

Class 23 – 12 Card

Covered in This Class

1. Preparation for This Class
2. Applications of 12 Card Readings
3. Possible Situation Signifiers
4. Doing a 12 Card Reading
5. Interpreting Your Reading
6. Exit Ritual

1. Preparation for This Class

- *Video Clips: 12 Card Reading*

2. Applications of 12 Card Readings

The 12 Card reading is the second Tarot layout you will be learning in this course. Unlike the Celtic Cross, which can only offer a personality profile, the 12 Card layout is suitable for reading people, situations, businesses, financial issues, relationships and other situations involving multiple people. While the Celtic Cross is a still picture snapshot of a person, the 12 Card is a moving picture that shows past, present and future. This allows you to track cause and effect chains much more effectively. The 12 Card layout is so flexible that you can use multiple-card signifiers to capture complex situations, expand certain portions of the reading to get more detail or move the reading back and forth in time.

3. Possible Situation Signifiers

As with the Celtic Cross, selecting the right signifier is crucial to an accurate reading. Here are some possible situation signifiers that you might use in a 12 Card reading.

World:	Same, the overall planetary environment
Fortune:	The overall Universe environment, physical and spiritual
Empress:	America (every country has an overall personality which can be translated into a signifier. For example, Mexico might be King of Swords and Germany might be Emperor.)
Emperor:	President

12 Card - Exercises

- Queen of Discs: Denver (as with countries, each city has an overall personality which can be translated into a signifier. Denver is the “Queen City of the Plains” and is a commercial and money center. Pittsburgh might be the King of Swords, and New York might be the King of Discs.)
- Ace of Discs: Money/the Economy/Body Health
- Ace of Swords: Spirit Vitality
- Ace of Wands: Mental Health
- Ace of Cups: Emotional Health
- Aces in General: May indicate the general positiveness or negativeness of the environment relative to the subject’s well being.
- Emperor: The President, Contracts
- Sun: General Health (Spiritual, Mental, Emotional, and Physical)
- Justice: Legal Matters, Lawsuits, Legislation
- Devil: Large or Long Term Material Contracts, Birth Vision, Spiritual Contracts
- 8 Discs: Job/Work/Business (use as job in multiple signifier)
- 6 Swords: Travel by Water/Talent
- 9 Swords: Compulsions
- 10 Swords: Hidden Enemies
- Magician: Knowing magic, consciously and knowingly done magic, good for determining whether to do a spell or another magical operation, or whether one is under directed magical attack.
- Priestess: Religion/Subconscious magic, inadvertent (non-conscious) magic, usually resulting from some moral or religious beliefs giving rise to emotional brooding or praying (may create some really negative effects on one, no matter how unaware or well intentioned the doer may be) and not seen as magical working

by the perpetrator. May also indicate “doing it to oneself” on a basis of unrecognized moral or spiritual values.

- 10 Discs: Marriage – Physical, Family, Home. NOTE: In Tarot, marriage, family and home are not single things – they are a result of harmony of emotion, thinking, and material cooperation, hence there is a separate card for each.
- 10 Cups: Marriage – Emotional, Family
- 4 Wands: Marriage – Mental
- 2 Cups: Lovers/Relationships, intimate emotional or passionate couple relationships, these being, Tarot-wise, of the mundane or worldly existence, even though they do affect people’s spiritual conditions.
- 3 Cups: Friendships, emotional sharing among friends.
- Hanged Man: Higher Level or Esoteric Schools
- Star: Spiritual Schools
- 8 Wands: Travel by Air
- 3 Discs: Career Plans

*Note: Marriage signifiers also apply to family situations.

To pick a signifier for cities not mentioned above study the personality of the city and the elements that surround it, and then pick the card that seems appropriate. You can also make your own signifier by using pictures, logos, business cards, stationary, etc. Remember that if you pick the wrong signifier for a reading or the timing is not right to do a reading every base card will be reversed.

Note: From the point of view of the Tarot, marriage is strictly a mundane-level contract or arrangement.

When you place the signifier upright the reading will tell you all the conditions that favor it. When you reverse the signifier the reading will give you all the conditions that hinder or prevent a favorable outcome, or the problems you may encounter.

4. Doing a 12 Card Reading

Before starting your reading record the date, time, signifier and question you want the reading to answer in your Book of Shadows. This helps to set up your intention for the reading. You may want to use the template provided in the Homework section of this class as a guide.

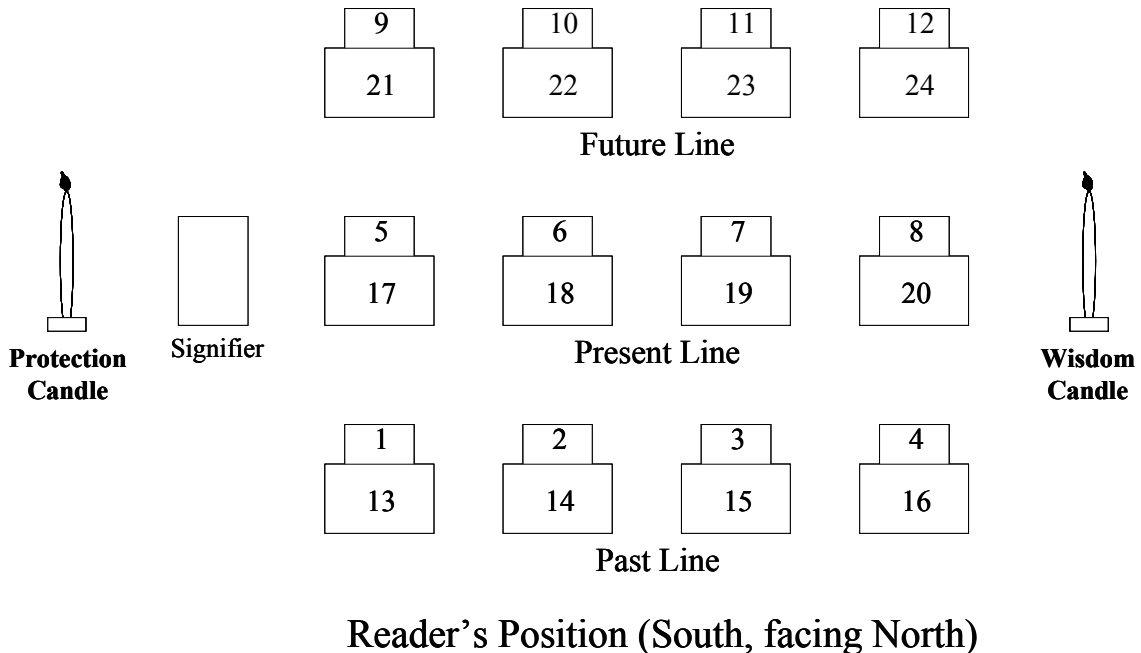


Figure 23.1

1. Sit in the south facing north. If you are reading for someone who is present have them sit opposite you.
2. Light and charge your sun candle
3. Place your wisdom and protection candles on either side of the reading space as shown in the diagram above.
4. Make sure that your deck is properly randomized (that it has been shuffled at least 50 times if this is your first time to use your deck, and shuffled at least once between each reading).
5. Determine the appropriate signifier for the reading. Holding the subject of the reading in your focus, turn cards over onto your plate from the top of the deck (note that you will always use the same method of dealing cards) until you find the signifier. Set the signifier aside for a moment and re-unite the cards

- on the plate with the rest of the cards from the deck, being careful to put them back in the same directions they were in before you dealt them.
6. Place the signifier card upright on your plate. Look at the card intently, again holding the subject of the reading in mind, until the card windows. This is called keying the signifier.
 7. Place the signifier upright between the wisdom and protection candles and next to the protection candle, as shown in the diagram.
 8. Light a match from your sun candle and light first the wisdom candle (on your right), then your protection candle (on your left), then go back across to your wisdom candle to close the loop (the same as you did for the Celtic Cross).
 9. Watch the candles and wait for both to reach a tall working flame before proceeding. If the wisdom candle is dampened, it indicates that you are pushing on the reading. Relax and breath – don't focus on the outcome of the reading, just do it. If either the protection candle or both candles are dampened or flickering, it can indicate that someone else is pushing on the reading. Take one candle in each hand and simultaneously draw a lemniscate with each candle (one in front of the other) then set the candles back in place. The flames should return to normal.
 10. If desired, light braided sweet grass on your Wisdom candle until it smokes and draw a circle clockwise, moving the sweet grass to your left through the flame of the Protection candle, out away from you and back through the flame of the Wisdom candle. Make 3 complete circuits. You may need to relight the sweet grass several times on the candles to keep the smoke going. This clears the space of junky energies.
 11. If the person being read is present, ask them to “Shuffle the deck at least 3 times, or more until it feels right.” Make sure they shuffle Las Vegas style, or end to end so that the cards have a chance to change their direction in the deck. If the cards “jam” while the person is shuffling it can indicate that the person is nervous. Ask them to breathe and relax. If the person is not present you will shuffle for them, again keeping them firmly in mind.
 12. Once the person is done shuffling, ask him/her to cut the deck into three piles with the left (heart) hand and place the piles in a row on the reading space in front of you. Again, if the person is not present, you will do this step for him/her.
 13. With your right (head or intellect) hand feel the three piles for heat or energy. Pick up the hottest pile or pile with the most energy first, then the second hottest pile below the first pile, then the last pile. Note: You may have to “push” a little fire energy at the piles at first to feel the energy.

14. Deal all the base cards in the order shown in the diagram. Deal the base cards in the past line from left to right, then the present line from left to right, and finally the future line from left to right.
15. Deal second cards onto the base cards in the same order.
16. Make sure that the two candles are in line with the present line – it ensures that your reading is adequately protected.
17. Record your reading into your Book of Shadows.

5. Interpreting Your Reading

In contrast to the Celtic Cross, which gives you a still picture snapshot of a person's personality profile, the 12 Card is a cause and effect reading that moves from past to future. Because of this, 12 Card layouts are interpreted from past to present to future. The present line is a result of the past line and the future line is a result of the present line.

To interpret your reading start in the past and look for flow lines that move forward in time. The lines do not necessarily flow horizontally from left to right, or vertically from bottom to top. Instead, lines flow by suit (wands, swords, cups, plates) and direction of base card (upright or reversed). In addition, the past and future lines do not all represent the same period of time. For instance, some pairs of cards indicate events much further in the past and others indicate events in the near past. The cards indicate the conditions from the past that are created in the present, but do not tell you anything about how far in the past it is. The same is true of the future line. As with the Celtic Cross reading, your reach or ability to read events in past or future grows with experience. Your reach may start out as a week or two then expand to include months and years. There is no advantage to having a reach too far into the future because all probabilities equalize when one gets a certain amount of time into the future.

Flow lines are established according to whether the base cards are reversed or upright and on suit. Flow lines must either have all reversed base cards or all upright base cards. Reverse base cards can never flow to upright base cards and vice versa. Flow lines can move laterally (i.e. from a pair of cards in the past line to another pair of cards in the past line) or vertically (from past to future but never from future to past). Sometimes flow lines skip the present and jump directly to the future and other times flow lines simply stop. A flow line may move from past to present and then stop (if the condition indicated has somehow been transformed in the present, for instance).

Here are some basic rules to help you establish flow lines by priority (the list starts with the highest priority).

1. Connect base cards of the same direction and suit from past to future. For instance, a 10 Swords upright in the past to a 5 Swords upright in the present to a 2 Swords upright in the future.
2. Connect major arcana base cards (all upright or all reversed).
3. Connect the upright base card of one suit to an upright base card of a different suit that has a second card with the same suit as the first base card. For instance, you can connect a 10 Swords/2 Wands with a 3 Cups/5 Swords. Even though the base cards don't have the same suit, there is still the theme of Swords running through both pairs of cards.
4. In two sets of cards, both with base cards of the same direction, connect the second card of the first set to the base card of the second set if they are of the same suit. For instance, you can connect a 3 Discs Rx/2 Wands to 10 Wands Rx/8 Swords. The Rx is how you indicate a reversed base card when you record your reading.
5. Connect a major arcana base card with a major arcana second card (as long as the direction of the base cards match).
6. Connect cards by meaning or context. For instance, you can connect the Fool and the 2 Discs because the Fool is the higher octave of the 2 Discs.
7. If you cannot use any of the above rules to create a flow line, the lowest priority would be to connect the reversed base cards or the upright base cards.

Here are some general guidelines for interpreting cards and flow lines.

1. Major arcana cards in the past line indicate a time further in the past than minor arcana cards, and usually indicate conditions from a past life. If you have pairs of cards of the same suit and direction in the past line, for instance, the major arcana cards would precede the minor arcana cards in the flow.
2. When creating flow lines always check the context and meaning of the cards to see if the line makes sense. The flow lines always tell a story.
3. The upright flow lines often indicate the factors that favor the topic your reading on (a positive outcome) while the reversed flow lines often indicate the barriers or problems you may encounter.
4. When interpreting pairs of cards, the base card is always the general situation, where the second card is always the particular manifestation or specific details or refinement of the situation. For instance, 10 Discs Rx/5 Wands indicates that a person is prevented from "having it all" by conflicting ideas and beliefs (either the persons own or those of people around them).

5. Remember that the future is not set. It is the result of the conditions in the past and present if all things remain the same. Remember the principle, “a small change in the present creates a larger change in the future.”
6. The court cards (page, knight, queen, or king) may indicate a person affecting or creating a situation (when it is the base card) or a person being affected by something (when it is the second card). A court card may also indicate a principle – it can also be both a person and a principle simultaneously. If the card indicates a person the picture will look life-like and real. If the card indicates a principle it will look flat and generic.
7. To do a good reading you must create “stories” from the different flow lines. Start by connecting the cards to create the flow lines. Interpret the pairs of cards, jotting down the meanings if you want. Then translate it into smooth English and see if the story makes sense. You may need to check with the person you are reading about their background, history or the conditions in their lives for verification.

6. Exit Ritual

For your Exit Ritual, Day Greetings and Day Endings (6 directions) this week use

“Walking in My Vision.”