

## **\*Note on working with planet positions:**

### **First the technical information:**

There are 360 degrees in the zodiac divided evenly into the 12 signs. This is an ancient metaphysical construct designed to effectively describe the infinite variety of energies humans work with.

Many who worship the rational mind will rush to point out that none of the zodiacal signs actually occupies 30 degrees of arc in the sky, or that due to the precession of the equinoxes, the signs have “moved,” and “you’re not really what you think you are.”

Relax. Astrology is older than astronomy, and we have been not only tracking the precession of the equinoxes but have been keeping track of how it influences human behavior for several thousand years. I am attaching my article, “Some of the reasons I use the Tropical Zodiac,” because I think it will help you work with your own chart and positions.

Keep in mind that the zodiac is a circle and that circles are divided into degrees and minutes of arc – it’s easiest to think of it in clock terms. Degrees are like hours – there’re 30 of them instead of 24. Minutes are just like minutes.

When you look at your chart, you’ll see that the planets positions are in degrees and minutes. For example, in my chart, the Sun is shown as being in 4 degrees and 5 minutes of Cancer.

Within each sign, the degrees are numbered from 1 – 30. We always round up to the next nearest degree. For example, 4 degrees and 5 minutes gets rounded up to the 5<sup>th</sup> degree – my Sun is in Cancer 5.

The reason we do this is simple – there is no “zero-th” degree. The way I do it is that everything from 0 degrees 0 minutes to 0 degrees 59 minutes is the 1<sup>st</sup> degree of a sign. Everything from 29 degrees 0 minutes to 29 degrees 59 minutes is the 30<sup>th</sup> degree of the a sign.

## **Now, metaphysically:**

Each of the 360 degree symbols describes a feeling. Working with degrees creates opportunities to experience contrast between the feeling of the symbol and other things you are feeling at a given moment.

Contrast is how we learn. As the Black Keys song says, "You don't know what the Sun's all about 'til the lights go out."

All planets teach through contrast. Mercury teaches concentration through temptation. Venus teaches fulfillment through desire. Etc.

The examples I just gave are my own sense of these teachers. The whole point of the Moon Temple work is to learn your own sense of how you work with contrast. It might be that you develop a catalog of contrasting feelings through your experience and journaling. You could learn to recognize contrast that shows up frequently, and even better, learn what energies work to help you get the most from those situations.

I'm really not here to tell you what you will get out of this. I am here to help you understand some of what can be gotten from this. There is no limiting it - that I will say.

Each of the degree symbols you encounter in this work has something for you. Sometimes it won't feel like much. Sometimes it will blow your mind.

There are some degrees you'll never see in your own life. There are some degrees that will show up over and over again.

The degrees are ways to connect to cosmic forces. They are the most subjective, personal, and effective ways to get in touch with yourself that I know of. Only you know can really know what it's like to be you.

May the tools I offer help you!

**Getting a full reading:**

You may benefit from getting a reading. If you've never had your chart read, it will at least be extremely interesting.

If you've had it done before you most likely had a traditional reading. If you like the Moon Temple work you may want to hear my perspective on your chart.

Either way, I encourage you to explore the readings page on my website, and thank you for your interest.