions. Some of these new ideas upset long held traditional viewpoints and so this is the house of the revolutionary. The

individual who may be forced into a kind of self imposed isolation because he finds it difficult to march to the same drumbeat as everyone else. This could also refer to the leader who has the ability to inspire action in others, and yet because he is the leader, he feels inside that he must maintain a kind of solitary detachment. In this case, intimate or deeply personal entanglements are simply too messy for those who must manage large groups of people. The eleventh house corresponds to Aquarius and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Aquarius style. Additionally, the eleventh house represents bizarre circumstances, being or feeling different from the "norm", rebelliousness, and unexpected events.

Twelfth House

Here in the twelfth house we find areas of life that tend to place one away from the rest of society. Hence, this house is most commonly known as the house of large public institutions, hospitals, prisons and asylums. Monasteries naturally fall into this category, as well. Sometimes this isolation is self imposed. A writer who needs long periods of uninterrupted time is an example of self imposed isolation. A hospital stay is not usually a self imposed situation. You will often see the phrases behind-the-scenes or hidden from view used in connection with twelfth house matters. This covers a fairly large area of potential experiences. That which is purposefully deceptive as well as, actions taken for the sake of simply doing rather than for glory or recognition. The latter leading naturally to altruistic acts of helpfulness and kindness, in which the act itself is the sole reward. Hidden enemies are in the twelfth house as opposed to the open opposition in the seventh house. Any planets in this house may represent something that the individual either doesn't have a clear view of or doesn't want a clear view of. The edges of reality become blurred, allowing one to exist in the more ideal scenario that one creates on the mental plane. Or, in other cases, the use of addictive substances or self indulgent habits that allow a person to escape unpleasant realities for the time being, though never eliminating the source of pain is another possible manifestation of this reality avoidance syndrome. Traditionally this is the house of suffering and self undoing. You've probably seen this already. What exactly does it mean? It means this. How do you tangle up your own web? Look at planets in this house and the sign on the twelfth house cusp. Do you avoid reality? Do you lack boundaries with respect to these things? And what about the suffering part? Do the answers to any of the former create problems for you? Does guilt, repression, or self-doubt play a role? This is also the house of spiritual inspiration, cosmic consciousness and enlightenment. Addicts who join support groups are often strongly encouraged to put their faith in a higher power. Even those who doubt the existence of God, can find comfort in tuning into the notion of a higher power. The spirituality found in the twelfth house is more in tune with what some might call "Universal Consciousness." Religious dogma is dissolved along with the boundaries that separate us from other dimensions. Psychic channeling and miraculous healing are higher potentials found in the twelfth house. The twelfth house corresponds to Pisces and so any planets in this house function with some underlying Pisces style. Additionally, the twelfth house represents the influence of past lives, forgiveness, atonement and mysterious disappearances.

HOUSE SYMBOLS AND DEFINITIONS

If you know your astrology chart, you can use this section. If you do not know it, then skip it.

Go see a professional astrologer instead and that list is at the bottom of this article.

ASCENDANT (rising sign or 1st house cusp)

coat, like a--the public persona we wear for others

mask that we put on when outside our home

one's appearance

one's bearing and demeanor

one's behavior in public

how one approaches life

natural disposition shown to public

our physical body

persona, the 'false self'

public persona

the way People see you (the mask, the costume)

those in your life--work, the public

the way YOU Would like to be seen by others, the public

FIRST HOUSE (Also known as the Ascendant, but these are other rulership keywords for this house)

abnormalities, one's physical

appearance, personal

appearance, physical

appearance, how one cares for his

approach to life, one's

beginning of all enterprises

one's birth

one's character

your desires

disposition

environment--immediate (school, office, public buildings)

habits

how one is seen by others (at work, on the street, etc.)

I am

impression one makes on others

individuality

personality

physical body

projected image (the mask and costume we wear outside our home)

self-opinion

way one expresses himself

way one wants others to see him

SECOND HOUSE

banks

banker

budgets

cash

checks

debts, personal

earning capacity

freedom

finances

gifts bestowed or received

income

inheritance

I Possess

integrity, one's

investments

material resources or possessions

money

morals, our

negotiable assets
partner's death
Personal values
Physical senses
self-worth
stockbroker, talent

Throat

thyroid

neck

base of skull

value, what we

voice

vocal chords

wealth

THIRD HOUSE

arms

wrists

fingers

fingernails

brothers

sisters

communication

commuting

concrete thought - the conscious mind

contracts

agreements

correspondence

intellect

intelligence

journalists

journalism
journals
lungs
breathing
asthma
meetings
conferences
message
telegrams
neighbors
nervousness
central nervous system
post office
mail
postmen
receptivity to ideas from others
restlessness
secretaries
short speeches
shoulders
studies
students
studying
teachers
teaching
tests, written and oral
trade
local transportation
all kinds writing
writers

FOURTH HOUSE

agriculture

cause of losses in speculation

cities and buildings

cousins

domestic environment

end of life

estates

father or mother-in-law

family

farming

gain from writing or contracts

gardening

one's grave or place of rest

home or residence

hotels

motels

land

later life conditions

leases

parent

personal activities

one's private life

property and possessions

immovable

ranches

ranchers

security and fortifications

stomach

traditions, family

FIFTH HOUSE

amusement

back

heart

circulation

Children

birth

adopted

concerts

Courtship

creative self-expression

drama

dramatists

games

group (like: bowling league, membership in a club, community of like-minded people)

hobbies

holidays

Income from real estate

love affairs'

love

one's lover

Places of entertainment

Pleasure

Public schools

show business

social affairs and functions

speculation

gambling

teachers

teaching

after

actions

SIXTH HOUSE

animals

pets, small or domestic (large animals are 12th house related)

army

nannies

assimilation of food

cafes

civil service

closets

clothing, in general

coworkers

daily work or routine

doctors

nurses

dress, one's manner of

employment

employees

health

hygiene

labor

laboring classes

libraries

nutrition

pantries

relations with coworkers

servants

service

subordinates, one's

tenants

work

work environment

SEVENTH HOUSE

agreements

contracts (verbal or written)

commitments, meaningful

competition

controversies

cooperation or the lack- of it

courts, the

divorce

fugitives

grandparents

lawsuits

love

lovers

lower half of the back (sacral/tailbone region)

buttocks

kidneys

ovaries

veins

marriage

nephews

nieces

opponents, known

outcome of all contentions

partnerships

marriage

business

peace

public, the

relationships

one-on-one

rivals

rivalry

runaways

social affairs

social functions

strife

enmities

pleas

war

EIGHTH HOUSE

alimony

astral experiences

bankruptcy

corporate families

death

debts

dowries

drastic changes

genitals

rectum

hemorrhoids

bladder

inheritances

insurance

matters relating to death

occult matters

outcome of lawsuits
partner's income
recycling
regeneration
reincarnation
resources, other people's
sex
suicides
support from others
surgery
taxes
wills

NINTH HOUSE

advertising
airline hostesses
attorneys, lawyers
ceremonies
churches
church affairs
ministers
courts of law
dreams
foreigners
anything that is foreign
foreign politics
freedom
grandchildren
higher education
universities
hips

upper legs
sciatica nerve
ideals
in-laws
journeys
literature
litigation
meditation
metaphysics
places at a distance
publishing
religion
philosophy
science, in general
travel agents
truth
TENTH HOUSE (Midheaven/10th house cusp)
achievement
advancement
ambitious persons
authority figures
bones
joints of the body
knees
skin
business
career or profession
dishonor
employers
esteem

fame
famous people
government
illness of one's children
leaders
leadership
matters outside the home
ones moral qualities
one's position in the world
parent, a
politics
politicians
prestige
honors
popularity
pride
promotions
reputation
responsibilities/duty
social status
ELEVENTH HOUSE
knees
calves of the legs
circulation in general
business income
civic organizations
congress
House of Representatives
colleagues
companies

contacts
counselors
death of parents
expectations
finances of one's employer
friends
acquaintances/colleagues
groups
hopes, wishes, goals
legacies
memberships
money from one's profession
one's fourth child
one's ideas of happiness
organizations
projects
ambitions
sons
daughters-in-law
sororities
fraternities
stepchildren
TWELFTH HOUSE
animals, large
aunts
uncles
confinement (may or may not be voluntary)
feet
help from behind the scenes
hospitals

places of confinement (prison, mental ward, hospital)

institutions

meditation

occupations of siblings

private investigators

rest homes

retirement

sanctuaries

sea

seamen

seclusion

loneliness

self-analysis

self-undoing

solitude

places of solitude

sorrows

secret sorrows

study

subconscious

thieves

welfare

secrets

secret enemies