

TWOOFOWLS TAROT

Tarot Basics II

Tools you will need:

- a tarot deck (preferably a Waite-Smith style deck)
- a notebook
- pen

The Minors are broken up into four different suits and each suit represents a different element. As well as elements, each suit also corresponds to a different aspect of our lives. We will first go through each suit and talk about all of the associations within it and then we will break up each suit into numbered cards and give each one a keyword, just like we did with the Majors. Demystifying the Minors will unlock most of the deck since this is the bulk of cards within the Tarot.

By the end of Course II, you will have a basic concept of card meanings within the Minors and will be able to integrate them with the Majors and conduct readings confidently. Each suit will get its own time in the spotlight and then we will break them up, creating a list of the cards one through ten, and match them with their most prevalent keyword. Just like Course I, take all the time you want and review as needed. Take a moment before you begin and separate the Minors into the different suits, stacking them in numerical order 10 on the bottom and 1 on the top. This will give you a visual representation of the cards as we discuss them and help solidify those correspondences as we progress through them.

As was mentioned earlier, the majority of the cards in the Tarot are right here in the Minors so this course has a lot of moving parts and may take longer to absorb than the previous. Don't allow yourself to get frustrated if you get stuck. Take breaks as needed and don't be afraid to walk away and come back to it later when you've allowed some time to take in what you've covered already. Take notes, just simply writing it down is an effective way to get information to stick.

SUITS

The Minors are broken up into four different suits. Each one consists of ten numbered cards and represents that element from 1, a seed, through the manifestation of the 10, completion. Through this we can see in any reading where the querent sits within the flow of manifestation. If the reading consists of mainly smaller numbers, the idea or concept is still in the early stages. In the reverse, if there are mainly larger numbers present, the question has already manifested, or is in the process of manifesting and makes it more significant to the querent. Below will be listed the different suits and their attachment to the element they represent, starting with the cups and on down through to the pentacles.

Cups-

The suit of cups represents **emotions** and its element is **water**. All of the cards within it all have to deal with our emotional connection to the question asked. How does this particular situation make us feel? How can we better align our emotional state to match what we wish to manifest? This suit is key to unlocking the right emotional attitude in order to manifest our best.

Swords-

The suit of swords represents **thought** and its element is **air**. Every card in this suit represents how our minds are connected to our end goal. Are we mentally prepared to take on a new endeavor? Will the feeling of assured success be a boon or a bane when it comes time to get down to business? This suit is important in readings by giving us a concrete road map to what is going on inside the mind.

Wands-

The suit of wands represents **action** its element is **fire**. Each card in this suit is asking us to either take a particular action or to check in with ourselves and ask is this action the right one to take in order to see success. If I do this, will it result in that? Are all of my actions thus far helping me or hurting me? Actions are the step after thought so this will show the progression between the two suits in a reading.

Pentacles

The suit of pentacles represents **physical effects** and its element is **earth**. Every card within shows how we manifest in the earthly realm, such as money or other tangible forms of accrual. Am I making enough money to support myself

in this particular endeavor? If I do this, will it result in the gains I want? Cards in this suit will show in a reading if the querent is able to turn his/her actions into desired, physical wants or needs.

The interaction between the suits within a reading will lay out a story and tell us exactly where the state of the matter lies. For example, if we see lower numbers in the suit of swords but higher numbers in the suit of pentacles, there is a disconnect between the state of thought verses what is desired to be physically manifested. If we see high numbers in the suit of cups but lower numbers in the wands, the emotions of completion are there but action to accomplish isn't where it needs to be.

Keywords

With the suits and their meanings in a clearer space, let's begin to break down each individual card and match them to a keyword. Due to the sheer number of cards and to keep it as simple as possible, each card will be listed under each suit and then given its meaning. Just as with the suits, we will start with the cups, emotions, and work our way through the pentacles, physical effects.

Cups-

1. Contentment
2. Passion
3. Plenty
4. Aversion
5. Forlorn
6. Memories
7. Imagination
8. Timidity
9. Advantage
10. Success

Swords-

1. Force
2. Courage
3. Delay
4. Retreat
5. Degradation
6. Route
7. Attempt
8. Crisis
9. Despair
10. Desolation

Wands-

1. Creation
2. Choice
3. Enterprise
4. Peace
5. Imitation
6. Victory
7. Vantage
8. Speed
9. Strength in opposition
10. Oppression

Pentacles-

1. Contentment
2. Recreation
3. Trade (as in work)
4. Possession
5. Trouble
6. Gifts
7. Resources
8. Work
9. Safety
10. Riches

Remember as you are working your way through these keywords, each one will correspond to the suit that it is in. For example, the 7 of pentacles is the accrual of resources within the physical realm. A literal 'resources of resources' and so on.

Best practices to nail down these keywords is to take it like flashcards just like we did for the Majors. Go through each card and say it aloud, the keyword, and then move on to the next. Once you feel comfortable with this, shuffle them so they are mixed in together and then proceed to go through them one by one again. Remember too, having the keyword is nice but at the core of every reading is intuition. Listen to your inner voice and let that guide you in how to interpret any and every card. Sometimes, what speaks to our conscience won't be the keyword at all. We may be drawn to something within the card and therein lies its message.

Once you are comfortable, go back to Course I and use the same techniques we used for the Majors, but now incorporate the Minors into your deck. Start with two card readings and move your way up, building your confidence and efficiency as you go. It is important to note, now that we have almost a full deck in use, it will help interpret meanings by looking at the Majors as the key players, the star role, and the minors as supporting actors. Break down the message of the Major first, and then work your way through the Minors adding depth and understanding to the reading.

Never forget, practice makes confidence! Confidence in your ability is the key to any successful reading. Trust yourself and your intuition, let that be your guide. There are no wrong answers. Building this trust will be paramount when we start to add the third and final layer with the Courts in Course III.

This concludes Course II