

The Hidden Keys of Astrology for Lovers™



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Astrology as a Relationship Tool

Astrology isn't just about reading your horoscope in the newspaper – there's so much more to it than that. As a relationship tool, astrology can help you understand how others tick, and how they react in relationship situations....and just as important, it can help you understand yourself. You cannot love another until you truly know and love yourself, and that's what this mini ebook is all about.

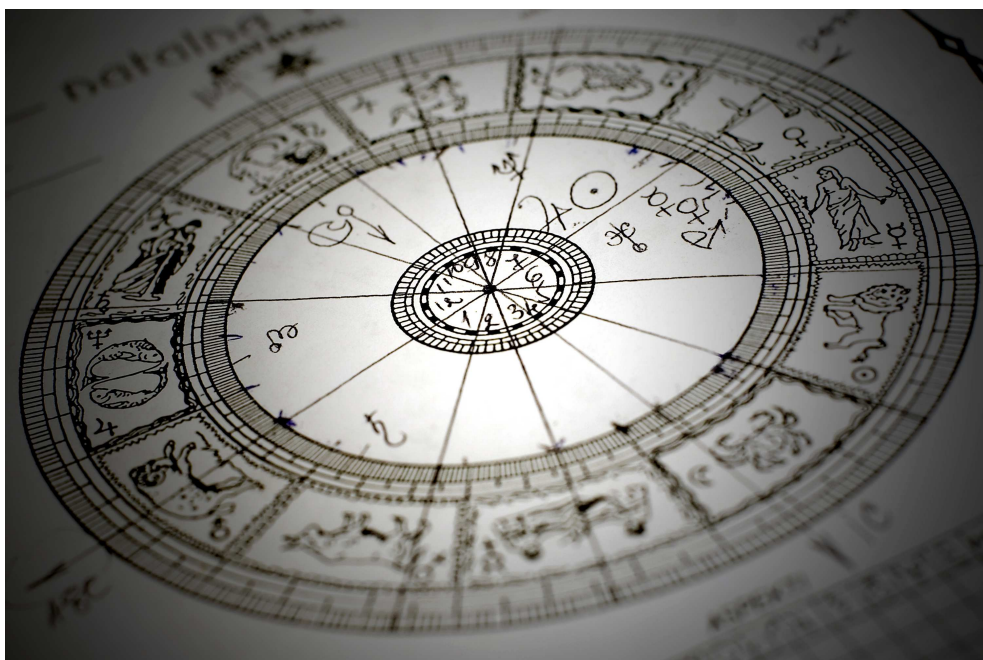
In these pages, you'll find out about four significant astrological keys which can help you understand your relationship patterns, how you relate to others, and how they might relate to you. Armed with this information, you'll be better placed to find the lasting love you desire, and better placed too to handle the ups and downs that always come with any long term partnership.

To get the full picture of your personal relationship astrology profile, you'll need a full relationship report from Astromatcha, but the simple instructions in this guide will help you get started with understanding yourself through astrology, and perhaps wet your appetite for finding out more.

Understanding House Cusps

Everyone has a unique birth chart, which is effectively a round wheel, a map of the heavens at the date, place and moment of their birth. If you were standing at your birth place, at that time, and had a powerful telescope, your birth chart shows where in the sky you would see each of the planets, against the backdrop of zodiac signs.

This is an illustration of a typical birth chart. As you can see, the round chart is divided into twelve "slices", like slices of cake or hours on a clock. The proper name for these slices is houses, and these astrological houses are crucial in understanding your astrological relationship potential.



Each of these slices or houses represents a different area of your life, and the zodiac sign in that position (and any planets located in that house) can be interpreted as colouring the way the affairs of that house play out in your life.

Your ascendant (the sign which was rising in the East at the time and place of your birth) marks the 9 o'clock position on the chart and is the start of the first house. The rest of the houses are numbered anti-clockwise around the chart, so the second house begins at the 8 o'clock position, the third house at the 7 o'clock position, the fourth house at the 6 o'clock position and so on, around the to the twelfth house, which begins at the 10 o'clock position on the wheel.

If you happen to know your ascendant sign, what follows will be more accurate for you – however, if you don't know your ascendant sign, using your sun sign instead will still give you revealing information about your astrology love profile.

To work out what goes where, follow these simple instructions:

Note the order of the zodiac signs, which goes like this: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces.

1. Write down the numbers 1 – 12 in a list.
2. Next to number 1, write your ascendant sign if you know it, or your sun sign if you don't know the ascendant.
3. Write the following zodiac sign against number 2.
4. Write the next following zodiac sign against number 3, and continue down the list until you have written a sign against each number.

As an example, if your ascendant or sun sign is Leo, your list will now look like this:

1. Leo
2. Virgo
3. Libra
4. Scorpio
5. Sagittarius
6. Capricorn
7. Aquarius
8. Pisces
9. Aries
10. Taurus
11. Gemini
12. Cancer

Fantastic – that's all there is to it – now you're ready to read about what these house cusps might mean for your love life. For the purposes of this ebook, we'll be focusing on houses one, seven, five, four and eight, so pay particular attention to the signs in those positions.

Key 1 ~ First and Seventh House Cusps

The first and most crucial element to understand in your astrological love profile is who YOU are, and what, exactly, you seek in a partner.

In astrology, the first house represents your identity and your self, and the seventh house represents your close relationships. Flip back to your list and check which sign you've written opposite number 1, which will be either your ascendant or your sun sign. Whatever sign you have on the first house cusp, its "opposite sign" will always be on the seventh house cusp. The seventh house in astrology represents what we need from a lover – those things which we unconsciously seek in others, often because they are lacking in ourselves.

It is sometimes said that the sign on the cusp of the seventh house is the sun sign or ascendant sign of your ideal partner. That's a bit of a myth, but it is true that you are attracted to – and need – someone who exhibits a lot of the qualities of this sign. They may or may not have this sign as their sun or ascendant sign, but the types of characteristics that sign is known for will be prominent in your ideal partner's personality.

These pairs of opposite signs are extremely revealing in helping you to understand who you are, and what you need from a healthy love life.

Let's have a look at each pair of placings for the first house and the seventh house cusps.

Aries on the First House Cusp/Libra on the Seventh House Cusp

People with Aries on the first house cusp are outgoing, bold and very go-getting in nature, with a passionate attitude towards love. You love ardently and totally, and your partner will never be in any doubt about your feelings towards him or her. With a very high sex drive, you're a little bit full on for some people to handle, but others are hugely attracted to your magnetism and physicality. You're a spontaneous and adventurous partner, and you love to surprise your lover, keeping the relationship exciting at all times. You bring a tremendous amount of determination and assertiveness to your relationships, and you also bring plenty of energy. There's a temper in the mix, though, and your outbursts can be quite frightening at times. Your competitive nature makes it hard for you to compromise in a relationship, since you always feel that you must win.

Libra on the seventh house cusp shows that you need a partner who is easy going and fairly laid back. It's important to you that you should be able to take the lead in the relationship, so you need a partner who is happy to allow you to take charge. You're not looking for a doormat, though, and your ideal partner will be quite intellectual and able to discuss and debate a wide variety of issues with you on an equal footing. Artistic and refined personalities attract you, and you seek someone who has a certain amount of natural charm, grace and sociability. When your relationship works well, your partner helps to balance out your rash, impulsive edge by bringing thoughtfulness to the relationship, and by helping you to think before you act.

Taurus on the First House Cusp/Scorpio on the Seventh House Cusp

If you have Taurus on the first house cusp, you are a faithful, loyal and steadfast person, who seeks security in a relationship and is not prone to playing the field. You're blessed with a huge amount of common sense, and you're a highly sensual person – but note the difference between sensual and sexy... you like to keep your private life private. Very affectionate and physically demonstrative, you are patient and kind as a partner, and you always try hard to understand those you love. It takes you quite some time to warm up into a relationship, though, so courtship is likely to be a slow and leisurely affair. Although your partner will be able to count on your unswerving practical support, you do demand a lot in return. Absolute fidelity is very important to you, and possessiveness can be an issue. Stubborn to the last, you expect to get your own way in a relationship, and can make life difficult when you do not.

Scorpio on the seventh house cusp shows that you seek a partner who can transform you on a deep and emotional level. You cannot stand superficiality in relationships, and will very quickly tire of the social butterfly type. Instead, you want an instinctive understanding with your partner, and a highly sensual relationship which you keep locked away from others. Your perfect partner will feel as jealous and possessive about you as you do about them – you are hurt and bewildered if your other half doesn't seem to care whether you stray or not. Ultimately, however, your intense relationships can be damaging if both your and your partner's jealousies get out of hand. Your love life is characterised by searingly intense relationships which others find difficult to fathom.

Gemini on the First House Cusp/Sagittarius on the Seventh House Cusp

People with Gemini on the first house cusp are lively, sociable and chatty people as a general rule, who love to talk and who love ideas. Quite flirtatious by nature, you enjoy having many friends, and perhaps many lovers – fidelity isn't a strong point of this placing! You love on an intellectual level and for you, the ideal partnership is very much a meeting of minds first and bodies second. You have a playful approach to love, and your emotions are generally quite well controlled, so dramatic, emotional scenes between you and a lover are few and far between. It takes you a while to settle down and you can be a little bit fickle in the early stages of a relationship, blowing hot and then cold for no apparent reason. Nevertheless, when you are in a relationship, you keep the spark of fun alive and those blessed to be in love with you find you a sparkling, witty and charming partner.

With Sagittarius, your opposite sign, on the cusp of the seventh house, we get an indication that your ideal partners is someone who respects your need for freedom. You don't cope well with anyone who wants to pin you down to a commitment of too much, too soon, so your perfect relationship is with someone who is laid back enough to accept your somewhat easy come, easy go approach to love. You do seek someone who has some emotional spark, though, and someone who is honest enough to tell you how it is. Your perfect partner is straightforward and does not beat around the bush, but has enough fire and passion to ignite your sometimes emotionally aloof nature.

You also seek a partner who can bring a spiritual or academic, mind expanding edge to your life, or someone who is from a different culture or upbringing to your own.

Cancer on the First House Cusp/Capricorn on the Seventh House Cusp

With Cancer on the first house cusp, you are a very caring, sensitive and nurturing person, who first and foremost wants to take care of others. You tend to “mother” your partners, which some find attractive and others find suffocating. Family priorities are hugely important to you, as is emotional security, so you avoid partners who are flighty by nature. You do have tremendous emotional depth, but this often shows itself in moodiness and unpredictable behaviour, so you need a partner who can cope with your sulks or silences. Kind, compassionate and understanding, you can tolerate most things in a relationship, but the one thing you will not tolerate is deception of any kind. Trust is a touchstone issue for you, and once your trust has been broken you will find it very, very hard to rebuild your trust in that person.

Capricorn on the seventh house cusp shows us that you seek a partner who is emotionally mature, stable by nature and able to provide the emotional and material security you crave. You prefer partners who are traditional or conservative in outlook, and who won't rock the boat. This position has a somewhat unfair reputation for marriages of convenience or status; while that isn't true, it is true that you need a partner who is serious and committed to making a success of their own lives, and is able and willing to build a solid life foundation. You may choose a partner with a big age difference from yourself, or someone you can look up to in some way. There's often also a sense of destiny or fate around how you meet your lifelong partner. It's as if unusual circumstances draw you together and from that point on, you both know it's the real thing.

Leo on the First House Cusp/Aquarius on the Seventh House Cusp

Leo on the first house cusp shows that you are a proud, dignified and generous lover, with a larger than life aura around you. You radiate warmth and good humour, and you love to be the centre of attention. With a huge heart, you love with every fibre of your being, and you are outstandingly loyal to and supportive of whoever captures your love. You feel everything on a grand scale, so you move quickly from the heights of passion to the depths of despair, and back again. You think you want a partner who will adore you and make you the centre of their world, but then again, you adore yourself sometimes enough for the both of you. What you do really need is a partner who doesn't mind if you run the show, but who won't be intimidated by your powerful, sometimes domineering nature – and who will appreciate your boundless passion.

Having Aquarius on the seventh house cusp underlines this. Here, it's clear that your ideal partner is someone a little eccentric, odd or unusual – you don't like boredom. A quirky partner is someone you can show off and be proud of, which suits your Leo need for attention. A slightly emotionally aloof partner will be a joy to you too, simply because you'll take great pleasure in warming them up! Your perfect partner

needs to be confident and self-sufficient, as you won't cope well with needy types. Essentially, if they're comfortable in their own skin, you'll be intrigued and captivated, but ironically, the more a partner chases after you, the less you'll be interested (apart from quick flashes of being flattered). A partner who demands their own freedom is good for you, because such a relationship teaches you to treat others as equals not as lesser partners.

Virgo on the First House Cusp/Pisces on the Seventh House Cusp

People with Virgo on the first house cusp are gentle, unassuming lovers, modest by nature and with kind hearts. You are an intellectual creature and your ideal partner is one with whom you can discuss anything and everything. Deeply loyal, you are also surprisingly sensual behind closed doors, but a little reserved in public. It takes a long time for someone to win your trust sufficiently for you to reveal the real you, so there's an element of mystery about you which many people find attractive. Once in love, you can be sharply critical of your lover, perhaps seeking to change him or her; one of your biggest lessons is to learn to love the person who is there, not the person you wish was there. To be fair, you are also highly self-critical, and you need a partner who can boost your self confidence while appreciating your selflessness.

Pisces on the seventh house cusp reveals that your ideal partner is someone who can lift you out of the trap of day to day stresses and worries, and who can transport you to a beautiful, make believe world. You seek a partner who is fully in tune with their emotions, and who understands your own sensitivities too. You're attracted to healers, hippies and mystical types, because you admire their ability to live beyond the real world. A highly emotional or artistic partner will teach you to abandon perfection and instead to live for your dreams; at the same time, this kind of partner will appreciate and indeed need the nurturing and care you can offer, giving both of you the best of both worlds.

Libra on the First House Cusp/Aries on the Seventh House Cusp

With Libra on the first house cusp, you are a highly romantic and intuitive individual. You have a serene, refined nature, and you're very at ease in social situations. Known as a natural diplomat, you hate discord of any kind and work very hard to avoid arguments. In love with the idea of love, you're on a lifelong quest to find your perfect partner, and perhaps more so than any other placing, people with this placing find it painful to be single for long. You place so much importance on being in a relationship, however, that you're prepared to tolerate just about anything so long as he or she stays with you. You can become highly dependent upon a partner, and you sometimes lack the strength or the wisdom to remove yourself from a situation which isn't healthy for you. Trapped by your rose tinted view of the world, you sometimes mistake abuse for true love.

Your ideal partner, as revealed by Aries on the cusp of the seventh house, is the knight in shining armour type – typically a strong, assertive individual, with a strong sense of right and wrong. You need a partner who is sure enough of themselves, and

assertive enough in their own right, to allow you the space to grow your own strength and independence. The right partner for you will encourage your freedom, not restrict it, and will be your cheerleader at every opportunity. You also seek a passionate partner who enjoys sex and who can make impulse decisions in your relationship, freeing you from the chore of having to always think things through. There are likely to be many arguments and rows with your ideal partner, but that's a healthy thing, as this in itself helps you to develop your own strengths and your own voice in the relationship.

Scorpio on the First House Cusp/Taurus on the Seventh House Cusp

People with Scorpio on the first house cusp are intense, emotional, passionate and focused. In love, you are very jealous and possessive, but in return you give your partner your entire soul. Enduring a daily storm of emotions, you are understandably quite moody as a person, and you need a partner who can cope with that. Sex is enormously important to you, but you're not beyond using sex as a weapon in the relationship when it suits you. You can be quite manipulative of a partner, and calculating in your actions. You exude a certain aura of magnetism and enigma, and people instinctively either fall for you hook, line and sinker or keep their distance. When in love and happy, you will move heaven and earth for your partner, but when scorned, your vengeful streak makes you a formidable enemy.

Taurus on the cusp of the seventh house reveals that your ideal partner is the strong, silent type. You need a rock of stability to help you cope with your own tumultuous emotions, and you need someone you can trust implicitly. When you don't have to worry about your partner straying, you can focus on the positive, wonderful, sensual and romantic aspects of your love nature, instead of needing to be constantly suspicious and on edge. You also seek a partner who is open about finances and with whom you can feel confident sharing a bank account – not because money is so important to you, but because this, you feel, is a good indicator of how trustworthy they are elsewhere in life. Your perfect partner will enjoy creating a solid, stable home for the pair of you, and will most likely have a good sense of the aesthetic too.

Sagittarius on the First House Cusp/Gemini on the Seventh House Cusp

If you have Sagittarius on the first house cusp, you are an optimistic, outgoing, laid back and jovial type of person, who loves the outdoors and just loves being alive. Honest and straightforward in love, you are passionate and genuinely interested in others, but you hate being tied down and will always seek a high level of personal freedom. Tact is not a strong point either, so you need a partner who accepts and celebrates your direct approach and who doesn't expect you to coat everything with sugar. Restless and explorative by nature, you don't tend to put down roots for very long, so your perfect partner is someone who can explore with you and who won't be distressed at being uprooted every now and then. You also need a partner who doesn't wallow in their emotions, as you have no patience for this kind of thing, and your impatience would hurt both you and them.

With Gemini on the seventh house cusp, we can see that you are attracted to intelligent, interesting and versatile people, who are lively, chatty and youthful in outlook. Your perfect partner has many interests of their own, giving you the freedom to pursue yours. You value intellectual rapport highly, but you're not always the most faithful of lovers, so your ideal partner must be able to cope with that. Finding a partner who is willing to enter an open relationship would be your idea of heaven! Communication is very important to you and it needs to be important to your partner too, and it helps if you can find someone who deals with big issues through humour rather than through emotional mood swings. In this way, you can both support one another when necessary, without becoming mired down in emotions you would prefer to brush under the carpet.

Capricorn on the First House Cusp/Cancer on the Seventh House Cusp

Capricorn on the cusp of the first house tells us that you are an "old soul" – a person who is wise beyond your years. You take this approach to love, as to everything else in life, and you look beyond the superficial in order to fall in love. You are emotionally stable and practical, but you do sometimes find it hard to express your emotions openly. Conscientious and committed, you work hard to keep a relationship alive, but sometimes that hard work is your undoing – you often forget to leave room for spontaneity and fun in your relationships, and it all becomes a chore. Just one more job on your to-do list. You need a partner who understands the sincerity behind your slightly stuck in the mud approach to love, and who can help you channel your emotions into joy and laughter and away from constant responsibility.

This is reflected in what we find when we look to Cancer on the cusp of the seventh house. You need a nurturing, loving, caring and sensitive partner, who is as interested as you are in preserving the status quo and in maintaining a happy, secure partnership – but who can bring your lighter emotions to the surface. A changeable or even moody partner would be good for you as it would force you to engage those emotions and to deal with your partner's feelings as well as your own. Your ideal partner is also protective of you, and gives you the strength to go out and forge your way in the world, safe in the knowledge that your home base will always be waiting for you, and that you are loved, no matter what. Fidelity is crucial, and you are turned off by anything less, so look for a matching soul who feels the same way.

Aquarius on the First House Cusp/Leo on the Seventh House Cusp

With Aquarius rising or an Aquarius sun sign, the key thing in your love profile is independence. Above all others, you need a partner who will give you space, give you respect and give you no reason to fuss. You are exceptionally intellectual in your approach to love, and you reason everything out logically – which will infuriate more emotional people no end. You also don't care about convention and conformity, so you need a partner who is happy to embrace a non-traditional lifestyle, and who will love you for your quirks. It takes you a while to get to know someone romantically, however, because you tend to keep love at arm's length, and you're initially quite

dismissive of relationships. This stems from your need to do your own thing, and a fear of being hemmed in or of being changed to fit someone else's dreams.

Leo on the cusp of the seventh house tells us a good deal about what kind of partner will fulfil your needs. Look for someone who is confident, with a warm and generous nature. You need a partner who is secure enough in themselves to not fret over your need for freedom, and you also need someone whose emotions are big enough for both of you. A partner with a sunny, gregarious disposition will help to warm up your love life, without encroaching on all that you hold dear. Your perfect partner will also be protective of you, again allowing you to do what you do best, while they support and encourage you, and celebrate your quirks instead of disowning them. It's vital that you have an intellectual rapport, and this is likely to be based on creative or artistic fields rather than technical ones – that's your realm, not your partner's. When you find a larger than life partner, your relationship will fit the bill perfectly.

Pisces on the First House Cusp/Virgo on the Seventh House Cusp

People with Pisces on the first house cusp are the eternal dreamers of the zodiac. Exceptionally sensitive and loving, you are so easily hurt that you sometimes despair of ever finding love. Your emotions often overwhelm you, and you feel everything so very deeply. You are an idealist, and you have high expectations of love. You need a partner who can help to stabilise your feelings, and who can offer constructive, sensible advice on a day to day basis, because you tend to struggle with daily life when you feel down. You have a huge amount of love to give the right person, but you can become very dependent upon them, so your ideal partnership is with someone who can take the lead, but in a non-domineering way. Someone who can guide you without crushing you, and someone who loves your dreamy ways instead of finding you annoyingly vague.

With Virgo on the seventh house cusp, we find the answer. Your perfect partner is a dutiful, meticulous and responsible person, with both feet firmly on the ground. Look for someone analytical and intelligent, who has a reputation for fixing things – both practical and emotional things. Your ideal lover wants to serve you and take care of you, but they do this gently and with understated leadership rather than forcefully. It helps if your partner is also able to give you constructive criticism rather than pandering completely to your moods. You need someone who will tell you, just sometimes, to pull yourself together, but more importantly, will help you do just that, and still love you afterwards too. Look for a partner who is gentle and kind, but with an inner steel. Not for you the loud mouthed or arrogant types, but you are attracted to those who work with health or healing in some way.

Key 2 ~ Fifth House Cusp

If the first house cusp represents who we are, and the seventh house cusp represents what we need from a partner, the fifth house cusp represents what we can offer in return. It's the house which shows how we give love. Understanding how you naturally express and give love is important, because it helps you to understand when you're feeling blocked or stifled in your efforts to love someone.

Turn back to your list of the twelve houses, and remind yourself which sign is on the cusp of your fifth house, then read on.

Aries on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is through being assertive. You are highly protective of your loved ones, and you will stand up for them come what may. This power and assertion helps you to nurture those who are more quiet, more diffident or less confident than yourself, and attracts those people to you. You also give love in a very physical way, as an ardent and energetic lover, and through a love shared sports. You are competitive in the way you express love too, so you'll always want to go one better for your loved one than your friends or acquaintances have done. Take care if your partner does not like a fuss to be made, however. If you intervene too often on his or her behalf, you could find your partner starting to keep his or her problems to themselves, for fear of what action you might take while trying to "help".

Taurus on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is through providing comfort. This can be emotional kindness and comfort, but typically it's also physical comfort. You're very physically affectionate and demonstrative, and you also work hard to create a loving, attractive and relaxing environment for your partner, through careful attention to your home. You like to take care of practical problems such as DIY issues, so that your partner doesn't have to. You're also a great cook, and you show your romantic nature by cooking fantastic meals for your loved one, perhaps followed by a candlelit bath and a sensual massage. Be careful over how much money you're spending on the home, though. Are you sure that matches your partner's priorities? If money is tight, no amount of rose petals will make up for the fact that you're frittering away the family finances.

Gemini on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is through communication and intelligence. You talk a lot, and are always quick to reassure your partner with words. You write a lot too, and express your affection through little love notes left in unexpected places, or through poetry or music. You also use humour as a loving gift, and you're able to get your partner to smile through their tears when something is wrong. Yours is a rational approach to love, and when there are problems in the relationship, your instinct is to deal with them logically. This often works, but can be frustrating to a partner who is

much more emotional. Your challenge is to work out when a step by step approach to a problem will work, and when what's needed instead is just an outpouring of emotion... something you're not too good at.

Cancer on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is to nurture, to share emotions and to be maternal (regardless whether you are male or female). Yours is an instinctive approach to love, and you automatically reach out when your partner is in trouble. You are very kind and caring, with plenty of sympathy – the quintessential shoulder to cry on. When your partner is in a time of trouble, your urge is to take charge and to solve the situation for them, but you must be careful to let your loved one make his or her own mistakes. A healthy way to deal with this is to share with your partner your deepest emotions over the situation, but to then leave them to make their own decisions and choices. They know that you will support them, come what may, even if they make a choice you wouldn't have made – and that's your gift to them, this unwavering love.

Leo on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is through creativity and spontaneity. You have a natural ability to bring warmth and joy to your partner, and your optimism can help your relationship through any dark patches. Your creative gifts are an asset to you too here, and you can build a strong bond with your partner through shared artistic or creative hobbies. Sometimes, however, an element of selfishness creeps in. Be careful it doesn't become all about “me, me, me” – occasionally, what you intend as a positive, enthusiastic gesture towards your lover can come across as you being boastful or arrogant. Take the time to listen to what your partner actually needs from you, instead of rushing in and assuming that you have the solution, every time. A little more listening and a little less doing would be very healthy for most of your relationships.

Virgo on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is to be of service. Nothing is too much trouble of you when it comes to pleasing your partner. You'll run their bath, have their slippers ready and tidy up after them without a hint of complaint. This devotion and selflessness is very laudable, of course, and your partner no doubt appreciates the way you take care of him or her. Be careful, however, that you don't overdo it. What you see as devotion could easily become fussiness; sometimes the best thing you can do for your partner is to step back and let them look after themselves for a change. It's equally important that you remember to take care of yourself sometimes. If you're not relaxed and happy, how can you bring relaxation and happiness to your relationship? Being of service is one thing, but take some time off now and then!

Libra on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is through the appreciation of others, outside your relationship. By this I mean that you are able to bring the gift of friendships and a warm social life to your relationship. This is especially valuable if your partner is a little reserved, because you help to make him or her feel at ease in social situations and to grow in confidence. Even if your partner is the life and soul of the party, your talent with company will bring much joy to your partnership and will be a source of pleasure to you both. If your lover is the jealous type, though, take care that he or she doesn't misinterpret your friendliness and social graces as flirting, because this can sometimes become an issue with this placing. Reassure your lover often that he or she is the only one for you.

Scorpio on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is through honesty and transformation. This isn't always an entirely comfortable process, to be honest – your searingly acute insights into any given situation can be off-putting to others – but ultimately your lover appreciates that you will always tell the truth, and that you are willing to grow and to change with them, within the relationship. It helps that you have a deep sexual connection with your lover, and an intense emotional love life too – this prepares him or her for the fact that every now and then you're likely to open up some places he or she doesn't really want to go....for the ultimate benefit of you both. This is a tricky placement to handle and is often misunderstood, but it's a very powerful gift to have. Use it wisely, and always with love.

Sagittarius on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is through teaching. Not literal teaching, usually, but often you open your partner's eyes to new philosophies, new ideas, new depths of spirituality and new frontiers in life. You are an adventurer yourself, always willing to try anything new, and you inspire this in your partner too. This is especially healthy if your partner is lacking in self confidence or afraid to move out of his or her comfort zone. Your encouragement and example are often all that he or she needs to find wings and to grow in life. If your partner is similar to you in outlook on life, however, you might find yourselves permanently on an adventure....all very jolly until the bills have to be paid and the kids picked up from school. The danger here is that day to day details which keep the relationship ticking over can be overlooked.

Capricorn on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is to offer practical support and wisdom. You are your partner's rock, but you can also be quite authoritarian when necessary, and won't hesitate to be cruel to be kind if you think it's in his or her best interests. Fortunately, your inherent wisdom usually means that you're right, but on occasion, when you get it wrong, you can end up pushing a partner into making the wrong choices. Instead, try to stick to practicalities – find out what you can do to support their decisions,

rather than what you can do to influence the decision in the first place. Used wisely, this placing can be instrumental in a successful, dynamic, long term relationship. Used unwisely, it can suffocate many a potential partnership with a dictatorial, holier-than-thou attitude which many people find hard to deal with.

Aquarius on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is to give space and freedom to your partner. You're very busy pursuing your own interests, and so you tend to leave your lover to his or her own devices, but you do that as a deliberate act of love. You don't like to be suffocated, so you won't suffocate your lover either. Whether this turns out well or not depends upon your partner, of course – if they are the needy type, you'll need to provide much more support and input into their daily life than you're used to. If they're quite independent themselves too, however, this can be an indicator of a fantastic relationship with a tremendous amount of mutual respect between you both. It's up to you to recognise whether you need to tone down your aloofness or not. Fortunately, you're very intelligent and will be able to figure it out.

Pisces on the Fifth House Cusp

Your natural way of giving love is to lose yourself in your partner, and to blend seamlessly with him or her. This is a highly romantic and inspirational, idealistic placing, and you are exceptionally sensitive to the ebbs and flows of the relationship. You want to be one with your partner, but not every relationship is able to withstand this kind of selflessness. Take care that you don't lose your own identity; take every opportunity to stand on your own two feet and to exert some independence from your partner. An unscrupulous partner will recognise that you are giving him or her everything...but will still demand more. The key to making this placement work well is to ensure that you know where the boundaries are. Protect both yourself and your lover by forcing yourself into a reality check every now and then.

Key 3 ~ Fourth House Cusp

By now, you have an idea of who you are, astrologically, of what you need from a partner and what you can offer a partner in return. So far, so good, but what about the nitty gritty of living together and creating a shared life? The fourth house is the place we look to for information about the type of home life you want, and the type of family priorities you will have in a long term relationship. If these are not being expressed healthily in your relationship, you will always feel dissatisfied or even cheated in some way.

Look back at your list of twelve houses, and find out which sign is on the cusp of your fourth house, then read on to check whether your current relationship is fitting the criteria for your family and home needs.

Aries on the Fourth House Cusp

If you have Aries on the fourth house cusp, you most definitely need to be in charge of your household. You'd like to create a full and active family life, with lots of hustle and bustle, and lots of noise and chaos. You're likely to be quite a disciplinarian as a parent, though – your household rules won't be the same as everyone else's, but what rules there are will be enforced relatively strictly with any children. You are a passionate parent, and full of confidence, drive and ambition for both your partner and your children. You would hate to live in a household where everything is neat and ordered. To you, it's vital that there's plenty of outdoor activity going on, and you'd love a big garden or a wide open space. With something always going on in your household, you can fulfil your inherent need to be the leader of your own flock.

Taurus on the Fourth House Cusp

Your home is a peaceful and placid place – or at least, you'd like it to be. Beautifully furnished and tastefully decorated, it's not a place for kids to run wild. You would love to have children, but you'll treat them like mini adults and expect them to behave, and to be respectful at all times, both of other people and of possessions. There's a solid structure to your home life and you don't like disruption of any kind. You do, however, make plenty of room for friends at home, and you also encourage any kind of artistic or musical talent within the family. As a parent, you are responsible, affectionate and practical, always on hand to offer advice but not overstepping the mark with intrusion into your children's lives. It's vital that your partner respects your need for stability at home, and doesn't rock the boat too often.

Gemini on the Fourth House Cusp

Your ideal family base is busy, communicative and full of energy, probably with different members of the household each doing their own thing. You enjoy an open and active social life, and you create an atmosphere where it's easy for your children to talk to you and to share any concerns they have. Frequent changes of residence are

quite likely, as you don't like to stay in one place for too long – either that, or you'll be constantly decorating, renovating, building, expanding and changing your home. You don't really do neat and tidy, but there is a logical order to the chaos in each room...even if only you can see it. If your partner is more of a put down roots kind of person, there could be conflict over your restlessness at home, and your encouragement of your children to be individuals could also come into conflict with a more traditional, authoritarian partner.

Cancer on the Fourth House Cusp

Your home is your castle, and the centre of your world. Cosy, loving, comforting and welcoming, the atmosphere you create at home is wonderful. You're very nostalgic about your home, and won't want to settle too far from where you grew up, which could cause conflict with a partner who has wanderlust. The kitchen is the hub of all things nurturing in your home, and everyone is made to feel like part of the family. Emotional security is crucial to you, and you'll put up a fight to defend too many changes to your home life. Family is everything, and you either have or would love lots of children. Once you have children, they come first in your world, which won't necessarily please a partner who is self-centred, or who thinks of you as a partner first and foremost and a parent only second. There could be a struggle here to balance your personal relationship with your commitment to your kids.

Leo on the Fourth House Cusp

For you, your home is a statement of who you are, and such, you want it to be as impressive as possible. Possibly more of a showhouse than a true home, you can be fanatical about keeping up with the neighbours or about keeping the place immaculate. When you have children, you will be exceptionally proud of them, but you will be quite a hard taskmaster in ensuring that they work hard and give you due cause to be proud. You spend lavishly on your home, and you create a warm environment, but a little more clutter and chaos would help make everyone feel more comfortable. If your partner is not as house-proud as you, this is an obvious source of potential conflict. Remember, a real home goes much deeper than superficial appearances, and real family bonds come with real baggage and the occasional indignity.

Virgo on the Fourth House Cusp

Your home is as much a workplace as it is a home, but a very comfortable workplace at that. You'd love to work from home, but even if you don't, you will consider at least one room in the house to be your office, even if it's just your hub for taking care of household duties. As a parent you are loving and wise, but prone to over criticism of your children. You mean well by it, trying to help them improve, but not every child can cope with that kind of guidance! You like to take care of all the housework yourself, and will shun offers of help from your partner. What you certainly won't shun is the animal kingdom, and you're likely to have lots of pets on which to lavish

your attention – after all, you don't mind the cleaning up that comes with them, so why not?

Libra on the Fourth House Cusp

Yours is an immaculate home, full of tasteful objects and classy furniture. It's also a hub for your social life, and there's nothing you like more than entertaining others in your home – much preferable to you than going out elsewhere. It's important that your partner understands this, and tolerates the ever changing cycle of friends coming through the door for this reason and that reason. As a parent you are fair but gentle, and probably something of a soft touch. A stricter partner will despair of your parenting skills, but nobody could deny that your children adore you. You strive hard to make your home a place of comfort and beauty at the same time, and you'll be perfectly happy for, for example, your kids' rooms to be messy so long as the "public" rooms are well kept. Maintaining a balance like this helps your happy home to thrive.

Scorpio on the Fourth House Cusp

With Scorpio on the cusp of the fourth house, we see a deep and very potent attachment to the home and to family life. Your relationship with your partner at home, and with your children too, will be intense and volatile, but underpinned by a steadfast loyalty which is hard to beat. Home then, is a place of drama, where emotional security can be hard to come by. Concentrate on making your lover and your kids know that, no matter the ups and downs, you will always be there for them. Your home is a place of passion, both in terms of anger and in terms of sexuality, and it's vital that you and your partner have plenty of private time together once kids come along. If you have a more easygoing partner, there could be conflict over your need to create and live dramas on a regular basis.

Sagittarius on the Fourth House Cusp

For you, home isn't a building, it's a state of mind. The emotional security you crave comes through your interests, hobbies, friendships and love relationship, much more than from having a place to call your own. It's simply somewhere convenient to store your stuff and to have a base. Disinterested as you are in making it beautiful or comfy, your home may well be chaotic, untidy and constantly in need of work, but it's a place filled with laughter and with learning too. As a parent, you are tremendously encouraging of your children, and you place very few rules or boundaries upon them. Sometimes, though, your loved ones might wish for a little more structure and a little less freedom – not everyone suits the peripatetic lifestyle you prefer. Try to learn to compromise with your partner on matters of settling down and staying put.

Capricorn on the Fourth House Cusp

When you have Capricorn on the fourth house cusp, you run a tight ship at home. Everything has its place and its function, and you don't do fripperies at home. Your home is well structured, neat and tidy, and functional. As a parent, you expect a great deal from your children, but you do provide them with wise counsel and a solid, dependable base – they will never want for emotional security while you are around. You care very much about how your home appears to others, as you want it to be respectable, so you probably have a leave-your-shoes-at-the-door policy. If your partner is more gregarious than you are, conflict can arise over his or her “unsuitable” friends coming round to your house – you're prepared to tolerate them elsewhere, but in your own home you draw a line in the sand.

Aquarius on the Fourth House Cusp

If you're not living on a commune, you probably should be! Your idealistic view of your home life extends to making sure that your home is as green and eco-friendly as it can be, and you bring your children up to be humanitarians and respectful of the earth. With no rules whatsoever, your home is the place where everyone likes to hang out, which is fine by you – when you're there. You're more than likely pursuing your interests elsewhere anyway, and you tend to leave your family to fend for themselves a great deal. Your children will grow up highly independent, which is a great gift to give them, but make sure that you and your partner are on the same wavelength over this – if he or she expects a traditional homemaker, they're with the wrong person.

Pisces on the Fourth House Cusp

Your home is an ethereal, magical place, filled with exotic beauty and mystical elements which reflect your other-worldly interests. A nurturing and compassionate base for your family, it's also your personal retreat and your hidey-hole away from the world. As such, you react very strongly when your safe and secure environment is threatened, which can be a source of much conflict with a partner who doesn't understand how much your surroundings mean to you. As a parent, your children are loved beyond measure, but you can be a little over-indulgent with them. If you have a partner who wants to offer constructive criticism to your children, you may fall out over him or her hurting the children's feelings, even with the best of intentions.

Key 4 ~ Eighth House Cusp

All of the pieces of the jigsaw we've looked at so far – who you are, what you need from a relationship, what you can offer a relationship and how your family life is likely to pan out – are vital pieces of information. However, this final key is perhaps even more important.

In astrology, the eighth house represents dark points in our lives, and in relationship astrology this refers specifically to where relationships have damaged us in the past, or where they might hurt us in the future. The sign on the cusp of the eighth house helps you to understand what you must learn in order to transform positively your love life, rather than negatively.

Look back at your list of the twelve houses, and remind yourself which sign is on the cusp of your eighth house, then read on.

Aries on the Cusp of the Eighth House

If you have Aries on the cusp of the eighth house, you no doubt have a very active sex life, which has perhaps even bordered on the promiscuous in the past. You have learnt many lessons from casual sexual partners, but your challenge is to learn to apply those lessons to a permanent relationship. This placement also indicates that you must learn to initiate transformation in the relationship, rather than being the passive partner. You need to learn to be the assertive one rather than the reactive one in the partnership. Only then can you learn to stand up for what you need and deserve in love, rather than just taking what you can get.

Taurus on the Cusp of the Eighth House

With this placing, one of your life lessons is to learn to separate money from love, and also to separate sex from love, in as much as realising that there's more to a great relationship than great sex. Many of your relationships have been ones where your partner has been able to spoil you financially, and this has attracted you, if you're honest, more than the partner themselves. Your challenge here is to accept that emotional security doesn't only come from being comfortably well off, and that a relationship which seems to be going nowhere financially can have just as much to offer you when you're truly in love.

Gemini on the Cusp of the Eighth House

If you have Gemini on the cusp of the eighth house, it's likely that your failed relationships have had communication issues. You don't communicate very openly with a partner, which frustrates him or her. It's as if you don't trust enough to be open about your feelings, but that drives people away from you. Your challenge is to start talking, and to keep talking, no matter what. Learn to talk things through, learn to talk just for the pure enjoyment of it. Learn to reach out to your partner intellectually as

well as physically, and you'll open up a whole new area in a relationship which is right for you.

Cancer on the Cusp of the Eighth House

With this placement, one of the lessons you have to learn in life is to not be afraid of your feelings. Your failed relationships have taught you that life isn't all one big joyful adventure, and that sometimes you have to settle down to the nitty gritty of how you feel and why you feel that way. Sexually, you find it hard to relax with a partner, and this can lead to emotional and physical distance between the two of you. The solution is simple – spend more time sharing how you really feel, and the intimacy will grow between you both. The more you can relax, the greater and deeper your bond will become, but if you're not prepared to go there, it won't happen.

Leo on the Cusp of the Eighth House

People with Leo on the cusp of the eighth house tend to be very showy in love, over-compensating for a lack of emotional warmth by buying extravagant gifts or being overly affectionate in public. The challenge, however, is to replicate all that drama and warmth in private. Your failed relationships have most likely ended with your partner feeling that you're only putting on a show of love rather than feeling the real thing. Your challenge is to show your lover that you are sincere all the time, not just when someone's looking. Spend less time trying to impress others and more time just being you, with your lover, without an audience.

Virgo on the Cusp of the Eighth House

If you have Virgo on the eighth house cusp, you probably take a very critical approach to your love life, which is enough to cause problems in even the most loving relationship. You're slightly detached when it comes to sex, treating it almost as a clinical experience, which troubles a partner who is earthy or passionate. It's not a problem if you don't have a high sex drive, but what could be a problem is when you're not honest about that. Communication is the key, as is ensuring that you find other ways to make your partner feel loved and special. Sex isn't the be all and end all of a good relationship, so don't let it be the undoing of yours.

Libra on the Cusp of the Eighth House

The lesson of Libra on the cusp of the eighth house is all about maintaining a sense of identity. In your failed relationships, you've probably spent far too much time trying to please your lover, and not enough time pleasing yourself – as a result you set up an unsustainable chain of expectations which eventually exhausts both of you. The challenge here is to assert yourself gently, and to be just who you are, rather than so-and-so's partner. Try to develop some interests away from the relationship in order to keep your self esteem healthy. Besides, you know what they say – absence makes the

heart grow fonder. Some time apart every now and then will do wonders for your relationship.

Scorpio on the Cusp of the Eighth House

When you have Scorpio on the cusp of the eighth house, it indicates an extremely high sex drive and a deep understanding of the role of sex and intimacy in a relationship. However, it also indicates a love of power games and a manipulative streak which may well have been the downfall of previous relationships, especially when you resort to using sex as a weapon to get your own way. The challenge for you is to learn to keep your wonderfully passionate nature while at the same time losing the need to win and the need to control your partner's behaviour. Focus more on your behaviour and less on his or hers.

Sagittarius on the Cusp of the Eighth House

You take a very philosophical approach to love if you have Sagittarius on the cusp of the eighth house. You're almost fatalistic in your "what will be, will be" mindset, and while this makes you a fun and laid back lover, it does also lead to a certain amount of laziness or even neglect in a relationship. Your lesson to learn is that all successful relationships take effort. Learn to put time into your partnership on a deep level, not just a fun level. Learn more about what makes your partner tick and try to avoid glossing over deeper issues in favour of superficialities.

Capricorn on the Cusp of the Eighth House

People with Capricorn on the cusp of the eighth house tend to be weighted down with feelings of responsibility in relationships. You have so much to worry about – paying the bills, bringing up the kids, keeping your lover happy – and since you're not a natural worrier, these responsibilities scare you. Outwardly, you don't come across as a particularly dutiful or responsible person, but inwardly you're terrified of letting anyone down. The key to overcoming this issue is own up to how you feel. Communicate with your partner, and share the responsibilities of your relationship equally. It's not all your job, and nor should it be. With some creative thinking, you can both shoulder the weight, leaving you freer to enjoy the bliss.

Aquarius on the Cusp of the Eighth House

If you have Aquarius on the cusp of the eighth house, you've probably suffered with "commitment issues" in the past. It's not that you don't want to settle down, because you really, badly, truly do want to. It's just that you're not quite sure if anyone measures up to your standards, so you prefer to maintain your freedom, just in case it all goes horribly wrong. Your challenge is to find a way to trust your partner so that you can make the lifelong commitment you really do want to make, without the accompanying sense of fear and dread. Alternatively, you need to learn to be strong enough to end the partnership if that trust simply isn't there.

Pisces on the Cusp of the Eighth House

People with Pisces on the cusp of the eighth house tend to be in denial about their relationship problems. What problems, you might wonder – surely everything's fine? You kid yourself and kid yourself, until one day you wake up and it's all over; only then do you realise that you had umpteen opportunities to mend the situation before it got to be too late. Your challenge with this placing is to be more honest with yourself about how a relationship is going, and to take steps early on to resolve any problems. Hiding your head in the sand is simply a recipe to repeat what has gone before.

Conclusion

Armed with the knowledge now of who you are, what you need from a relationship, what you offer in return, how your long term home life may pan out, and what lessons you need to learn about love, you're in a much better position to assess your existing relationship or to prepare for a new one.

The advice given in this ebook holds true for most people, but by necessity there are generalisations, because the advice is not based on your full birth chart, only on your ascendant sign or sun sign.

For a full picture, one hundred percent personalised to you, purchase an [Astromatcha compatibility report](#). These reports use the full birth charts of both partners, unique to you and based on your date, place and time of birth. The report analyses and synthesises the hundreds of complex astrological factors in play to provide you with personalised advice on that relationship, its strengths, its weaknesses and its potential.