



**The Art of Cartomancy**  
A Complimentary guide to reading ordinary  
playing cards



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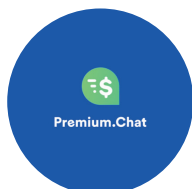
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## **Introduction to Cartomancy**

Cartomancy, the art of divination using playing cards, has been practiced for centuries. Unlike tarot, which has its own set of symbolic imagery, cartomancy uses the standard deck of playing cards to uncover hidden truths. Historically, cartomancy traces its origins to the 14th century, spreading across Europe and evolving in various cultures. The Balkan region has a particularly strong tradition of cartomancy, where it remains a popular practice. This is due to its accessibility-requiring only a standard deck of cards-and the deeply ingrained cultural beliefs in folk magic and divination.

## **Cleansing and Charging Your Deck**

To maintain a strong connection with your deck, it is essential to cleanse it regularly. Cleansing removes lingering energies that may interfere with readings. Here's how to cleanse your deck:

Smoke Cleansing: Use incense (such as sage, palo santo, or frankincense) to pass the deck through smoke.

Salt Purification: Place the deck in a sealed bag with sea salt overnight.

Moonlight Charging: The most powerful time to charge your deck is under the full moon.

The best moon phases for this are:

- New Moon - Best for fresh starts, clearing old energies.
- Full Moon - Enhances intuition and strengthens the deck's power.
- Waning Moon - Ideal for removing negativity.

When charging your deck, place it on a windowsill or outdoors where it can absorb the moon's energy. Always store your deck in a silk cloth or wooden box to protect it from unwanted spiritual influences.

## Preparing for a Spread

Before performing a reading, take time to center yourself. Use planetary influences to enhance your readings:

- Monday (Moon): Best for emotional or dream-related readings.
- Tuesday (Mars): Ideal for decisive actions and conflicts.
- Wednesday (Mercury): Perfect for communication and problem-solving.
- Thursday (Jupiter): Expands wisdom, career, and wealth inquiries.
- Friday (Venus): Strongest for love and relationships.

Ground yourself by meditating with a quartz crystal or focusing on your breathing. Light incense (sandalwood for clarity, lavender for peace) and a candle before beginning. Repeat this mystical phrase thrice before shuffling:

"By the light of the unseen, I seek truth. May these cards reveal what must be known."

## Card Spreads

### Yes/No Spread:

Shuffle the deck while focusing on your question.

Draw three cards. If two or more are red, the answer is 'Yes'; if two or more are black, the answer is 'No'.

### Horseshoe Spread (Intermediate):

Shuffle and cut the deck into three piles, then reassemble.

Lay out seven cards in a horseshoe shape:

- 1: Past influences
- 2: Present situation
- 3: Hidden influences
- 4: Obstacles
- 5: External influences
- 6: Advice

## 7: Outcome

### Cross Spread (Advanced):

Shuffle and focus on a detailed question.

Lay five cards in a cross pattern:

1 (Left): Past

2 (Right): Future

3 (Top): Higher influences

4 (Bottom): Root causes

5 (Center): Answer

### **Card Meanings**

Hearts: Represent emotions, relationships, and love.

Diamonds: Concern material aspects, finances, and decisions.

Clubs: Indicate action, business, and career.

Spades: Signify challenges, obstacles, and transformation.

### **Individual Meanings:**

Here is a detailed breakdown of the meanings of each playing card in a Cartomancy reading (excluding Jokers):

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Hearts (Emotions, Love, Relationships, Happiness)

Ace of Hearts – New love, emotional beginnings, a message of affection.

2 of Hearts – Romantic partnership, mutual attraction, harmony.

3 of Hearts – Indecision in love, an emotional triangle, social gatherings.

4 of Hearts – Stability in relationships, a solid foundation, emotional security.

5 of Hearts – Change in emotions, jealousy, disappointment in love.

6 of Hearts – Past love, nostalgia, childhood memories.

7 of Hearts – Broken promises, deception, unreliable person.

8 of Hearts – Emotional journey, moving forward in love, social invitations.

9 of Hearts – Wishes coming true, deep fulfillment, dreams realized.

10 of Hearts – Happiness in family and love, marriage, joyful occasions.

Jack of Hearts – A young romantic person, admirer, lover.

Queen of Hearts – A kind, loving, intuitive woman, often a mother figure.

King of Hearts – A mature, compassionate, and wise man, often a father or mentor.

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Diamonds (Material Wealth, Money, Career, Status)

Ace of Diamonds – A letter, news, new financial opportunities.

2 of Diamonds – Business partnerships, balance in finances, negotiations.

3 of Diamonds – Indecision in money matters, need for caution in investments.

4 of Diamonds – Financial stability, security, long-term wealth.

5 of Diamonds – Financial loss or unexpected expenses, needing help.

6 of Diamonds – A financial gift, debt repayment, help with money.

7 of Diamonds – Warnings about financial troubles, arguments over money.

8 of Diamonds – Business meetings, future financial planning, investments.

9 of Diamonds – Unexpected money, financial gain, achieving financial goals.

10 of Diamonds – Major financial success, inheritance, financial windfall.

Jack of Diamonds – A young person bringing financial news, messenger.

Queen of Diamonds – A wealthy, business-savvy woman, independent and smart.

King of Diamonds – A businessman, financial expert, powerful and influential.

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Clubs (Work, Business, Action, Communication)

Ace of Clubs – A new job or business opportunity, unexpected wealth.

2 of Clubs – A small argument, need for careful negotiations.

3 of Clubs – Creative success, collaboration, progress in work.

4 of Clubs – Stability in work and home, strong support system.

5 of Clubs – Competition, conflicts in work or business, challenges.

6 of Clubs – Victory after hard work, success in a project.

7 of Clubs – Business success, but with a warning of possible obstacles.

8 of Clubs – Rapid movement, travel for work, fast changes in career.

9 of Clubs – Achievement of a long-term goal, persistence paying off.

10 of Clubs – Professional success, travel for work, big career changes.

Jack of Clubs – A hardworking, loyal young person, friend or colleague.



Queen of Clubs – A confident, career-driven woman, strong leadership skills.

King of Clubs – A businessman, mentor, someone offering guidance.

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### Spades (Challenges, Difficulties, Endings, Transformation)

Ace of Spades – Transformation, endings, major life changes, sometimes a warning.

2 of Spades – Breakups, separations, dishonesty in relationships.

3 of Spades – Heartbreak, love triangles, betrayal.

4 of Spades – Rest, retreat, isolation, need for self-care.

5 of Spades – Defeat, loss, something taken away, warning of bad luck.

6 of Spades – Moving away from difficulties, transition, travel.

7 of Spades – Lies, secrets, deception, someone working against you.

8 of Spades – Feeling trapped, overthinking, mental stress.

9 of Spades – Anxiety, nightmares, deep sadness, regret.

10 of Spades – A major ending, loss, betrayal, things coming to a close.

Jack of Spades – A tricky, unreliable young person, someone who can deceive.

Queen of Spades – A strong, independent woman, often single or widowed, can be cold.

King of Spades – A powerful authority figure, judge, law enforcement, sometimes ruthless.

### **Card Combinations**

Understanding how cards interact is key to deep readings. Here are ten example combinations:

Ace of Hearts + 3 of Hearts: A blossoming romance.

10 of Diamonds + King of Clubs: A business partnership.

Queen of Spades + 5 of Spades: Betrayal from a female figure.

2 of Clubs + 9 of Spades: A failed deal or contract.

Jack of Hearts + 4 of Hearts: A young lover or secret admirer.

7 of Clubs + 6 of Diamonds: Financial improvement through hard work.

King of Spades + Ace of Diamonds: Legal matters, an important contract.

3 of Spades + Queen of Diamonds: A jealous woman causing conflict.

9 of Hearts + 10 of Hearts: A long-term wish coming true.

5 of Diamonds + Jack of Clubs: News regarding money or investments.