

2012 Astrological Information

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When it comes to astrology, there is a simple system that helps explain the planets, and how they are applicable to each and every one of us. This is true not only regarding our individual birth charts, but also true regarding how they move across the sky, and affect us on a more regular basis. When they move across the sky, they are known as transits, and thus are transitory in their effects. By understanding what the planets represent and how they interact, we can maximize what we get from them as well. It is also worth noting that in astrology, the term planet also applies to the Sun and the Moon.

In classical astrology, there are seven planets that are predominantly looked at for personal insight and interaction. However, as we all know, there have been several more planets discovered since the time of the ancients, and while their effects are different, they still apply none the less. Below you'll find a quick guide to what the planets represent, as well as a concise way to process them, work with them, and to understand them, and ourselves, just a little bit better and easier.

The Sun (☉): In astrology, the Sun represents where we are shining our brightest in every day life. In other words, the sign that our Sun is in tells us the focus for development in this lifetime. Let's face it, if we had already mastered what our Sun sign is, we wouldn't have this placement in this lifetime. Therefore the Sun also reveals to us the potential that we are developing within ourselves during this lifetime. This is one of the reasons why we may look at our Sun sign and think "This isn't me." All this observation tells us is where we stand regarding our current spiritual evolution. The Sun's color is gold, and thus it addresses our soul self, and what it is working on during this incarnation.

The Moon (☾): The Moon represents our emotions. It represents our intuition, as well as how we address and create emotional situations in our day to day life. Because of this, the Moon also represents our personality self. Most of the people in the world today approach things from an emotional perspective, and because of this you may see the Moon referenced as being indicative of the masses. However, the Moon also gives us insight into how we perceived (or perceive) our female authority figure in our early formative years.

Together with the Sun, these two bodies are said to be the *luminaries*, as they represent our innate, inner masculine and feminine side that exists when all else is removed. Each of us have these sides to us, and by understanding what they are and how they manifest, we can put ourselves in a position of greater empowerment. Both of these bodies are fast movers through the zodiac, as the Sun moves through the zodiac at a rate of about one degree a day, and is thus the basis for our calendar. The Moon moves even quicker than that, moving approximately a

degree every few minutes. Thus, both of them are easy to track, and easy to work with, no matter your astrological experience level.

Mercury (♿): In astrology, Mercury is the planet of personal communication. It is also associated with the personal computer, and the ability to transmute things from one state of being to a higher vibrational state of being. It is gender neutral, and thus shows its adaptability.

Venus (♀): Venus is known as the 'Lesser Benefic' in astrology, and this tells us that it is the second most beneficial planet to look to when it comes to fortune. Venus is associated with love, beauty, art, creativity, the appreciation of all of those things, as well as money, feminine energy, goddess energy, and receptivity. It is a feminine planet, meaning that it manifests in more of a feminine way, acting on what is perceived and received.

These two planets are said to be the inner planets, as they exist between us and the Sun. This is worth noting because this tells us what they address inherently. In other words, the inner planets are ones that we can work with on an inner level, for more intimate accomplishments.

Mars (♂): Mars is associated with vitality, energy, competition, aggressive tendencies, conflict, masculine energy, athleticism, and forward thinking. It is associated with making things happen, rather than waiting for things to happen.

Jupiter (♃): In astrology, Jupiter is known as the 'Greater Benefic', and thus it is the first planet to look at when it comes to assessing fortune. In astrology, Jupiter correlates to prosperity, spirituality, fortune, expansion, rulership, and living large. It is considered a masculine planet, and because of this, it is wise to work with Jupiterian energy in a more aggressive way.

Saturn (♄): Saturn gets a bad reputation in astrology. He is also known as the 'Great Malefic' because of this. In astrology, Saturn is associated with lessons, limitations, restrictions, conservatism, being grounded, karma, and time. But he is also associated with foundation, stability, permanency, longevity, and methodology. Saturn is a masculine planet, but it is the aspect of masculinity that is unique to it. Saturn represents more of the sage aspect of masculine energy, whereas Mars represents more of the youthful manifestation of masculine energy.

All of the planets up to this point are known as the personal planets, as for the most part, their cycles can be watched and worked with during the course of our physical lifetimes. These planets have a personal impact on us that we can chart through knowing their cycles and correspondences. The following planets are known as the trans-Saturnian planets, and they address much larger cycles. When they come into play, they usually address energies that are bathing the Earth in planet-wide ways, rather than on an individual level. However, they still have personal manifestations, and to understand this, it is wise to look at the house they are in. A house is an area of life, and in astrology, there are twelve life areas that anything that happens in life can be categorized in.

Also of note is that the trans-Saturnian planets are also said to be higher vibrational counterparts of their personal planet correlations. They are more specialized in their manifestation, yet still operating under the same principles as their personal planet counterparts.

The bridge that ties these two sections together is a planetoid named Chiron. It has only recently been discovered, and is a sign to many of the current evolutionary point we find ourselves in during this point in our spiritual evolution. Its revelation actually fulfills a Hopi prophecy, and because of this, it can be very profound and relevant in today's world.

Chiron (♄): Chiron is a planetoid that has a unique place in astrology. It is not a full planet, but is very profound in its manifestation. Chiron represents the journey of the wounded healer, and thus it identifies where a wound exists in our chart to be healed, and by healing it, it puts us in a position to assist others to heal as well.

Uranus (♅): Uranus is the first of the outer planets used in astrology, and this is worth noting because it introduces the idea that all of the planets from here on out give us insight into energetics that affect mass amounts of people at a time. In astrology, Uranus has a variety of correspondences to be considered. Uranus corresponds to mass communication instead of personal communication. It also corresponds to the World Wide Web instead of the personal computer. It also corresponds to the willpower of the ascended self, eccentricity, individuality, electricity, and things that happen out of the blue. It is also considered a higher vibrational counterpart of Mercury.

Neptune (♆): Neptune is a planet that can be very potent, and also very easily mishandled and misunderstood. Neptune is considered a higher vibrational counterpart to Venus, and in this way we can see correlations between the two. Neptune is associated with meditation, mysticism, meditation, metaphysics, the imagination, inspiration, and all things dreamy. However, the challenge that comes with heavy Neptune energy is two-fold. One challenge that comes with it is that there may be a challenge grounding those concepts into physical results. Another challenge that may come with Neptunian energy is that there may be a tendency towards escapism.

Pluto (♇): Pluto is a planet in astrology that can be very profound when it is looked at carefully. Pluto is the planet that is associated with transformation and deep healing. In some ways, it represents where things are long buried and erupt to the surface. It is considered a higher vibration of Mars, and this gives us insight into how it manifests.