

78-Card Tarot Keyword Guide

Quickly review each card's core theme, upright keywords, and reversed guidance. Designed for daily pulls, tarot journaling, and beginner reflection.

How to use	Look at the imagery and notice your intuition first, then use the keywords as support. Keywords are not fixed answers; they help you ask better questions.
Upright	The energy may be flowing more freely, expressed outwardly, or easier for you to notice right now.
Reversed	May suggest blockage, internalization, excess, or an area needing adjustment; it does not automatically mean something bad.

Reading notes

- Ask "What is this card inviting me to notice?" instead of "What will definitely happen?"
- A card changes tone with the question, its position, and the cards around it.
- When a keyword creates anxiety, return to facts, feelings, needs, and one practical next step.

Major Arcana

Life stages, core lessons, and major turning points.

Card	Core theme	Upright keywords	Reversed guidance
0 The Fool	Beginnings, freedom, trust	adventure, innocence, potential, spontaneity	recklessness, avoidance, hesitation, poor preparation
I The Magician	Will, creation, manifestation	action, resources, focus, confidence	manipulation, distraction, unused talent, ideas without action
II The High Priestess	Intuition, inner wisdom	stillness, mystery, feeling, subconscious	ignoring intuition, withdrawal, confusion, missing information
III The Empress	Nurture, abundance, creativity	care, beauty, growth, receptivity	overgiving, dependence, stagnation, self-neglect
IV The Emperor	Order, responsibility, boundaries	leadership, stability, structure, authority	rigidity, control, domination, lack of discipline
V The Hierophant	Tradition, learning, beliefs	mentor, rules, ritual, belonging	rebellion, dogma, questioning, value conflict
VI The Lovers	Choice, relationship, aligned values	connection, attraction, partnership, commitment	imbalance, conflict, temptation, misaligned values
VII The Chariot	Direction, willpower, momentum	victory, self-control, determination, steering your course	loss of control, haste, unclear direction, resistance
VIII Strength	Gentle power, courage	patience, confidence, compassion, resilience	self-doubt, repression, impulse, low energy
IX The Hermit	Solitude, seeking truth	reflection, introspection, guidance, wisdom	isolation, avoidance, feeling lost, refusing help
X Wheel of Fortune	Cycles, turning points, opportunity	change, good timing, chance, cause and effect	delay, repetition, resisting change, lack of control
XI Justice	Fairness, consequence, honesty	accountability, judgment, balance, agreements	bias, avoiding responsibility, injustice, consequences surfacing
XII The Hanged Man	Pause, new perspective, release	waiting, surrender, reframing, allowing	delay, futility, attachment, refusing change
XIII Death	Ending, transformation, renewal	release, transition, clearing, rebirth	resisting endings, stagnation, fear of change, old ties
XIV Temperance	Harmony, pacing, healing	balance, patience, integration, moderation	excess, imbalance, rushing, scattered energy
XV The Devil	Attachment, desire, shadow	dependency, temptation, material focus, fixation	seeing the chains, release, recovery, reclaiming choice
XVI The Tower	Shock, truth, collapse	disruption, liberation, awakening, rebuilding	avoiding impact, inner breakdown, delayed change, aftershocks
XVII The Star	Hope, healing, trust	inspiration, calm, renewal, vision	disappointment, pessimism, disconnection, lost confidence
XVIII The Moon	Uncertainty, subconscious, illusion	dreams, sensitivity, intuition, ambiguity	truth emerging, easing anxiety, self-deception, emotional fog
XIX The Sun	Clarity, joy, success	vitality, warmth, optimism, recognition	blocked joy, overconfidence, fatigue, delayed success
XX Judgement	Awakening, calling, review	forgiveness, decision, renewal, answering a call	self-criticism, hesitation, refusing the call, old grievances
XXI The World	Completion, integration, wholeness	achievement, travel, belonging, closure	unfinished business, delay, poor follow-through, restricted horizons

Wands

Action, passion, creativity, and forward movement.

Card	Core theme	Upright keywords	Reversed guidance
Ace of Wands	Spark, action, inspiration	new drive, enthusiasm, creativity, opportunity	low motivation, delay, distraction, burnout
Two of Wands	Planning, vision, choice	future view, decision, expansion, agency	fear of the unknown, weak plan, hesitation, narrow view
Three of Wands	Expansion, results in motion	progress, cooperation, distance, strategy	delay, blockage, poor teamwork, short-term thinking
Four of Wands	Celebration, stability, belonging	reunion, milestone, home, security	tension, delayed celebration, weak foundation, distance
Five of Wands	Competition, friction, adjustment	challenge, debate, training, different views	conflict avoidance, inner tension, pointless argument, pressure easing
Six of Wands	Recognition, victory, confidence	achievement, praise, leadership, honor	ego, lost recognition, setback, dependence on applause
Seven of Wands	Position, defense, courage	persistence, boundaries, competition, protecting gains	exhaustion, giving in, overdefensiveness, overload
Eight of Wands	Speed, messages, movement	rapid progress, travel, momentum, alignment	delay, confusion, blocked messages, rushing
Nine of Wands	Resilience, vigilance, final push	preparedness, experience, endurance, holding a boundary	burnout, suspicion, rigidity, need for rest
Ten of Wands	Responsibility, burden, near completion	commitment, pressure, effort, finishing	putting burdens down, refusing overwork, unequal responsibility, collapse
Page of Wands	Curiosity, exploration, good news	inspiration, learning, adventure, expression	lack of direction, impulsiveness, short-lived interest, delayed news
Knight of Wands	Action, passion, conquest	courage, speed, charisma, change	recklessness, impatience, instability, conflict
Queen of Wands	Confidence, warmth, independence	magnetism, optimism, sociability, creativity	jealousy, forcefulness, low confidence, moodiness
King of Wands	Vision, leadership, enterprise	foresight, responsibility, influence, decisiveness	domination, impulsiveness, overpromising, impatience

Cups

Feelings, relationships, intuition, and emotional flow.

Card	Core theme	Upright keywords	Reversed guidance
Ace of Cups	Emotional opening, love, healing	new connection, feeling, compassion, fulfillment	emotional closure, blocked affection, emptiness, suppression
Two of Cups	Mutuality, connection, partnership	attraction, reconciliation, trust, cooperation	imbalance, misunderstanding, separation, one-sided effort
Three of Cups	Friendship, celebration, support	community, reunion, sharing, joy	gossip, over-socializing, exclusion, disharmony
Four of Cups	Withdrawal, reassessment	contemplation, boredom, missed chance, reflection	renewed interest, noticing opportunity, movement, motivation returning
Five of Cups	Loss, grief, regret	sadness, disappointment, focusing on what is missing, healing	acceptance, release, hope returning, reconnection
Six of Cups	Memory, innocence, the past	nostalgia, kindness, childhood, reunion	stuck in the past, immaturity, idealization, moving forward
Seven of Cups	Choices, imagination, temptation	possibility, fantasy, wishes, evaluation	seeing clearly, decision difficulty, disillusionment, focus
Eight of Cups	Leaving, seeking deeper meaning	release, departure, journey, search	fear of leaving, backtracking, avoidance, postponing a decision
Nine of Cups	Satisfaction, wish fulfilled	enjoyment, gratitude, comfort, confidence	excess, shallow satisfaction, indulgence, disappointment
Ten of Cups	Emotional fulfillment, shared happiness	harmony, belonging, longevity, shared vision	family conflict, unmet expectations, rupture, instability
Page of Cups	Emotional message, inspiration, tenderness	creativity, intuition, affection, surprise	emotional immaturity, avoidance, oversensitivity, unclear message
Knight of Cups	Romance, invitation, following the heart	courtship, proposal, art, idealism	unreality, emotional manipulation, disappointment, unstable promise
Queen of Cups	Empathy, intuition, care	gentleness, receptivity, emotional maturity, listening	oversensitivity, self-sacrifice, dependence, emotional overwhelm
King of Cups	Emotional steadiness, compassion, diplomacy	maturity, patience, calm, support	emotional suppression, manipulation, detachment, loss of control

Swords

Thought, communication, conflict, and decision-making.

Card	Core theme	Upright keywords	Reversed guidance
Ace of Swords	Truth, clarity, breakthrough	new idea, judgment, communication, decision	confusion, misjudgment, harmful words, lack of clarity
Two of Swords	Stalemate, weighing options, self-protection	dilemma, pause, reason, boundaries	information arriving, decision, avoidance, emotional breakthrough
Three of Swords	Heartbreak, separation, painful truth	grief, disappointment, conflict, release	healing, forgiveness, suppressed pain, recovery
Four of Swords	Rest, recovery, pause	retreat, reflection, solitude, recharge	anxiety, inability to rest, exhaustion, returning to action
Five of Swords	Conflict, winning, cost	argument, self-protection, victory, tension	reconciliation, regret, ending the fight, old resentment
Six of Swords	Transition, leaving difficulty	movement, healing, progress, assistance	stagnation, unresolved issues, turning back, delayed journey
Seven of Swords	Strategy, secrecy, independent action	cleverness, discretion, flexibility, indirect approach	truth exposed, self-deception, guilty conscience, failed plan
Eight of Swords	Restriction, feeling trapped, negative beliefs	powerlessness, anxiety, self-limitation, passivity	release, new view, owning choices, freedom
Nine of Swords	Anxiety, insomnia, guilt	worry, nightmares, self-blame, stress	facing fear, seeking help, relief, deeper suppression
Ten of Swords	Painful ending, rock bottom	ending, betrayal, collapse, acceptance	recovery, worst is over, resisting closure, old wounds
Page of Swords	Observation, learning, messages	curiosity, alertness, communication, investigation	gossip, haste, sharp words, weak planning
Knight of Swords	Fast decision, pursuit of truth	directness, ambition, action, challenge	recklessness, aggression, haste, lost direction
Queen of Swords	Clarity, independence, boundaries	honesty, insight, directness, fairness	coldness, harshness, isolation, bias
King of Swords	Reason, authority, principle	strategy, logic, truth, expertise	abuse of power, detachment, manipulation, rigidity

Pentacles

Money, body, work, and practical foundations.

Card	Core theme	Upright keywords	Reversed guidance
Ace of Pentacles	Practical opportunity, resources, seed	income, health, learning, stable beginning	missed chance, weak plan, wasted resources, delay
Two of Pentacles	Balance, adaptation, multitasking	flexibility, time management, budgeting, rhythm	imbalance, overload, confusion, unclear priorities
Three of Pentacles	Cooperation, skill, building	teamwork, learning, recognition, professional growth	poor coordination, low quality, weak effort, working in silos
Four of Pentacles	Security, control, preservation	saving, boundaries, stability, valuing resources	stinginess, fear of loss, letting go, financial instability
Five of Pentacles	Scarcity, hardship, exclusion	financial stress, loneliness, asking for help, health challenge	support arriving, gradual recovery, opportunity, leaving hardship
Six of Pentacles	Giving, receiving, fair exchange	generosity, assistance, reciprocity, resource sharing	strings attached, inequality, debt, overdependence
Seven of Pentacles	Patience, review, long-term effort	cultivation, waiting, assessing results, steady growth	low return, impatience, course correction, uneven investment
Eight of Pentacles	Practice, focus, mastery	diligence, skill, detail, craftsmanship	carelessness, perfectionism, repetition without growth, poor focus
Nine of Pentacles	Independence, results, quality of life	self-sufficiency, refinement, reward, boundaries	dependence, overspending, isolation, unstable gains
Ten of Pentacles	Long-term stability, legacy, inheritance	wealth, family, tradition, strong foundation	family money conflict, short-term thinking, legacy pressure, weak foundation
Page of Pentacles	Learning practical skills, new opportunity	planning, study, work news, grounded start	delay, impracticality, insufficient learning, missed opportunity
Knight of Pentacles	Reliability, patience, execution	responsibility, routine, practicality, steady progress	stagnation, stubbornness, fatigue, inefficiency
Queen of Pentacles	Care for practical life, abundance	resourcefulness, warmth, management, self-care	work-life imbalance, over-worrying, self-neglect, insecurity
King of Pentacles	Stability, stewardship, material maturity	wealth management, reliability, leadership, lasting results	materialism, control, greed, excessive caution