

Court card basics.

I see the 16 court cards as separate to the rest of the deck, and they are the characters of the Tarot.

I DO NOT see the court cards as representing specific ages or gender. They can at times (the pages can represent a child, the Queen of Swords can represent a divorced woman). But more usually the cards reflect psychology, attitude, roles and masks. Then a 60 year old man can be a page, and a 12 year old girl can be a king.

We all have aspects of all 16 court cards- though some of these cards in you may be projected onto others, some you may hate about yourself, and some you may feel totally at home with.

All of the 16 court cards are equal. Any suggestion you pick up that they are not says more about you than the court cards.

So lets get started. Before you read anything more we're going to go through the court cards and get a feel for you, what love- and what you don't!

(There is a video of me doing this exercise- but I strongly suggest you do it for yourself first.)

Separate the 16 court cards from the rest of your deck.

Start to separate them into piles, even if you are confused or don't understand the court cards, you can still do this exercise- just by looking at the card.

I suggest the piles are:

1/like 2/Don't like 3/Not sure

Look at each card one by one.

- How does it make you feel?
- What do you know about this card? Do you like or dislike it based on what you know?

- Would you like to spend time with this person?
- Don't over think this- there is no right or wrong answers, you are using the cards as a personal reflection tool.
- If you read the cards for yourself you may like or dislike a card based on who it represents for you- this is fine. This is a deeply personal exercise.

Make a note of which cards are in each pile.

- Which is the smallest pile? Do you have strong feelings about the court cards- in general do you like or dislike them?
- If you find one pile is huge, or most of the cards are in one pile it is worth going through that pile again- and tuning in, and repeating the exercise.

Now go through the cards and research some of the meanings (I have a whole module on that).

The cards you like will probably represent the parts (roles) that you are happy or confident with. Or people in your life that you are close to.

The cards you don't like will probably represent your "shadow self" or the parts (roles) that you are less comfortable with. Or people in your life you project these parts onto.

The cards you are ambiguous about are more likely to represent your shadow self, or simply parts (roles) that you haven't really needed up to this point in your life.

Check out my "shadow card" video to watch me go through this process.