



THE CELESTIAL SEASONS

WHAT'S MERCURY
RETROGRADE AND
WHAT'S THE PHASE OF
THE MOON?

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FOR CONNECT

Celestial Seasons?

Have you ever thought about how the sun and planets in our solar system might have an effect on your personality and life? Since I started following the phases of the moon and the characteristics of the different zodiac signs, I noticed that my own life generally seemed to be going through phases that were in line with what each sign represented.

Since you might still be learning, I'll explain some of the basics for you. Please note, this isn't meant to be a full astrology class, but more like a basic overview.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Fire

Some consider this to be the real New Year time. Aries is fiery, out for the underdog, opinionated, courageous, temperamental, and ready to ram heads to prove a point!

Associated planet: Mars

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Earth

Taurus is earthy and hedonistic, ruled by Venus. Very grounded, focused, sensual, hard-working, and realistic.

Associated planet Venus

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Air

Gemini can be chatty, airy, intellectual, and a bit two-faced (sometimes in a good way, seeing both sides of an issue, sometimes not).

Associated planet Mercury

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Water

Cancers are sensitive, protective, and sometimes moody. They are extremely empathetic and caring, but sometimes a bit, well, crabby!

Associated celestial body the Moon

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Fire

Leos are charismatic, self-focused, and the life of the party! They want to be center stage and have all eyes on them. Focus outward appearance.

Associated celestial body the Sun

Virgo (August 23-October 22)

Virgos are the perfectionists of the Zodiac. They pay attention to details, including facts about loved ones. They are very hard working and loyal, but can be easy to frustrate and a little OCD.

Planet associated Mercury

Libra (September 23-October 22)

Libras are associated with balance and justice. They can see the truth in situations, and they are extremely charming. Unfortunately, though, they might not stand up for themselves when they need to.

Associated planet Venus

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Water

Scorpios are secretive and mystic. They love deeply and entirely, but can be jealous and possessive. They are persistent and loyal, curious, and sexually motivated.

Associated planet Mars (and Pluto)

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Fire

Sagittarius march to the beat of their own drummer. They are optimistic and driven, adventurous and they will help those around them grow. Unfortunately, they can't keep secrets and are often very blunt when expressing their opinions.

Associated planet Jupiter

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Earth

Capricorns are known for their steadfast dedication to doing what they put their mind to, no matter how long it takes. They are ambitious and realistic, but they might be overly serious and driven.

Associated planet Saturn

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Air

Aquarians are the forward thinking, ultra-peaced out and visionary members of society. They are thinking about expansion and how to make the world a better place. Sometimes, though, they can be loners who aren't really connected within themselves or grounded.

Associated planet Uranus (and Saturn)

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Pisces are the last sign of the zodiac, so it is thought that they have incarnated many times before and are therefore old souls. They are deep thinkers and love deeply, too. They might spend a little bit too much time looking back and might be a bit too "watery" for some.

Planet associated Neptune

So what does it all mean??

Basically put, the zodiac seasons (from a Northern Hemisphere context) also relate to the energy that is swirling around and within us during different times of the year.

Think of the spring, with everything budding and erupting from the earth, bringing new life, new ideas, and a sense of renewed enthusiasm to the world around (and within us). Or the deep winter frost of Pisces, cosy and comfy inside but looking back into the past to find the warmth and vitality to bring forth a new day.

Now that you have a little bit of information about the characteristics associated with the different zodiac signs and their related times of the year, you can start to journal about or tune in to how these energies affect your own life, projects, and ways of thinking interacting with world around you.

You can also start noting how your friends either fit in with or don't fit in with the commonly linked characteristics of the zodiac signs they were born into.

Of course, each person has a variety of different celestial influences tied to their birthday that have a great impact on the person's identity and personality. A person's Sun Sign is likely what they show to the world, but there are a host of other planetary influences that make up the total package each of us identifies with.

CELESTIAL BODIES AND YOUR PERSONALITY

The Sun	Your outward personallity
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The Moon	Your moods/emotional atmosphere
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Mercury	Your communication style
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Venus	Your love life and esthetic nature
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Mars	Your passions, temper, and the fire that lights your way.
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Jupiter	Your luck and financial situation
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Saturn	Your drive and level of motivation
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Uranus	Your spirit and individual connection to the world around and within you.
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Neptune	Your need for and level of secrecy/what you keep secret
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AND THE INFLUENCE OF THE MOON

The Moon and its cycles exert a huge influence over humans. It's been well-documented with stories and research by various sources—magical and scientific.

It makes sense, though. The Moon is the closest celestial body to our planet; it is pulled along by the magnetic force of the Earth. It affects the tides in the largest bodies of water on the planet, and humans are like 89% water!

Women, especially, are pulled by the energy of the Moon. Some women cycle during the New Moon, which puts them at a lower-energy level because their bodies are using the energy they have for menses. Other women have their cycle at the Full Moon period, though, and their cycle has them at a higher energy level during the New Moon than they experience when they are at the Full Moon.

When you are working on promoting, growing, or nurturing your life, you will want to be mindful of how your personal energy flows regarding the moon phases. Your personal energy and how it is affected by the moon will be one aspect for you to consider; the other aspect is how the moon traditionally is said to affect all life on earth.

When considering the Moon's role in magic, ritual, and law of attraction work, you might want to do personal work (motivation, writing, etc.) according to your own rhythm and your bigger work according to the cycles of the Moon.

Have you ever worked with or even noticed how the Moon affects your life? If so, what effects has it had?

WORKING WITH THE MOON



When the moon is growing (waxing), you work on building, increasing, and growing things.



When the moon is shrinking (waning), you work on cutting, minimizing, losing, decreasing things.



It's best to only work on one main desire/goal/wish for an entire moon cycle.



You can charge your crystals and tarot decks under the full moon. * *



The last quarter of the Waxing Moon is the best time for cutting cords and getting rid of anything that doesn't serve you any longer.



The first quarter of the Waning Moon is the best time for making plans for creative projects, growth, and taking action on new, exciting adventures.



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Under the New Moon

New Moon energy is great for closing things out (pre) or planting seeds for new things(post). The dark Moon can also be a great time to clean your slate and start with an energy that is open to all potentials and opportunities.

Use the New Moon phase as a time to step back, rest, and reflect. You can pause in order to really consider which course is right for you to take. You can fantasize about what you truly want in life and how to make your dreams a reality.

You can set this time as a time to just "be", not really to do. Or you can let go of anything that isn't serving you, especially in that ultra-powerful pre-phase.

You'll have time for expansion, growth, and taking things to the next level as the moon grows. Sometimes a day or two of rest and visualization will help you be more in the creative flow and also stave off any overwhelm or burnout you might be experiencing.

Remember that rest is just as important as action is. Letting go creates space for bringing what you truly want into your life.

This is a great time to get in the habit of doing a little house cleaning, decluttering, and saging under the New Moon.

Maintaining the energy of your space is really important to getting the best results from your work and it's good to use the energy of the New Moon to support even the most mundane tasks in life. It will add an element of magic to your chores!

Under the Full Moon

When the Moon is at her fullest point, it's good to start working on expansion (right before the fullest point).

It's a time when you can clearly look at what you might have had in the darkness before, to check in with your shadows (and make friends with them).

And the full power of the Moon can be used to charge up your divination tools, like crystals and tarot cards. You can also meditate under the full moon to see what inspiration and advice comes from the energy.

Take a look at your life under the brightness of the full moon. Is there anything that has grown to capacity that needs to be celebrated and released? Has anything just gotten to be too much? What can you shed?

Also, remember that the full moon energy can be very powerful for everyone. It might make some act out—you see what is normally hidden in shadows. Be kind to yourself and everyone around you if you are aware it is the full moon.

Try not to take things personally, but use what comes up as tools for introspection and growth.

Track your energy cycles

Even though there are specific "classic" responses to the energy of the moon, your cycle might be aligned a little bit differently. This is a part of human evolution ensuring that there are some calm people when the moon is full and energetic go-getters when the moon is dark.

Make a point to track your energy levels at the new and full moons, and also as the moon grows and shrinks in the sky.

Honor your individual characteristics and the way that you, personally, work with the energy of the moon (and planets too!).