

YOUR CHART EXPLAINED

1. ACCESS YOUR NATAL CHART

You can generate a free Natal Chart at any one of the astrology sites online simply by entering your date, time and place of birth into their algorithms. There are numerous sites to choose from but we have found Astrodienst and Cafe Astrology to be particularly user friendly:

- <https://www.astro.com/cgi/chart.cgi>
- <https://astro.cafeastrology.com/natal.php>

In order to produce an accurate chart, try to be as precise as possible about the time of your birth. Timing errors will not change the position of outer planets such as Uranus and Neptune, which take many years to complete their orbits, but will affect the placement of the Moon and inner planets such as Mercury.

2. ASTRODIENST (Figure 1)

Astrodienst produces the chart below. The wheel on the right shows the signs at the outer edge, marked at 5° intervals (total 30°). The leading edges or house cusps (1-12) are shown as lines radiating from the centre and running counterclockwise from the Ascendant (AC) on the far left. The planetary placements are given in the table marked here as A (by degree, sign, minutes and seconds) and placed appropriately on the wheel. For example, the Sun is at 23° Cancer 33' in the 11th House (seconds can be ignored when drawing the chart).

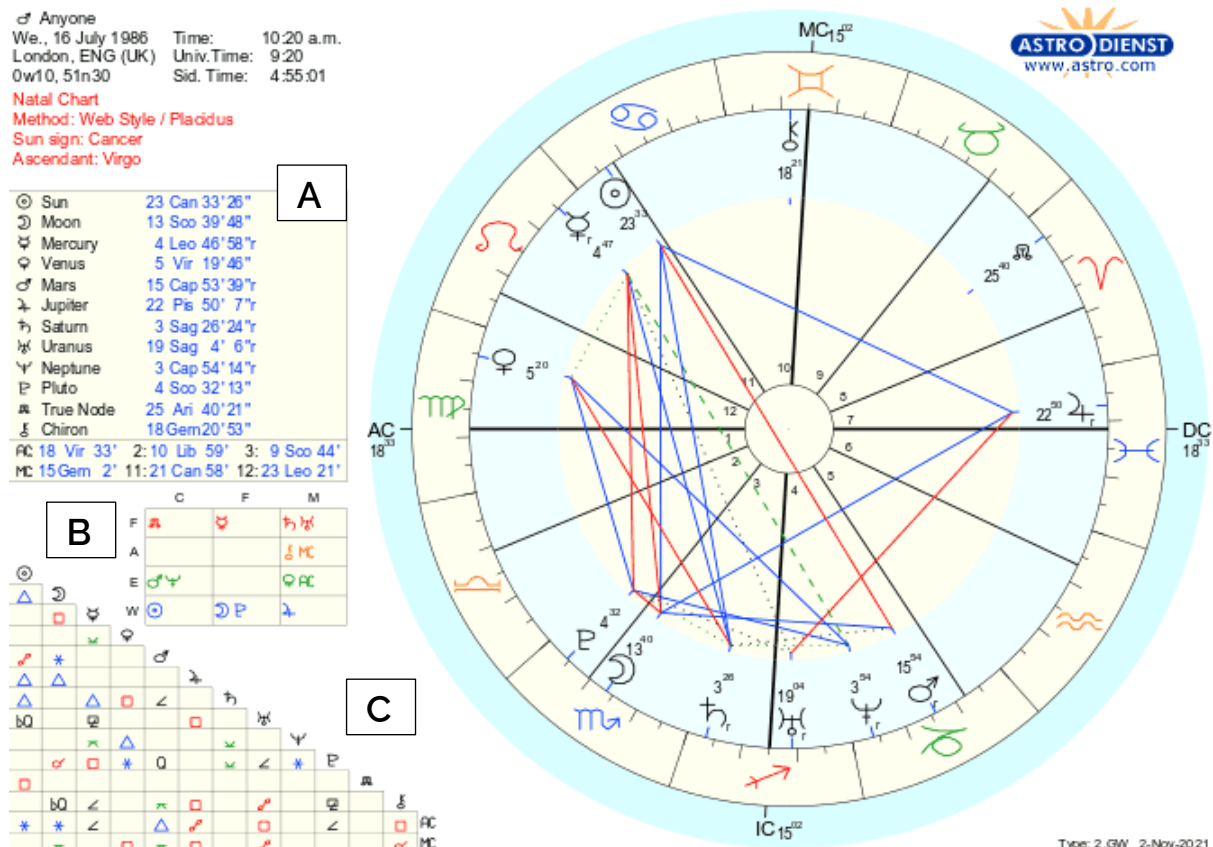


Figure 1 – Astrodienst Chart

Note that Natal Charts are always shown with the East on the left and the South at the top. The Sun therefore moves clockwise around the wheel in the opposite direction to the Signs and Houses.

Table A also shows the positions of:

- Ω - The True Node or North Node, also known as Rahu and the Dragon's Head (25° Aries 40'). This indicates the path to spiritual growth. It is thought that, in past lives, we have neglected the affairs of the North Node house and now these affairs are a matter of extreme importance. One can refuse to do the work of this house but if so, the North Node will reappear here in our next incarnation with additional stress points to force completion of the work. By contrast, we have used the qualities of the South Node house repeatedly to the point that certain traits are ingrained in our personality. These now need to be re-evaluated with new ideas and thoughts from the North Node. The North and South Nodes are always in opposition.
- ξ - Chiron the 'wounded healer', which is where the greatest wound is felt in our chart but where we also have the potential for greatest healing (18° Gemini 20'). Named after the centaur in Greek mythology who was a wise teacher and healer but ironically could not heal himself, Chiron in our Natal Chart points to where we have healing powers as the result of our own deep spiritual wounds.
- AC - The Ascendant or sign rising in the East at the time of our birth (18° Virgo 33'). This equates to sunrise – the moment we first opened our eyes and 'saw' the world and describes the lens through which we view life. The Ascendant is also the cusp (leading edge) of the 1st House which relates to our fundamental nature. This entry is followed by the cusp positions of the 2nd and 3rd Houses (10° Libra 59' and 9° Scorpio 44' respectively).

The positions of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd House cusps automatically give those of the house cusps directly opposite them – the Descendant (DC) or 7th House cusp and those of the 8th and 9th Houses.

- MC - The Medium Coeli (Latin for 'middle of the sky') or Highest Heaven (15° Gemini 2'). This marks the sign that was directly overhead at the moment of our birth and broadly equates to noon. It is the zenith and most public point in our chart, indicating where our greatest achievements will occur in life and signifying our social standing and reputation. The MC is also the cusp of the 10th House which relates to our career and life aspirations.

As with the AC-DC axis, the MC is 180° opposite the IC or Imum Coeli – Latin for 'bottom of the sky'. This is also known as the Lowest Heaven and broadly equates to midnight. It represents the nadir and most private, inner part of our chart, as well as the cusp of the 4th house which concerns our emotional foundations. Again, the positions of the 11th and 12th House cusps follow (21° Cancer 58' and 23° Leo 21') which are directly opposite those of the 5th and 6th Houses respectively. (Read more at [The Houses & Cusps](#)).

The table marked as B shows the distribution of planets by modality (Cardinal, Fixed, Mutable) and Element (Fire, Earth, Air, Water) indicating the basic nature of the chart. (Read more at [Astrology Basics](#)).

Table C shows the planetary Aspects (trines, squares, etc.) which is a complex subject and beyond the remit of this site. If you are interested, you should consult a professional astrologer or undertake some further reading (see below).

3. CAFE ASTROLOGY (Figure 2)

Cafe Astrology provides the same information in tabular form, as well as on a wheel (at the end of their report). The tables show:

- D – the positions of the planets (by sign and degree)
- E – the positions of the house cusps (by sign and degree), and
- F – which planets are in which houses.

Instead of Chiron, Cafe Astrology gives the position of Black Moon Lilith ♁ which represents our darker (and sometimes repressed) natures and indicates where we may experience shame.

D				E			F				
Zodiac : Tropical				Placidus Orb : 0							
☉	Sun	♋	Cancer	23°34'	I ASC	♍	Virgo	18°33'	☉	Sun	in XI
☾	Moon	♏	Scorpio	13°40'	II	♎	Libra	10°59'	☾	Moon	in III
☿	Mercury	♌	Leo	4°47' R	III	♏	Scorpio	9°43'	☿	Mercury	in XI
♀	Venus	♍	Virgo	5°20'	IV	♐	Sagittarius	15°02'	♀	Venus	in XII
♂	Mars	♐	Capricorn	15°53' R	V	♐	Capricorn	21°58'	♂	Mars	in IV
♃	Jupiter	♓	Pisces	22°51' R	VI	♒	Aquarius	23°21'	♃	Jupiter	in VII
♄	Saturn	♐	Sagittarius	3°26' R	VII	♓	Pisces	18°33'	♄	Saturn	in III
♅	Uranus	♐	Sagittarius	19°04' R	VIII	♈	Aries	10°59'	♅	Uranus	in IV
♆	Neptune	♐	Capricorn	3°55' R	IX	♉	Taurus	9°43'	♆	Neptune	in IV
♇	Pluto	♏	Scorpio	4°32'	X MC	♊	Gemini	15°02'	♇	Pluto	in II
♁	Lilith	♊	Gemini	15°34'	XI	♋	Cancer	21°58'	♁	Lilith	in X MC
♊	N Node	♈	Aries	25°30'	XII	♌	Leo	23°21'	♊	N Node	in VIII

Figure 2 – Cafe Astrology Tables

Cafe Astrology's report also shows the breakdown of elements, modalities and gender, as well as the planetary aspects and other significant points such as the Part of Fortune.

Most importantly, it provides a free in-depth reading of your Natal Chart, indicating what each planet and house placement means.

4. DAY OR NIGHT CHARTS

One simple thing you can understand just by looking at your chart is whether you have a day or a night chart. If your Sun is above the horizon or in houses 7 to 12, you have a day chart; if it is below the horizon or in houses 1 to 6, you have a night chart.

People with day (or diurnal) charts tend to be more expressive, outgoing and extroverted with an energetic and open approach to life. On the other hand, people with night (or nocturnal) charts are likely to be more reserved, introspective and emotionally receptive.

There are also diurnal and nocturnal planets, signs and houses:

TYPE	DIURNAL	NOCTURNAL
PLANETS	Sun Jupiter Saturn Mercury – if it rises before the Sun	Moon Venus Mars Mercury – if it sets after the Sun
SIGNS	Aries Gemini Leo Libra Sagittarius Aquarius	Taurus Cancer Virgo Scorpio Capricorn Pisces
HOUSES	Numbers 7 -12	Numbers 1 – 6

Essentially, in a day chart, the diurnal planets have a stronger influence, whereas in a night chart, the nocturnal planets rule.

So if you have a day chart, you will act much like your Sun sign, especially if you have Leo Rising (in which case the Sun rules your chart) or if your diurnal planets (the Sun, Jupiter, Saturn and maybe Mercury) are in diurnal signs (Aries, Gemini, Leo, Libra, Sagittarius or Aquarius).

If you have a night chart, however, you may resonate more with your Moon sign, especially if it's placed in a nocturnal sign (Taurus, Cancer, Virgo, Scorpio, Capricorn or Pisces). If your Venus, Mars and Mercury are also in nocturnal signs, they can be a positive source of power for you.

5. GOING DEEPER

There's loads more to learn more about your chart – its overall shape, nature and karma; the significance of stelliums and intercepted signs; the Moon Phases; Aspects and Transits; and Sabian Symbols, to name but a few.

Luckily, there are a huge number of astrology sites and books that can help and, in our opinion, one of the best is 'A Spiritual Approach to Astrology' by Myrna Lofthus.