

The Houses or Departments of life

You will notice that the horoscope is divided into sections. Astrologers refer to these sections as houses and they represent various departments of life. In the natal horoscope you will notice that some houses have 'things' in them and other don't. Broadly speaking those with 'things' in them suggest these areas are in focus or have special emphasis in this life. The 'things,' can be planets, luminaries, asteroids, fixed stars etc, and are represented by symbols that the astrologer can read. People often interpret those containing nothing, as meaning that the house symbolism may not be important. It would be more accurate to say that their will be more activity and heighten sensitivity to the houses containing planets, luminaries, asteroids, fixed stars etc.

1st House or Ascendant is an important point on the horoscope and is determined by your birth time, it represents the persona or image you show or market to the world and how you want the world to see you. It also indicates how the people initially perceive you...at least until they get to know you more. It represents your immediate reaction with others and the environment; represents the birth, first awareness, hence the persona.

Pay attention to planets within 4 degrees of the Ascendant as they will influence or be fused with the persona.

2nd House represents your financial affairs and what you value. It concerns itself with your capacity to use your resources to earn a living: material possessions. It is about what you become attached to or value and how you derive your sense of self worth.

3rd House concerns itself with daily communication, short journeys (of the routine type) and communication activities and what one needs to get on with day to day living. It covers practical study, rather than profound study, and mental pursuits. It is also connected with your brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles and often describes the relationship you have with them.

4th House is about your foundation, roots or base of operation such as home: land or estate. It described your parents or similar support. It describes our connection to the past, early childhood upbringing and conditioning. Describes conditions at the end of life, it is about your subjective self and represents the most nurturing parent.

5th House is associated with affairs of the heart, romance, real estate speculation, creativity and sense of fun. Recreation and activities pursued for pleasure i.e. your self expression are found here. It rules amusement places, concerts, sporting events: public and speculative adventures. As it rules children in general (particularly the 1st) the sign on the cusp of the 5th house can indicate how you raise them and any difficulties associated with childbirth, eg Saturn ruling or in the 5th may indicated the inability to conceive a child easily or at all or might mean that the mother had a difficult childbirth. Talks of how you will raise the children.

6th House suggests the type of work you are attracted to often an indicator of health and healing potential and areas of where you can be of service. It suggests how you look after yourself on a daily basis, i.e. your personal habits. It rules employment...a job (not career which is 10th house) the relationship with superiors, subordinates and co-workers. It rules food, clothing creature comforts and pets. It has been called the House of Service in that it portrays ones capacity to serve.

7th House represents business and marriage or committed relationships. It indicates the type of partnership experience you attract into you life. It is also the house of open enemies i.e. enemies you will know about! It defines the outcome of all contention, oppositions, strife, enmities, pleas and fines. It describes the native's reaction to the law and becomes the House of the Public showing the person agents, partner, adversaries' lawsuits and contracts. It rules business partnerships.

8th House is about endings and as such is about death and taxes! It is concerned with other people's money and how you look after it! In relation to your partner it describes their attitude to money. Personally it is concerned death and rebirth, with sex, regeneration of self from a spiritual, physical and psychological level. In other words it describes cycles and transformation i.e. changes as a result of letting go and going beyond. It also describes inheritances.

9th House is connected with higher learning and philosophical pursuits it is also connected with long journeys, foreign travel and overseas connections. It describes the in laws. It rules publishing and activities that expand ones vision and understanding...it describes that person search for truth.

10th House or Midheaven is another very important point on the horoscope and indicates the thing/s you strive to accomplish in this life and the way in which you go about getting it. It is about your career, public accomplishments, peak experiences, reputation and authority. With respect to the career it will indicate they type of career the native might seek out and the public face of the native. It can be about the more authoritarian parent. The mid heaven concerns itself with the ego. It's about what the native strives for in life. Pay attention to planets within 4 degrees of the Midheaven as they will influence or be fused with the ego consciousness.

11th House reflects your hopes dreams, acquaintances humanitarian interests and shared ideals, social groups and non-emotional relationships. It describes friendship without the need for personal ties along with reformative and unconventional activities. It has to do with aspirations and what the native wants out of life.

12th House is the house of secrets! It shows were your desire for solitude and reflection is. It can indicate any clandestine affairs, unconscious behaviour and institutionalisation. This is the house that separates from the main stream. With an abundance of planets in this house the native may need to retreat form the world from time to time. This may occur naturally or it may be a lesson to be learned. It can show self abnegation, self imposed limitations. It is associated with confinement and as such is connected with prisons, hospitals, mental institutions the monastic life or hermit like existence.



