

## Fortune Telling Playing Cards

---

### IT'S ALL IN THE CARDS

As a teenager, I came across an old fortune-telling magazine that featured a divination method using a regular deck of playing cards. This method appealed to me because the cards were related to Astrology. In fact, the four suits were associated with the four elements (Fire, Earth, Air, and Water).

Long before people used cards to play games, they were used to foretell the future. In fact, playing cards were invented for divination purposes.

Although there are different ways to approach cartomancy, we will show you a simple method and lay out the basic meanings attached to each playing card below.

Once you know the basic meanings of the playing cards, you can choose a spread that is right for you. In fact, you can even choose to select only one card out of a deck to get a fast and easy "answer" to your problem, if you so desire.

First things first, the suits (Hearts, Clubs, Spades, and Diamonds) are associated with the four elements, as follows:

Hearts – Water  
Clubs – Fire  
Diamonds – Earth  
Spades – Air

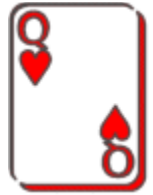
### What Each Playing Card Means:

**Ace of Hearts** Love and happiness. The home, a love letter. This card is a particularly favorable card that indicates troubles and problems lifting.

**King of Hearts** A fair-haired man with a good nature; or a man with Water signs predominating in his chart. Fair, helpful advice. Affectionate, caring man. This man helps you out without much talk. His actions reveal his kindness and concern.

**Queen of Hearts** A fair-haired woman with a good nature; or a woman with Water signs predominating in her chart. Kind advice. Affectionate, caring woman. Sometimes, this card can indicate the mother or a mother figure.

**Jack of Hearts** A warm-hearted friend. A fair-haired youth; or a young person with Water signs predominating in his or her chart. Often this points to a younger admirer.



**10 of Hearts** Good luck, success. This is an important card that suggests good fortune after difficulty.

**9 of Hearts** The card of wishes. A wish/dream fulfilled. Look to the card just preceding this one to determine what the querent desires.

**8 of Hearts** Unexpected gift or visit; an invitation to a party.

**7 of Hearts** Someone whose interest in you is unreliable; someone with fickle affections for you. This card can indicate lovesickness.

**6 of Hearts** A sudden wave of good luck. Someone takes care of you, takes warm interest in you.

**5 of Hearts** Jealousy; some ill-will from people around you.

**4 of Hearts** Travel, change of home or business.

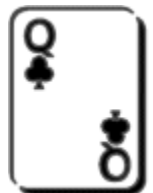
**3 of Hearts** Love and happiness when the entire spread is generally favorable. In a difficult spread, this can indicate emotional problems and an inability to decide who to love.

**2 of Hearts** A warm partnership or engagement. This is a very favorable card that indicates strength and support coming from a partner.

**Ace of Clubs** Wealth, prosperity, unexpected money/gain. However, in a difficult spread, this money may disappear almost as quickly as it appears.

**King of Clubs** Dark-haired, kind-hearted man; or a man with Fire predominating in his chart. A generous, spirited man.

**Queen of Clubs** Dark-haired, confident woman; or a woman with Fire predominating in her chart. She may give you good advice.



**Jack of Clubs** A dark-haired or fiery youth. Popular youth who is good-hearted and playful. Can also indicate an admirer.

**10 of Clubs** Business success. Good luck with money. A trip taken now may result in a new friend or love interest.

**9 of Clubs** Achievement; sometimes a wealthy marriage or a sudden windfall.

**8 of Clubs** Work/business problems that may have to do with jealousy. This is generally thought to be quite unfavorable.

**7 of Clubs** Business success, although there may be problems in love. A change in business that may have been expected or earned, such as a promotion.

**6 of Clubs** Financial aid or success.

**5 of Clubs** New friendships, alliances are made.

**4 of Clubs** Beware of dishonesty or deceit; avoid blind acceptance of others at this time.

**3 of Clubs** Love and happiness; successful marriage; a favorable long-term proposition. A second chance, particularly in an economical sense.

**2 of Clubs** Obstacles to success; malicious gossip.

**Ace of Spades** Misfortune; sometimes associated with death or, more often, a difficult ending.

**King of Spades** Dark-haired man; or a man with Air predominating in his chart. An ambitious man, perhaps self-serving.

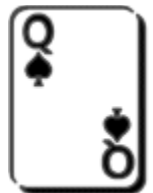
**Queen of Spades** Widowed or divorced woman; or a woman with Air predominating in her chart.

**Jack of Spades** A youth who is hostile or jealous.

**10 of Spades** Worry; bad news.

**9 of Spades** Illness, accident, bad luck. The querent is at his/her personal low.

**8 of Spades** Temptation, misfortune, danger, upsets.



**7 of Spades** Advice that is best not taken; loss. There is some obstacle to success, and this indicates that obstacles may be coming from within the querent.

**6 of Spades** Small changes and improvements.

**5 of Spades** Opposition and obstacles that are temporary; a blessing in disguise. Sometimes indicates a negative or depressed person.

**4 of Spades** Small worries, problems. Financial difficulties, personal lows.

**3 of Spades** Breaks in relationships. Sometimes indicates that a third person is breaking into a relationship somehow.

**2 of Spades** Breaks in relationships; deceit. A break in an important process in the querent's life. If the question concerns a particular romantic interest, this is considered a warning card – infidelity or separation is quite likely.

**Ace of Diamonds** Change; a message, often about money, and usually good news.

**King of Diamonds** Fair-haired or graying man, or a man with Earth predominating in his chart. A man of authority, status, or influence.

**Queen of Diamonds** Fair-haired woman; or a woman with Earth predominating in her chart. A gossip.

**Jack of Diamonds** A youth, possibly in uniform. Or, a jealous person who may be unreliable. A person who brings news, generally negative, but relatively minor.



**10 of Diamonds** A change in financial status, often for the better.

**9 of Diamonds** A new business deal; travel; restlessness; a change of residence.

**8 of Diamonds** New job; change in job situation. The young or the old may find love on a trip.

**7 of Diamonds** An argument concerning finances, or on the job. Generally expected to be resolved happily.

**6 of Diamonds** Relationship problems, arguments. Separation.

**5 of Diamonds** Happiness and success. A change for the better. A birth, or good news for a child. A good time to start new projects.

**4 of Diamonds** Financial upswing; an older person may give good advice.

**3 of Diamonds** A legal letter. Be tactful with others in order to avoid disputes.

**2 of Diamonds** A business partnership; a change in relationship; gossip.

## The Spreads

The basic idea for laying out a spread is to shuffle the cards as you think of your question or problem, and then draw cards in a particular order and lay them out on the table before you. You can make your own "fortune telling" session as simple or as complex as you please:

- Draw only one card for a simple and fast answer to a burning question.
- A common spread involves drawing three cards — the first represents the past, the second shows the situation in the present, and the third reveals the outcome, or future of the matter.
- Some will do a larger spread when looking for a general outlook for a person. For this method, draw three cards for each of these categories: Yourself, Your Family, Your Friends, What You Expect, What You Don't Expect, and The Outcome.
- Use your own categories, tailored to your question.

## Interesting Notes About Playing Cards

There are thirteen cards in each of the four suits, corresponding to the 13 lunar months in a year. Fifty-two cards correspond to fifty-two weeks in a year.

Hearts correspond to the element of water, and signify love, friendship, happiness, and domestic concerns. Generally speaking, they are "happy" cards.

Clubs correspond to the element of fire, and generally signify business, ambition, and achievement issues. They generally indicate success and happiness.

Diamonds correspond to the element of earth, and generally signify career, and money issues.

Spades correspond to the element of air, and generally signify gossip, challenges, messages, and upsets.

## The Suits and the Four Basic Fields of Life

From batons to clubs, cups to hearts, coins to diamonds and swords to spades, the French set the standard design of suits as we know them today: Hearts, Clubs, Diamonds and Spades.

Similar to how "elements" work in astrology, the four suits define the four basic fields of life: emotions, thoughts, the material world and our physical being. When you play *The New Game*, the characteristics of each Player will change depending on which Suit they are wearing.



### HEARTS

Spring, Home, Heart, Emotions, Love, Childhood  
Vulnerability, Art, Water, Kama



### CLUBS

Summer, Education, Mind, Intellect, Musings, Youth  
Irresponsibility, Literature, Air, Dharma



### DIAMONDS

Fall, Career, Values, Security, Judgment, Adult  
Responsibility, Entertainment, Fire, Artha



### SPADES

Winter, Environment, Wisdom, Health, Acceptance, Old Age  
Transformation, Scripture, Earth, Moksha

The Pips

Pips are the spots on the Cards, also known as their "numeric value".

Similar to Numerology, each value has a special meaning which is further modified by its SUIT and PLANETARY INFLUENCE.

### ACE

The Beginning "I AM". The Ace ranks supreme importance as the ego and we call it the ACE.

The Ace is the Card of DESIRE. It is the WISH Card, the HOPE and the I WANT.

If we can turn our desire for self into a desire for ALL, the Ace may be called the Card of the ALTRUIST.

### TWO

The number TWO seeks UNION as two halves will always make a better whole.

The 2 is also known as the "fear Card"; we are afraid to cooperate lest we give away our oneness, our ACE in



the hole.

The Deuce symbolizes contracts, meetings and partnerships.

### **THREE**

From the unity of the 2 comes the OPPORTUNITIES of the 3.

The Three shows us new ways open with new roads to take. Like a fork in the road, we must choose which path to take. Negatively speaking, the 3 symbolizes uncertainty and confusion. Positively speaking, the 3 symbolizes entertainment and "right choice". We must be optimistic and above all, have FAITH.

### **FOUR**

The opportunities of the 3 bring the need for structure and SERVICE as symbolized by the number 4.

4 is a base number and is considered the number of luck and good fortune. Sometimes, we can feel TOO lucky with this number and we wind up feeling smug, complacent or stubborn.

Positively expressed, 4s symbolize SATISFACTION.

Negatively expressed, 4s are lazy and bored!

### **FIVE**

From the stability of the 4 comes the RESTLESSNESS of the 5.

Fives symbolize CHANGE. Life is change: "Creation, Preservation, Dissolution". As well, the middle point of anything is the point of change as either which way, nothing will ever stay the same. The number 5 is that middle point.

5s symbolize fluctuations, travel and variety. A fickle heart or a fickle mind. A new experience is most definitely desired.

### **SIX**

From the changes of the 5 comes the need to ADJUST to the value of 6.

Exhausted from all that change and restlessness, Sixes don't like to move forward. The past needs to be reevaluated and reflected upon. We need to stop, look and listen. Sixes bring us people from our past, feelings, thoughts and health issues we may need to deal with not later, but NOW. Debts repaid, or entered into. Sixes are karmic - the result of past actions or the sowing of seeds to come. For good or for worse, things remain the same.

### **SEVEN**

From the reflections and inertia of the 6 comes the STRESS and worry of the 7.

Sevens have a tendency to covet. 7s are known to bring us worry because of jealousy or stress or gossip. In extreme cases, sevens can bring violence.

We need to let go of our expectations and figure out how to get around the obstacle instead of trying to plow right through it. Thus, the positive 7 symbolizes VICTORY.

### **EIGHT**

From the victory of the 7 comes the POWER of the 8.

8s are a strong number and seek CONTROL.

Eights are the number of will, strength and force. They can be bossy and must be handled with care! The number 8 is the number of work and gains that are made because of that work. In its positive state, the

vibration of the 8 will get us back to where we want to be. It has restorative powers. In its negative state, the vibration of the 8 will attempt to conquer and destroy.

## **NINE**

From the power of the 8 we are asked to submit and SURRENDER to the number 9.

Have you ever wondered where the expression, "the nth degree" comes from? Well this number doesn't mess around! Nines symbolize the final point and the need to LET GO. And if you don't let go, it's taken from you anyway. The number 9 brings losses, endings, dislikes, disagreements and finally, disappointment.

When the number 9 appears in your yearly spread of Cards, you must think in Universal terms and embrace something much bigger than yourself. Surrender to the 9! As one door closes, another will open. The positive 9 symbolizes NEW BEGINNINGS.

## **TEN**

The last number - the biggest number - the sum total. This is the number of SUCCESS, the number of achievement and the number of fulfillment.

10s are usually a wonderful number to have in predictions and will strive to give their best and create success and fulfillment. On the other hand, the 10 is very capable of reducing itself to the number **1** ( $1+0=1$ ) and when this happens, the inflated ego creates a false sense of security and we end up tripping over our own personal pride.

## Structure of a playing card deck

The first thing to understand is the structure of a standard deck of cards. There are 52 cards in a standard deck, plus the Jokers. There are four card suits: Clubs, Hearts, Diamonds, and Spades.

- Pip cards – these are the suit cards numbered Ace (1) through 10.
- Face cards – these are the suit cards with people on them. There are three types of people – Jacks, Queens and Kings.
- Joker(s) – there's always at least one joker in the deck. Some decks will contain two jokers that look different from one another.

Every aspect of the deck has meaning. The suits give insight into your mood, behavior, and the areas of life that hold the most influence over you. The numbers represent cycles of life that are constantly changing. By understanding the number vibration, you can determine how circumstances are developing. The face cards signify important people influencing you as well as the roles you play. The Jokers are wild cards and, when they appear, your life is transforming in unusual ways.

### **Get out your playing cards**

We'll be looking at a few ways to use playing cards for simple decision making, so get out your playing cards. If you don't have playing cards, get your tarot deck. As a tarot reader who became a playing card reader, my interpretations are very similar to tarot and are derived from my understanding of suit energies and numerology. These are my correspondences for the suits:

- Cups = Hearts
- Pentacles = Diamonds
- Wands = Clubs
- Swords = Spades

Since there are no Pages or Major Arcana cards in the playing card deck, you will have to remove these from your tarot deck. However, you can keep The Fool in the deck as the Joker.

### **Now, let's look at 4 ways to use your playing cards (or tarot deck) for simple decision making.**

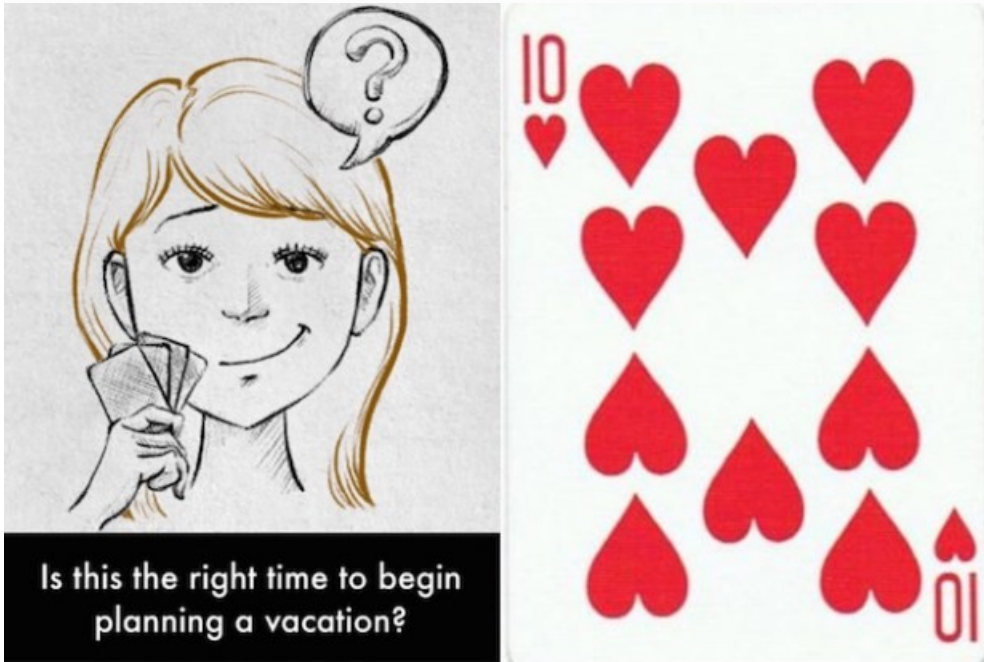
#### **1. Answer yes/no questions**

Playing cards are ideal for answering yes/no questions. There are two red suits (Hearts and Diamonds) and two black suits (Clubs and Spades). In general, the red cards relate to a positive outcome due to patience and persistence (Diamonds) and optimism and happiness (Hearts). The black cards show challenges and obstacles borne out of frustration and impatience (Clubs) and pessimism and unhappiness (Spades).

Therefore, I use the red cards for yes or affirmative answers and black cards for no or negative answers.

Let's say we want to make some decisions about taking a vacation. First, we'll start with a yes/no question.

Use all of the cards in the deck. Select one card and use the card color for your interpretation. Red card = yes. Black card = no. If you get the Joker, this might not be the right time to ask the question. Your life may be transforming in such radical ways that the question becomes irrelevant. The card chosen is the 10 of Diamonds. It's a red card showing YES, it's the right time to plan a vacation.



**A red card signifies YES, this is the right time to plan a vacation.**

## 2. Make Choices

When there are choices to be made, playing card suit descriptions can be helpful. Like tarot, each suit has a variety of correspondences and relates to different desires and actions. Using this information can help you narrow down your choices.

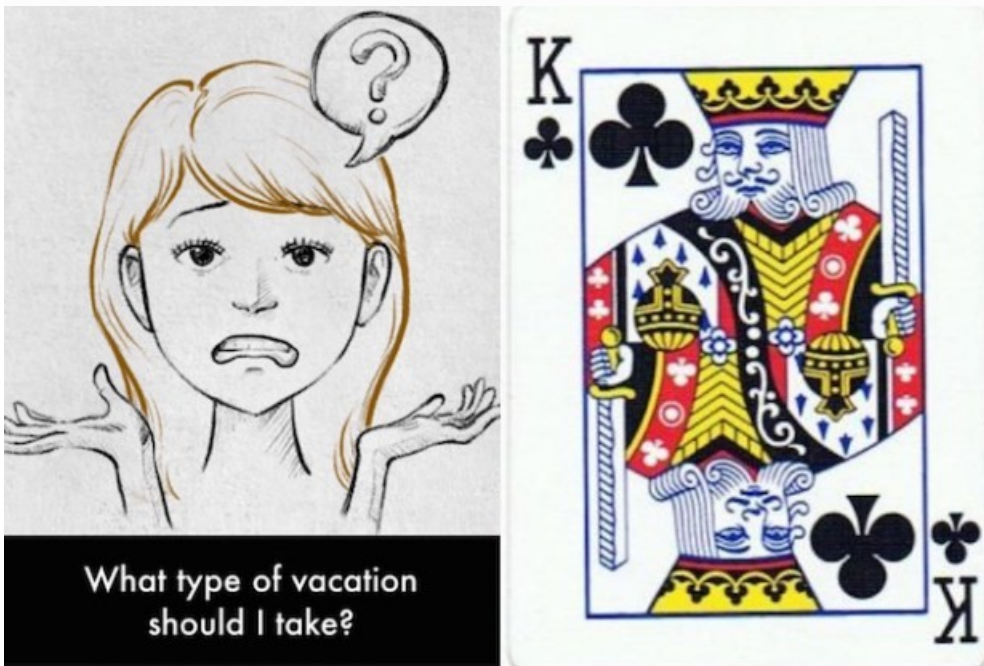
Clubs reflect the drive, energy and ambition you put forward to reach your goals. They show your desire to get moving, take action, defeat the enemy, and achieve victory. Clubs relate to movement, action, exercise and adventure.

Hearts reflect your emotional state, the status of your relationships, and your ideals and wishes. They show your desire to share and cooperate, resolve interpersonal conflicts, and discover what truly makes you happy. Hearts relate to love, romance, dreams, and pleasure.

Diamonds reflect your sense of financial and emotional security, and issues concerning structure and stability. They reflect your desire to acquire things, to increase your financial status, and to feel satisfied with your progress and station in life. Diamonds relate to money, luxury, status, and investments.

Spades reflect areas of blockage, conflict, and a need for change and elimination. They show you when it's time to move on, give up on a bad habit, or release a destructive or unhealthy pattern in your life. Spades relate to detoxification, rehabilitation, and transformative experiences.

Back to our vacation example... Let's figure out what type of vacation to plan. Using our suit correspondences, we'll designate Clubs to reflect an outdoor adventure, Hearts for a romantic getaway, Diamonds for a luxury cruise, and Spades for a detox spa. Use all the cards except the Jokers. Choose one card, looking at the card suit for your answer. We choose the King of Clubs, representing an outdoor adventure.



**The suit of Clubs represents going on an outdoor adventure.**

### 3. Rank Several Options

This method works well when you have several options to choose from. Now that we know what type of vacation to take, we still need a location. We have a list of 5 different options (Arizona, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, Hawaii and Alaska) and would like to see how they rank from the most enjoyable place for our outdoor adventure to the least enjoyable place.

Use all of the cards except the Jokers. Choose one card for each option. The ranking goes from King (highest) to Ace (lowest). These are the cards chosen.



Here's the ranking from most to least enjoyable location:

1. Hawaii – Queen of Clubs
2. Jamaica – Jack of Hearts
3. Puerto Rico – 6 of Spades
4. Arizona – 3 of Diamonds
5. Alaska – Ace of Diamonds



**Based on the cards chosen, the Queen is the highest in rank, showing that Hawaii will bring the most enjoyment.**

#### 4. Determine Timing

With playing cards, we've determined what to do and where to go on vacation. Now we need to figure out the best time of year to go.

There are 52 playing cards corresponding to 52 weeks of the year. There are also 13 cards in each suit corresponding to the 13 weeks in each season. The Ace represents the first week of the season while the King represents the 13th week of the season. Here are my seasonal correspondences for each suit:

- Clubs = Spring
- Hearts = Summer
- Diamonds = Autumn
- Spades = Winter

Use all cards except Jokers. Select one card. The number on the card reveals the week and the suit reveals the season. The 6 of Diamonds is chosen, signifying the 6th week of Autumn which is the last week of October.



**The 6 of Diamonds represents the 6th week of Autumn, the best time for the vacation.**

Using these four decision-making methods, we've come to the conclusion that our next vacation will be an outdoor adventure in Hawaii planned for the last week of October.

**I hope you've enjoyed these simple decision making methods using playing cards.** Be creative and brainstorm new ways to use the card colors, numbers, and suits to answer your questions.

