The * Planets

THE SUN

The Sun is the centre of our solar system and as such symbolises our spirit, our Soul, true essence and the core of our being. Horoscope columns generally centre exclusively around Sun sign positions and aspects, however as we start to cover the planets, you will begin to see how the Sun is only one part (however, a very important and powerful part,) of the whole natal chart. One of the criticisms of Astrology is, how can people all born within the same month have the same horoscope? Monthly and weekly horoscopes are very general, so to look at a person's personality, strengths, weaknesses and characteristics, Astrologers take all of the planets into consideration.

The Sun in Astrology symbolises who we were born to become as without the Sun we would have no life. Often when we are young, we are more in tune with our natal Moon sign, as the Moon concerns our habits, instincts and where we go or retreat to, whenever we feel threatened. Growing into our Sun sign may be a lifelong journey as it can symbolise out life or Soul purpose. Natal astrology also takes into account which area of life the Sun (and all of the other planets) is located in your natal chart as well as the element, quality and energetic interactions (known as aspects) that your Sun makes with other planets.

The Sun rules pride, will, determination, your heart, vitality, health, your sense of purpose & motivation for future goals. It also governs your ego and self-esteem and is considered masculine, yang and influencing significant men or authority figures in your life. It can symbolise the father, boyfriend, husband or boss. Ruling leadership, royalty, public recognition, & self-image by illuminating who we are. It rules the sign of Leo & the heart. The sun takes a year to move around the zodiac.

THE MOON

The Moon symbolises your habits, instincts, to some extent, instinctual emotions and feelings and where we go or retreat to whenever we feel threatened. Early in life, we can often recognise more of the characteristics of our Moon sign in ourselves than our Sun sign, as the Moon shows how we behave in the security of our own home and our private lives.

The Moon can be very connected to the past, as it covers our heredity, considered yin or feminine and can symbolise the Mother and how you perceive women. It rules the sign of Cancer and the stomach and breasts. The Moon takes around 28 days to move around the Zodiac, and during its journey we experience a complete moon phase, which includes a Full Moon and a New Moon.

MERCURY

Mercury is the messenger planet, and as such is the planet of communication, information, logic, and non-emotional, highly rational, objective thought. Mercury is flexible, responsive & adaptable, ruling speaking, writing, socialising, exchanging information and ruling perception, language, editing, research, and early learning experiences and styles. It also rules short distance travel, telecommunications, computing, software, electronics, the postal service, shipping, couriers & transport. It also rules sibling relationships, maps, letters, travel plans, appointments, roadways, cars, advertising, publishing, sales and how we deal with cold hard facts and data. Mercury is considered non-binary or androgynous and rules the signs of Gemini & Virgo, it has an Air element and takes one year to circle the Zodiac.

VENUS

Venus rules love, relating, finances, fun, attraction, relationships and self-worth. Venus also rules your affections and love life as well as what you find pleasurable, including gifts. Venus is considered feminine, ruling fashion, beauty, jewellery & art, denoting all that is beautiful, charming, peaceful and aesthetically pleasing. Known as the planet of love, Venus rules seduction, personal magnetism & receptiveness. Venus rules the signs of Taurus & Libra, the kidneys and nervous system and takes from 10-12 months to tour the Zodiac.

MARS

Mars rules passion, aggression, initiation, war, strength and stamina, sexual energy, drive, competition, motivation and dynamism. It rules the first sign of the zodiac, Aries, symbolising a need to be the first in everything, as well as being the ancient ruler of Scorpio. It is considered masculine and governs all traditionally masculine subjects from sex to war. Mars rules sharp instruments, fire and combustion, as well as physical accidents. Mars rules the blood, male sexual organs and adrenal glands and takes about 2 years to go around the Zodiac.

JUPITER

The planet Jupiter rules good fortune, opportunity, vision, faith, optimism, loyalty, justice, confidence, wisdom & positivity. Jupiter governs philosophy, our beliefs and our higher purpose or meaning. Ruling advanced study in higher education, such as university or college, teaching, religion and law, as well as long distance travel and rules the liver and thighs. Jupiter rules the sign of Sagittarius, as well as being the ancient ruler of Pisces. It takes 12 years to circle the zodiac, and stays in one sign for a whole year.

SATURN

Saturn rules structure, stability, tangible rewards, seriousness, persistence, ambition & productivity. Known as the planet of time and the Great Teacher, Saturn rules delay, constriction, limitations, responsibility, rules, regulations, authority, discipline, control & denial. Jupiter expands while Saturn contracts. Saturn rules Capricorn and is the ancient ruler of Aquarius, governing base structures and

foundations, such as teeth & bones, the organisation of a company and historical artifacts. Saturn takes around 29 years to circle the zodiac, and when Saturn returns back to its natal position in the natal chart, we experience our Saturn Return, which symbolises maturing to the next phase of life.

URANUS

Uranus is the planet of the unexpected, ruling surprises, the future, trailblazers and new technology and inventions, electricity, space travel and revolution. Ruling innovation, iconoclastic people, the maverick, unpredictability & experimentation as well as scientific genius. Uranus breaks the rules & tears down established patterns or structures and denotes sudden, extreme and radical change. Uranus is known as the Great Awakener, ruling rebellion and independence. It can be exciting and liberating, overturning that which is traditional, conventional or orthodox or anything that has outlived its usefulness. Uranus is considered a higher octave of Mercury and covers social change, the global brotherhood of man, humanitarianism and the environment. Uranus rules the sign of Aquarius as well as astrology itself and stays in a sign for 7 years, taking 84 years to circle the zodiac and as such, generations of people will have Uranus in the same sign in their horoscope.

NEPTUNE

Neptune is considered a higher octave of Venus ruling beauty on a higher spiritual level. Neptune also rules dreams, the mystical and magical, the unconscious, illusions, fantasies, inspiration, intuition and compassion, as well as sacrificing for the greater good or for another person. Sensitive, subtle and artistic, Neptune rules glamour and visual communication, such as, photography, ballet, film, dance, music, painting, theatre and poetry. Neptune also rules the sea & bodies of water, alcohol, drugs, escapism, idealism. deception, confusion, hospitals, medication, mental institutions, prisons and confined situations. Neptune is the ruler of Pisces and rules the feet, taking 146 years to circle the zodiac. Neptune stays 14 years in each sign and as such, generations of people will have Neptune in the same sign in their horoscope.

PLUTO

Pluto, known as the Lord of the Underworld, rules power, sex, manipulation, jealousy, possessiveness, psychology, obsession, transformation, the phoenix rising from the ashes, rebirth and regeneration. Pluto rules life & death and that which is hidden or buried, such as, secrets, undercover work, detectives and spying, as well as mines and mining. It can symbolise our shadow side and the taboo. Pluto rules the sign of Scorpio, as well as the sexual reproductive organs, taking 246 years to circle the zodiac, Pluto stays anywhere from 11-32 years in a sign and as such, is known as a generational planet.