

## How to read a Tarot card, step by step.

### What does the card refer to?

1. LOOK at the card. Stop (don't panic by going into "oh God, it's a court card mode"). Just take a breath, and look at the card. Allow yourself to read the symbols and take in the image.
2. The card is **most likely** to represent you, or your querent (whoever the reading is for). Tune in- does this feel right?
3. The card **may** represent someone else in the querent's life (partner, boss, mother etc) if it is not the querent does it feel like someone else?
4. **If it is not someone** (and 90% of the time I find a court card is a person) then the court card may be referring to an action or event.
5. Remember the question, and the narrative between the cards will help support your intuitive connection with the court card.

### Understanding a court card.

A court card is deciphered by understanding the **suit** and **rank**.

I do not believe the cards refer to biological gender or age, rather psychology.

I do not believe a king is "better" than a page.

### Rank

**Page: "I explore"** Young at heart, playful, learning, at the start of something new.

**Knight: "I am determined"** Testing, a challenge, determined to achieve, pushing forward with a plan.

**Queen: "I am self-focused"** Secure, meeting your own needs, personal mastery, on my own terms.

**King: "I lead"** Responsible for others, an expert or authority, in charge, leadership.

**Suit** (and do look back at the last module for more detail)

**Wands: “with enthusiastic energy.”** Intuition, energy, passion, iNtuition (the bigger picture, abstract)

**Cups: “with heartfelt energy.”** Feelings, emotions, creative, soulful, empathic.

**Swords: “with logic and reason.”** Left brain, logical, rational, thoughts and words.

**Pentacles: “in a practical way.”** The body, physical world, money, work and home. Manifesting and experiencing.

Key symbols to look for.

**All**

- Where are they looking?
- How are they holding/interacting with their suit.
- Body language.
- Clothing.

**Pages:** Look at their relationship with their suit.

**Knights:** Look at their horse.

**Queens & Kings:** Look at how they sit on their throne.

**Wands**

- Is their wand grounded?
- Look for the salamander (or sunflower)
- Look for the red feathers.

**Cups**

- How water is portrayed on the card.
- Find the fish (in each card!)
- The cup, anything special about it, and how the person is looking at/holding the cup.

## **Swords**

- Birds and clouds- a really big clue to the psychology of the card.
- Placement of the sword. (Can you see the end, can they see their sword? Is it straight or angled.)

## **Pentacles**

- The landscape (blue mountains show potential)
- How they are holding their suit.
- Notice they all have a golden sky.
- Vegetation.

**An affirmation, warning, and likely meanings if not a person.**

## **Page of Wands:**

- "I am open to enjoying new possibilities."
- Watch out for exhaustion, and giving up part way through.
- The unexpected!

## **Knight of Wands:**

- "I can do this."
- Slow down and plan this through!
- Sexual connection, or anger. A journey, movement, or adventure.

## **Queen of Wands:**

- "I want....."
- It's OK to compromise.
- A situation where you are expected to shine or be confident.

### **King of wands:**

- “I trust my vision, and myself”
- Watch out for controlling behaviour (yours or others)
- Can be manipulative (I don’t want to be here, but I don’t want to make room for anyone else).
- Leadership, possibly unlooked for.

### **Page of Cups:**

- “I am comfortable expressing my emotions.”
- Watch out for big emotions, are they real or an act?
- A message of love, psychic message, possible baby or beginning of something.

### **Knight of Cups:**

- “I’m led by my heart.”
- Someone (or thing) that looks too good to be true, probably isn’t.
- A romantic or creative proposal, a relationship or declaration of love. An opportunity to do something you would love to do.

### **Queen of Cups:**

- “My emotions are important, and valid.”
- Keep good boundaries in place.
- Taking time to heal, dream, love, or create.

### **King of Cups:**

- “Sometimes it is right to put others first.”
- Watch out for people pleasing.
- Needing to put your emotions to one side to do what is needed.

### **Page of Swords:**

- “I am investigating the truth of the matter.”

- Watch out for hyper-vigilance and detachment.
- News coming in that may cause trouble, arguments.

### **Knight of swords:**

- “A clear focus will win the day.”
- Slow down, this is heading to burn out.
- The need to be ultra focused and work hard (or fast)

### **Queen of Swords:**

- “I confidently speak my truth.”
- Your truth may not be the only and complete truth.
- A logical approach is needed in. Writing or communication in some form.

### **King of swords:**

- “I manage my time well.”
- Lighten up a little- have some fun!
- You may need to seek professional advice, or to step in and advise/project manage in some way.

### **Page of Pentacles:**

- “I am focused on the details.”
- Don’t allow the details to create procrastination.
- There may be an opportunity to study, or an increase in finances.

### **Knight of Pentacles:**

- “Slow and steady with careful preparation.”
- Don’t get stuck in a rut.
- Money coming in, a firm offer, travel or movement.

**Queen of Pentacles:**

- “I nurture myself.”
- Watch out for OCD.
- Can indicate a commitment within a relationship, or a child. Also connected with home or a self employed business.

**King of Pentacles:**

- “I appreciate the joy of the moment.”
- Don’t over focus on the material.
- Great news, or a wonderful experience. A positive finance card.