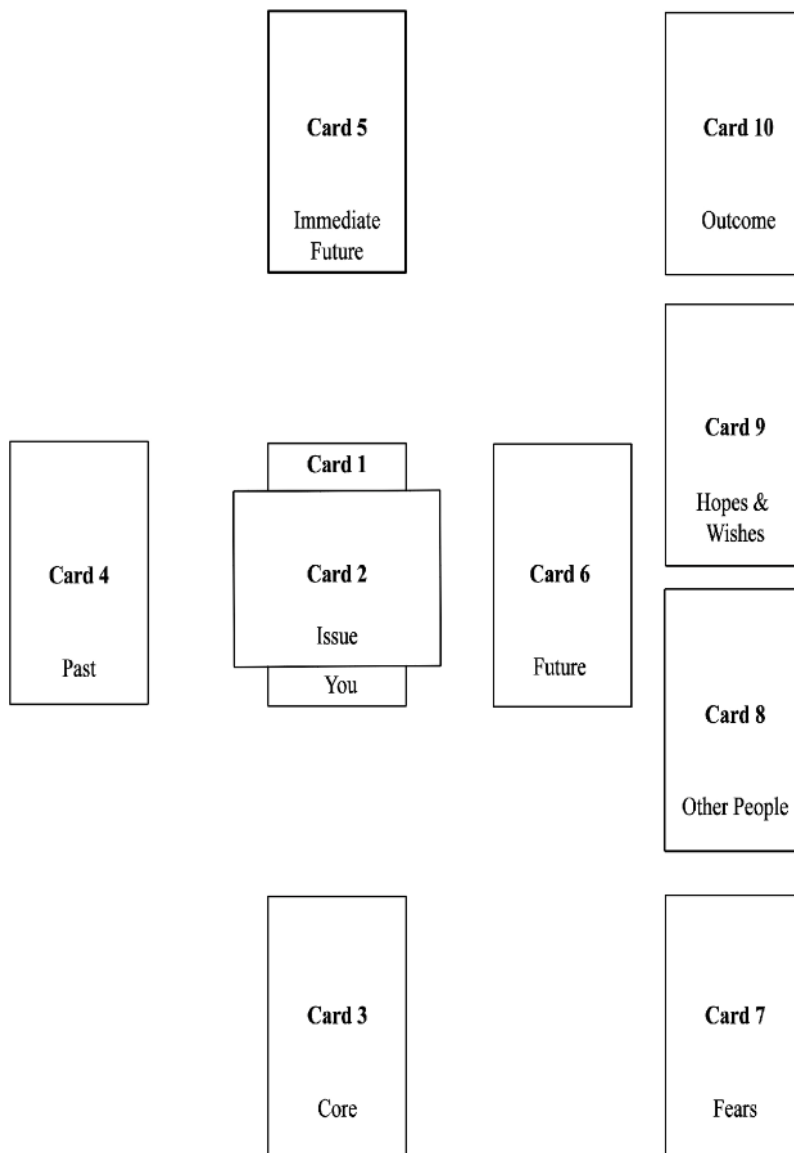


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Tarot Course Exercise One - Celtic Cross

There are 10 positions in the spread.



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Position 1 is the situation.

Position 2 crosses position 1 and this will often bring up the real issue or the challenge. This is the opposing factor.

Position 3 is below 1 and 2 and this adds further detail to the present situation. It is the root cause of the problem.

Position 4 to the left indicates the past.

Position 5 above the cross indicates influences which are leaving and the immediate future. It can also be the goal of the querant.

Position 6 to the right is close future.

Position 7 at the bottom of the vertical line indicates the fears of the querant. This can also be how you see yourself.

Position 8 directly above 7 indicates other people. It can represent matters of the home.

Position 9 directly above 8 indicates the hopes and wishes of the querant. There is often some key guidance with this card.

Position 10 at the top of the row indicates the outcome.

For more information you can put another row from bottom to top beside the first one. You can continue adding rows, which will give even more information.

You would normally only do this if the outcome is not clear. This may be that the question is unclear or has not yet been decided.

When you add extra rows to the Celtic Cross spread, it can add considerably additional insight to the reading.

You can read up the columns from the bottom to the top. You can also read across each line, so you have additional information on Your Fears, The Influence of Other People, Hopes and the Outcome.

Celtic Cross Spread

This is probably one of the most widely used spreads because it gives an overview of the past, the current situation and of the expected outcome of the situation. It is important to remember that the outcome is based on the person's current state of mind and emotions and assumes that the person does nothing to change that outcome.

It can be a useful spread to compare outcomes if certain actions are taken. This is often called the "Alternate Future". For example "what will be the outcome if I stay in my current job?" and "what will be the outcome if I take this new job I have been offered?"

The Celtic Cross Spread can be used as a general introductory spread, which can highlight specific issues for further exploration. It can then be used very effectively to explore those issues.

The Celtic Cross Spread is also very useful in looking at goals. You can see very easily what the Querant's true hopes and fears are around this goal, as well as what might be blocking him/her from achieving the success he/she desires.

You can also see how other people might be helpful or not in achieving this goal. The clearer you are about what you want to know, the easier it will be to get a meaningful answer and some helpful guidance.

The most commonly asked question is a question requiring a Yes/No answer, such as "Will I get that job?" "Will he ask me out on a date?" "Should I move house?" "Is my daughter going to pass her exams?" "Should I marry that man?"

Be very careful with trying to answer a Yes/No question, as it may be more appropriate to ask a question such as

"What would be the likely outcome if I did this or that?" or

"What do I need to know to make a decision about?"

"What would most help me to move forward in this situation?"

"How can I improve the communication between me and ...?"

When asking questions, it is important to remember that we cannot change the behaviour of someone else because they might change their mind and do something completely different

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Practice.

Take out all the Major Arcana cards. There are two questions being asked, one about a work situation and one about a personal relationship.

At the moment the person simply wants to know what is happening with those situations and what direction they are going in. Think about what you might say to the person sitting in front of you. Remember to remind them that the cards are indicating the general outcome of a situation IF they do not make any changes. However they have the free will to make changes to any situation.

1) What is happening with my work situation?

Place the following cards in the Celtic Cross positions and begin your interpretation. Make a note of your answers in your tarot journal.

- 1) The Hierophant
- 2) The Chariot
- 3) Judgment
- 4) Death
- 5) The Moon
- 6) Emperor
- 7) The Hermit
- 8) Wheel Of Fortune
- 9) The Star
- 10) The Magician

2) What is happening with my relationship?

- 1) High Priestess
- 2) Strength
- 3) Justice
- 4) Devil
- 5) The Fool
- 6) The Lovers
- 7) The Tower
- 8) The Hanged Man
- 9) The Empress
- 10) Temperance

Write down your answers. Take note of any thoughts, feelings and impressions that come to mind as you are doing this exercise.

Using the same questions, shuffle and cut the cards and lay them out again, maybe thinking of yourself (if applicable) or someone else. Practice doing this, so that different cards come up in different positions. Write down your answers in your tarot journal.

Go with the first impressions that come to you. When you have done that, then check back with the definitions in your notes, just to add extra distinctions to your own meanings.