How To Tell Your Fortune With Playing Cards & Dice

By Richard L. Tenace
Playing Card Fortunes

CARTOMANCY is the name given to the art of telling fortunes from playing cards. Because of the great antiquity of cards and their use all over the world, different ways of using them have developed, and for those who prefer this manner of looking into the future there are several methods available.

Gypsies have always been associated with the telling of fortunes, and so one of their methods is given in the following pages. The great secret of successful card reading is concentration. If you are telling your own fortune, think, with all your might, of the thing you most desire! If you are reading for someone else, concentrate on that person. Above all, do not chatter, as this breaks the spell.

1) From a deck of cards remove all those below 7 of each suit, and lay them away; they are not to be used.

2) Shuffle the pack of 32 cards three times.

3) Cut them towards you with the left hand, into three piles, face down.

4) Remove the top card from each pile and lay aside.

5) Gather up the others and begin to deal them, three at a time.

6) From each group of three remove the highest. If two or three of the same value turn up, keep them all.

7) Continue turning up threes through the entire pack.

8) Shuffle the remaining cards, but do not cut and continue the process until you have drawn 21 or more cards. The number must be uneven, and you must continue turning them up until the card representing yourself, or your subject, has come up.

9) Now take all the cards that have been drawn and lay them in a semicircle on the table, beginning at your left.

10) It is now time to decide which card is to represent the subject.

- The King and Queen of Diamonds represent very fair persons.
- The King and Queen of Hearts represent those a little darker in complexion.
- The King and Queen of Clubs represent the brunettes.
- The King and Queen of Spades represent those who are very dark.

11) Once this point is settled, study the cards carefully for a moment or two and note their position in relation to the subject.

12) Link up the meanings of the cards lying next to each other, and build up your story from them.

13) To continue, gather up all the cards in the fortune.

14) Shuffle them, cut with the left hand and make them into seven piles.

15) Take up the first pile, spread out the cards face upward and read them. These show what is coming “To Yourself.”

16) The second pile is titled, “To Your House.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Richard L. Tenace is a professional reader with over 20 years of experience. He uses the power of the tarot, plus many other reading systems, to help empower others and to help people fix the issues and problems that come into their life. He is a tarot life coach who uses the symbols, archetypes, and energy of the cards to help create more joy, happiness, and spirituality in people’s lives.

He is an author, speaker, and workshop leader on all aspects of reading and New Age topics. He lectures on the tarot, palmistry, symbols, magick, and ancient religions. He performs over 200 readings a year and can be seen at psychic fairs across the country helping people with the issues of everyday life.


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17) The third pile is titled, “What You May Expect.”
18) The fourth pile is titled, “What is Sure to Come.”
19) The fifth pile is titled, “What you do not expect.”
20) The sixth pile is titled, “Your Wish.”
21) The seventh pile is titled, “Surprise!”

When you are telling your own fortune, do the shuffling and cutting yourself, but when you are reading for someone else, have that person do it.

Each card may be placed two ways, upright and reversed. In some packs the upright position is easily recognized by the design on the back.

When a pack is used regularly for fortune telling, the cards may be marked in some way to distinguish the two positions.

Card Meanings

**HEARTS**

Ace: Love letter; pleasant news.
Ace, reversed: Visit from friend.

King: Friendly middle-aged man possibly relative.
King, reversed: He will be disappointed.

Queen: Mild amiable woman, friend or relative.
Queen, reversed: She has been crossed in love.

Knave: Gay young pleasure-loving bachelor.
Knave, reversed: A discontented military man.

Ten: Excellent sign for love, happiness and triumph.
Ten, reversed: Slight anxiety.

Nine: The wish card. If it comes out on the table your wish will come true.
Nine, reversed: A passing annoyance.

Eight: Kind thoughts. Affection of a fair person.
Eight, reversed: Indifference on his or her part.

Seven: Pleasant company or good news.

Now examine each pack in turn. If you find the card you turned up next to the card representing yourself, next to the Ace of Hearts or the Nine of Hearts, you will get your wish.

If the card you turned up is in the same pack but not next to any of these cards, your wish will come true, but at a later date.

If the Nine of Spades is in the same pack, it is too bad. Look out for a disappointment.

**What the Dice Foretell**

1) Draw a circle on a large sheet of paper.
2) Take 3 dice and shake with the left hand and cast them so that they fall within the Circle.
3) Interpret according to the following rules. (Do not throw on Mondays or Wednesdays!)

3 - Pleasant surprise.
4 - Disagreeable surprise.
5 - A stranger will prove a friend.
6 - Loss of property.
8 - Deserved reproach.
9 - A wedding.
10 - A christening.
11 - A death.
12 - A letter.
13 - Tears and sighs.
14 - Trouble from a secret enemy.
15 - Prosperity and happiness soon.
16 - A pleasant journey.
18 - Great profit.

If the same number comes up twice, it means news from abroad.
Three Eights: Thoughts of marriage. If some are reversed, a flirtation.

Two Eights: Brief dream of love. If one is reversed, small pleasures.
Four Sevens: Intrigues. Reversed: They will be harmless.

Suits

Hearts: Denote joy, pleasure and the fulfillment of hopes. If reversed, they merely mean delay.

Diamonds: Less fortunate; unpleasant letters, disagreements, lack of harmony.

Spades: Generally unfortunate.

Clubs: Money or business. If some are reversed, they foretell difficulties along these lines.

Aces

1) Shuffle a pack of cards and cut with the left hand.
2) Draw 13 cards and lay them on one side, face up.

Should all four aces show up brilliant success will come to you in all your undertakings.

If all the aces do not appear the first time, you may repeat the experiment.

Moderate success may be looked for in the second and third attempts, but failure if they do not show up in three trials.

Wishes

Of course we all want to know if our wishes are going to come true. The cards can tell, and this is how it is done.

Shuffle the cards, always keeping your thoughts fixed on your wish.

Cut them once and note carefully which card turns up.

Shuffle again and deal into three packs.

Seven, reversed: Weariness and boredom.

CLUBS

Ace, reversed: The joy will be of brief duration.

King: A nice middle-aged man fond of helping his friends.
King, reversed: He will meet with disappointment.

Queen: An affectionate woman and one of talent.
Queen, reversed: Jealous and malicious.

Knave: Young man of forceful character, clever and enterprising. Probably high in his profession.
Knave, reversed: A flirt and a flatterer.

Ten: Business discussion or a fortunate business move bringing success or grandeur.
Ten, reversed: Bad luck in some matter.

Nine: Unexpected gain or a legacy. Sometimes a business change.
Nine, reversed: A trifling present.

Eight: Affections of a dark person that, if returned, will bring prosperity.
Eight, reversed: Undesirable affections and possible unhappiness.

Seven: A small sum of money, such as payment of unexpected debt. Minor business affairs.
Seven, reversed: A smaller amount of money.

DIAMONDS

Ace: Marriage or engagement. Letter with good news
Ace, reversed: Bad news.

King: Fair, middle-aged man, wealthy. If next to Knave of Hearts, a love interest.
King, reversed: A possible danger caused by him.

Queen: Blonde or red-headed woman who loves scandal.
Queen, reversed: She is a menace.
Knave: Young man, an unfaithful friend.
Knave, reversed: Will cause mischief.

Ten: Change of home. Journey by water.
Ten, reversed: Not fortunate.

Nine: Money.
Nine, reversed: A quarrel.

Eight: Small amount of money. An unexpected check or a raise!
Eight, reversed: The money does not materialize.

Seven: Borrowed money returned.
Seven, reversed: A foolish scandal.

**SPADES**

Ace: Pleasure.
Ace, reversed: Bad news. A serious illness or legal controversy.

King: An enemy, a man to be feared.
King, reversed: Impotent malice.

Queen: A middle-aged widow.
Queen, reversed: A dangerous and malicious woman.

Knave: Dark young man. Clever, but out to achieve for himself.
Knave, reversed: He is plotting some mischief!

Ten: A journey by road.
Ten, reversed: Brief affection.

Nine: Disagreeable news; quarrels; gossip; scandal.
Nine, reversed: Death of a relative.

Eight: Annoyance in business.
Eight, reversed: A divorce, or an offer refused.

Seven: Slight annoyances, changes.

Seven, reversed: A foolish intrigue.

**SEQUENCES**

Four Aces together, or following each other: Change of business not altogether good! If some are reversed, bad effect is lessened.

Three Aces: Good results from something under consideration. If some are reversed, folly.

Two Aces: A plot. If Diamonds and Spades, money through a death. If some are reversed, the plot will be unsuccessful.

Four Kings: Honors, dignities. If some are reversed, they will be less.

Three Kings: Business conference. If some are reversed, success is doubtful.

Two Kings: Business partnership. If some are reversed, a break-up of the association is possible.

Three or Four Queens: A party, a meeting of friends. If some are reversed, chattering and deceit will result.

Four Knaves: A noisy party of young people. If some are reversed, scandal will result.

Three Knaves: False friends. If some are reversed, a quarrel is indicated.

Two Knaves: Evil intentions. If some are reversed, danger.

Four Tens: A journey by road. Good success in projected enterprises. If some are reversed, success will not be so outstanding.

Three Tens: Improper conduct. If some are reversed, failure.

Two Tens: Change of trade or profession. If one is reversed, the prospect is remote.

Three or Four Nines: Joy, fortune, health, surprise. If some are reversed, money will be lost by imprudence.

Four Eights: Short journey. If some are reversed, the return of a friend or relative.