

The Emperor

When you think of the emperor, you think of royalty, privilege.

Basic Card Symbols: Throne, ram's heads, orb and sceptre. Sometimes an eagle

Keywords: authority, regulation, direction, structure

Range of Meaning: Upright/Positive: Exercising authority, Defining limits. Directing the flow of work. Communicating clear guidelines. Being in control of yourself and others. Tempering aggressive masculinity with wisdom and experience.

Upside down/Negative: Micromanaging. Crushing the creativity of others with a rigid, iron-fisted approach. Insisting on getting your own way. Assuming a dictatorial mindset. Using overt force to achieve your goals and maintain order.

Correspondences: Archetype: The father **Hebrew Alphabet:** He/Window/5, or in some decks, Tzaddi/fish hook/90

Numbers: 4 (stability, equality, persistence)

Planetary/Astrological/Elemental: Mars/Aries

Mythical/Spiritual: Masculine Goda, including the Hebrew God, the Christian God, Allah, and Zeus. Patriarchs (Abraham) and lawgivers (Moses). Vishnu, the preserver.

Story: A stern figure seeks to control or restrain the main character by reminding himself or her of responsibilities and obligations.

For the month: This seems to go with the month so far. You will feel that you are overwhelmed and can not control what you have been able to control before. You feel you are able to multitask, do it all. Slow down, it will get done. Even though no one can do it like you can, there is nothing wrong with delegating your jobs to others. You can always look over them when they are finished.

Relationship: Without being false or deceptive, you can regulate your feelings and reactions. Beware the need to always be in control; a healthy relationship incorporates a fair division of labor. Be on the lookout for subtle efforts to wear the pants in the relationship.

Work: Efficient groups depend on centralized control. Seek ways to direct the flow without micromanaging the process. Encourage leaders (including yourself) to step up to the plate and embrace their obligations. Control what you can; don't worry about the rest.

Spiritually: The stereotypical view of religion casts organized faith in restrictive terms. Rather than be constrained by structure, consider how structure and discipline might enhance your spiritual experience. Seek guidance and direction from those who have walked the path before you.

Personal growth: In what ways do your attitudes towards authority seem to be shaped by a relationship with your father? A mature person recognizes that structure and authority are a requirement of civilization. Some resist purely out of habit or stubbornness; when you buck the system, be sure you have good reason to do so.