

The Basics

One of the most important parts of any angel oracle card or tarot reading is the spread. A spread is a pattern of laying out cards where specific positions of the pattern provide insight into various aspects of the question being asked. Certainly one of the most famous of all spreads is the Celtic Cross. This 10 card spread gives great detail regarding any topic including the basis of the situation, aspects that are “crossing” or affecting the situation, the recent past, the present, the future, etc.

What many people may not know is that creating your own spread is actually rewarding, fun, and quite easy! Much like all aspects of giving or receiving a reading, it just takes a bit of intuition and practice. There are five basic things to consider when creating a spread. They are:

- Grounding and asking for guidance
- The purpose of the spread
- Determining the number of cards in the layout
- The shape or layout of the spread
- Deciding what each card’s position represents

Grounding & Guidance

When creating spreads, I like to take a moment to ground myself and to say a meditation to the Archangels that I feel would be helpful. I prefer to have four angels around me at the four corners of the space I’m in. First of all, Archangel Gabriel is wonderful for creative projects. Archangel Uriel provides us with enlightenment and epiphanies. Archangel Haniel helps us to fully be in our psychic abilities. And finally, Archangel Michael provides protection that helps us to feel completely empowered for our task. It doesn’t matter which Archangel you place at which corner. Just let your intuition guide you! And if a different set of four Archangels feels right to you, then by all means, invite them in!

The Purpose

Once I’ve said my prayer for insight and guidance, I begin to consider what the purpose of the spread is going to be. Is it about romance? Career? Am I trying to create a spread that is for a particular topic, or is it a more general spread that can be used in any situation. For example, included in this packet is a spread I created called “Choices, Choices!” The purpose of the spread is for those times when we have multiple options before us, but we don’t know which to pursue. This

spread can be used for any topic and is designed to expand to accommodate as many possible choices as you have in front of you!

The “Healing Heart” spread that I’ve included in this booklet is mainly meant to give insight into romantic or very intimate relationships. However in truth, you could use it for any situation where two people (a sibling, a boss or supervisor, etc.) are involved with just a little tweaking.

How Many?

The next step is to decide how many cards will be in the spread. I tend to ask my angels and accept the first number I receive from my Divine guidance. If the number seven suddenly pops into my awareness, then I will start with a seven card spread.

Another way that people choose the number of cards in a spread is to jot down on a piece of paper all the questions that they think people would have on the topic. For example, if the spread is designed for relationship issues, you might write down questions such as:

- How does the other person feel about me?
- Is this relationship in my highest and greatest good?
- Does this relationship have a promising future or is it temporary?

Try to come up with questions that will provide the type of insight you are trying to create for yourself or your clients. The number of questions may determine the number of cards. I prefer spreads that are 10 cards or less. (Sometimes less is more.) Still, no matter if it’s 2, 8, or 20 cards, just follow your intuition!

Finally, one other way that you could come up with the number of cards is to ask a deck such as Angel Tarot Cards, Archangel Power Tarot Cards, or any deck that has numbers on the face. For example, if I were to pull “The Chariot” which is card #7 from the Major Arcana, then I’d work with a seven card spread. Now if were to pull a large number like “The Sun” which is card #19 of the Major Arcana, then I’d probably pause and ask for more guidance. A spread with 19 cards would be a very large spread, indeed! But not the largest spread I’ve ever seen (or even created.) If 19 feels like too large a spread for the question, then reduce the numbers by adding the 1+9 and see if 10 cards feels more appropriate.

No matter how you come up with the number, be open to changes. If you get to the end of creating the spread only to realize that you have more (or less) positions that you first anticipated, then allow your creativity and intuition to adjust the number up or down as necessary. It’s probably best when just beginning to create spreads to keep the number of cards to 7 or less. Just till you get the hang of it!

The Shape

Once you have the purpose of the spread and the number of cards, it's time to decide what your spread is going to look like. Spreads are made up of anything from straight rows of cards, shapes such as squares or circles, or even symbols that represent the purpose. The "Healing Hearts" spread I included in this packet is shaped like a heart! If the purpose of your spread is career, then you might lay out the cards in a star shape and call it "The Rising Star." (That's actually a good idea! I'll have to try that!)

You may even want to consider having certain cards that cross one another, much like cards 1 and 2 of the Celtic Cross. Generally the card that is lying horizontally across the vertical card is said to be affecting whatever the vertical card represents. However, you can make it mean whatever you want to! Creating a spread is all about intention. You tell the Universe or Spirit how you want the message to come to you, and it will gladly follow along!

The Meanings

Finally, you'll need to decide what each position of the spread pertains to. If you came up with the number of cards by listing out the questions you want answered, then you are already most of the way there. If not, now is the time to decide what information you are trying to receive from the spread. Right down a list of questions. Then try to place those questions in a logical order where one answer relates to the question before.

As an example, a career spread might read as follows:

- How does my client feel about their career right now?
- Is it time for a change in career for them?
- What type of work would make my client most happy?
- How might they go about getting the perfect job?
- Would my client do well being self-employed?
- Final outcome of this situation.

It's fairly common for the last card of a spread to be a "Final Outcome" card. This just gives you and your client an idea of where their current situation is headed. As in all readings, there is always free will. Sometimes angel oracle and tarot cards are giving us a "head's up" regarding the direction in which we are headed so that we can change it if we are not happy with it.

Once you have your questions, it's time to assign specific meanings to each card!

Practice, Practice, Practice!

Now it's time to take your new spread for a test drive! It's a good idea to try the spread on several people to see how it works. Feel free to make changes to the spread as you learn what does and doesn't work. You can even add or subtract a card if you decide the spread isn't working in its original format.

Another great way to test a spread is to post it on our community Facebook page, www.facebook.com/certifiedangelcardreaders. There you are sure to get lots of feedback on how your spread is working for others. And people generally love to see a new spread on that page! So share it with us!

Sample Spreads

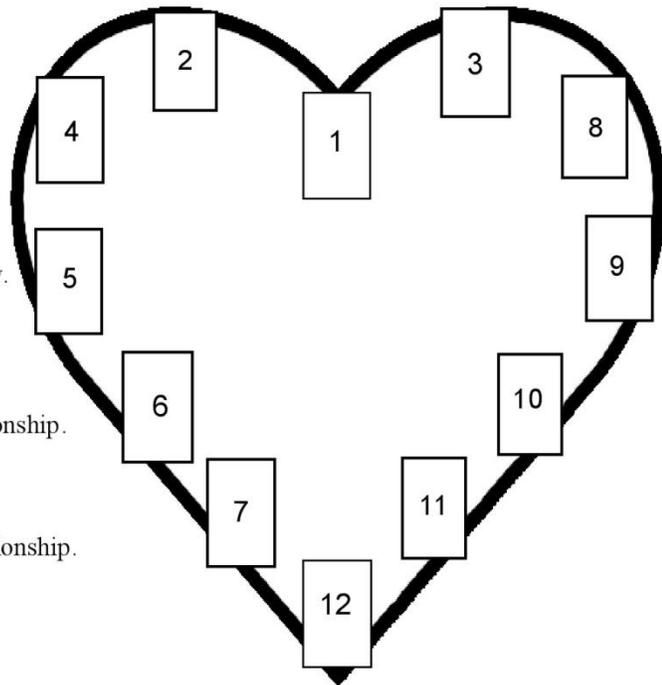
So here are a few layouts that I hope will inspire you to create new and original spreads of your own!!

Healing Heart Relationship Spread

One thing I really like about this spread is that you can compare cards across the heart to see if the two people in questions are in sync with one another. For example, card 4 asks what person A's hopes for the relationship are. Card 8 asks what person B's hopes for the relationship are. If those two cards are in conflict with one another, then right away you have important information for your client. As stated before, this spread can be used for non-romantic pairings as well such as your client and a supervisor, a person and a sibling, etc.

Healing Heart Relationship Spread

- Card 1 The key issue in the relationship right now.
- Card 2 Where the relationship is strong.
- Card 3 Where the relationship is challenged.
- Card 4 Person A's hopes for the relationship.
- Card 5 Person A's true feelings for their partner.
- Card 6 How Person A adversely affects the relationship.
- Card 7 How Person A could help their partner.
- Card 8 Person B's hopes for the relationship.
- Card 9 Person B's true feelings for their partner.
- Card 10 How Person B adversely affects the relationship.
- Card 11 How Person B could help their partner.
- Card 12 Likely future of the relationship.

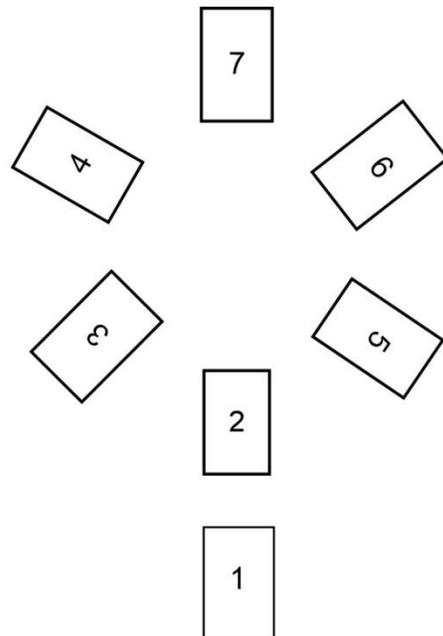


Dream Garden Spread

A big question for people these days is “Are my dreams going to come true?” This is a great spread for doing a quick pulse check on how your clients’ hopes are progressing. You can also get some great actions steps in this spread. Maybe even a total course correction!

Dream Garden Spread

- Card 1 The progress of your efforts.
- Card 2 The voice of your subconscious.
- Card 3 Your passion for your dream.
- Card 4 Partnerships in your garden.
- Card 5 Action steps!
- Card 6 Action steps!
- Card 7 Will your garden bloom?



X Marks the Spot!

Here's a great spread for career questions. It's particularly good for clients who are sitting on the fence about whether to make a career move or not. The spread does not assume that moving right now is the right idea which leaves the door open for a very objective reading.

X Marks the Spot!

Card 1: How does the querent feel about their career at this moment?

Card 2: How does the querent's current situation differ from what they had hoped?

Card 3: What could the querent do to improve their current work situation?

Card 4: What benefit might there be for the querent to remain in their current work situation at this time?

Card 5: Is this a good time for the querent to pursue a different job or career change?

Card 6: Are the querent's ideas for job or career change in their best interest?

Card 7: Should the querent consider becoming self employed?

Card 8: What kind of work would give the querent the most joy?

Card 9: What is the most important action the querent could take at this moment?

1

5

2

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4

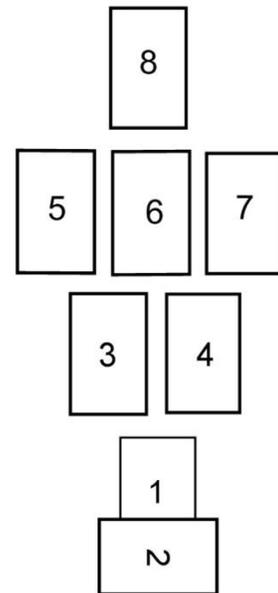
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Plan B!

Ya know... sometimes our plans just don't work out the way we had anticipated. For those moments, I created the "Plan B!" It's great for your clients who feel that they are just running into one obstacle after another. Maybe it's time to make some changes...

Plan B!

- Card 1 What you're trying to accomplish.
- Card 2 The experience you are having on this journey.
- Card 3 Earthly Challenges.
- Cards 4 Unconscious hurdles.
- Card 5-7 Changes to make to your current plans.
- Cards 8 The results you can expect by implementing Plan B!



Lucky 7 Spread

Here is an example of a spread that uses a “crossing card”, much like the Celtic Cross. Card 2 gives us information into the client’s current situation and card 3 enlightens us as to what’s getting in their way.

Lucky 7 Spread

Card 1: A situation or person from the past that is affecting the querent’s experience of prosperity in the here and now.

Card 2: The querent’s current situation or attitude regarding money.

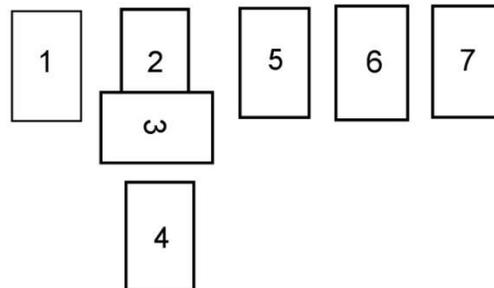
Card 3: Blocks or challenges to the kind of abundance the querent would like to be experiencing.

Card 4: What types of resources does the querent have at their disposal to increase their good fortune that they are unaware of or not fully utilizing? (This may include talent, time, help or advice from others, etc.)

Card 5: What types of changes should the querent make to increase their wealth?

Card 6: Events or people coming in the near future that the querent should embrace in order to improve their situation.

Card 7: The likelihood that the querent’s current path will lead to the kind of improved abundance that they are seeking.



Choices, Choices!

So, this spread is a little more complex. I call these types of layouts “expandable spreads.” In “Choices, Choices”!, cards 8-10 provide the same information as cards 4-6 as they pertain to the 2nd choice while card 11 shows the final outcome. It’s easy to see how you could add 3 more cards for details surrounding a 3rd choice with an additional outcome card. Just line up all the outcome cards along the top of the spread and you’ll be able to see at a glance which choice provides the greatest joy and success.

Or if your querent is lucky, they may find out that all their possible choices are blessed!

Choices, Choices!

Card 1 The basis of the choice.

Card 2 Why this choice is difficult.

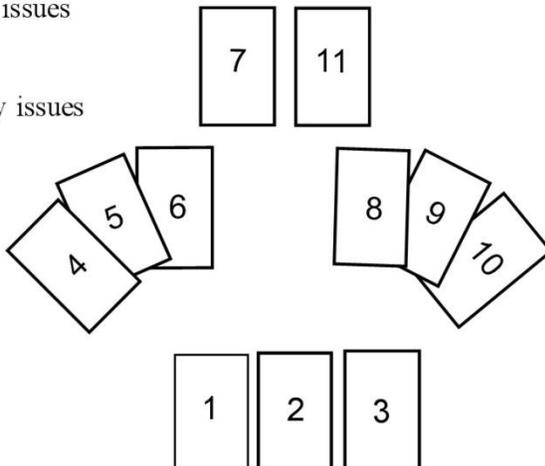
Card 3 The relative importance of the choice.

Cards 4-6 The necessary steps to take and/or likely issues that may turn up by making choice 1.

Card 7 The likely outcome if choice 1 is made.

Cards 8-10 The necessary steps to take and/or likely issues that may turn up by making choice 2.

Card 11 The likely outcome if choice 2 is made.



A Royal Reading

This is probably the most complex spread I've come up with. It's called "A Royal Reading." So I'm going to give you a lot more information on how it works.

Ever wish you could get an audience with a royal court? What advice might this king or that queen give you if you had their ear for just a short time? Well, wonder no more! Tarot has 16 royal court members just waiting to present you with ancient wisdom. All you have to do is ask!

Now as you know from taking the Certified Angel Card Reader™ course, there are four court cards to every suit. Traditionally speaking, they are the Page, the Knight, the Queen, and the King. (As you might suspect, some decks have variations on that theme.) All four court cards are found in each suit of the Minor Arcana of the Tarot.

In traditional tarot, these four suits are called wands, cups, swords, and coins (or pentacles). In Angel Tarot Cards, we have designated them according to their elemental energies as fire, water, air, and earth respectively. In general, these four suits line up with our lives in the following way:

- Fire/Wands = Creativity, passion, inspiration, career.
- Water/Cups = Romance, family, home, intuition.
- Air/Swords = Thoughts, communication, challenges, integrity.
- Earth/Coins = Wealth, health, security, education.

Here's how to go about getting your royal reading. Concentrate on your question while shuffling your deck. You're going to be making four piles of cards. When your guidance tells you to stop shuffling, start turning over each card. You are searching for your first court advisor. Just discard any card that isn't in the royal family. When you find your first court card, place it face up in a pile by itself. The next card out of the deck goes to the left of that court card. The next card goes to the right of it.

Now if either of the cards to follow your first court card is another court card *of a suit you do not already have a stack for*, then stop! Place that court card in a stack by itself. Even if that means you only have one or two cards in your first stack.

Continue to lay out cards. Each time you come to a court card of a suit that you do not have a stack for, then create a new pile. Then add the next two cards out of the deck to the left and to the right of that court card.

When you are done, you will have four stacks of cards. Each will have one court card as the center card and there will be one from each suit. As I mentioned, some stacks may only have the one court card. None will have more than three cards. Reading left to right, these three cards in each stack refer to past, present, and future.

As you read the four court cards across from left to right, you can get a sense of what in your life has (or is needing) your attention. For example, in the sample layout presented below, you can see that importance is placed with issues of heart and home 1st, then career or creativity is next, life challenges is 3rd, and lastly money or health.

It also appears that our client isn't very focused on career at all as there is only one card in the pile. (Though its position as the 2nd stack might indicate they should be.) When it comes to challenges, our querent seems to be worried about how the past affects the present but isn't too focused on future concerns.

Royal Reading

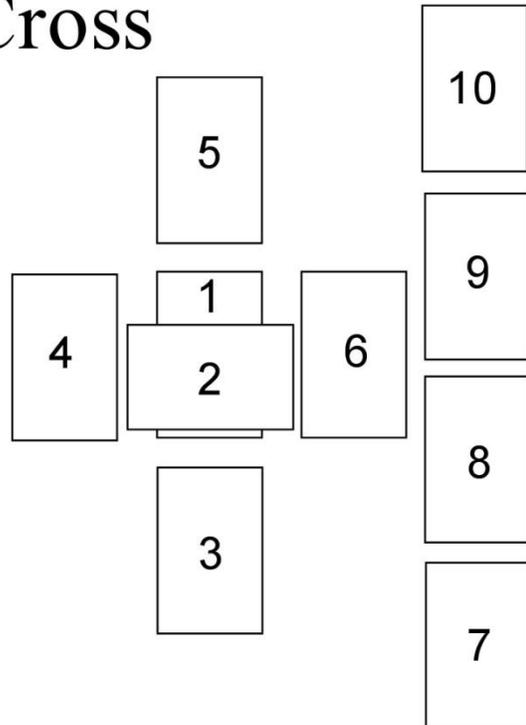


The Celtic Cross

And of course, I wouldn't dare create a document on spreads that doesn't include the wonderful Celtic Cross. You can also find this layout in your guidebook of Angel Tarot Cards starting on page 9. You'll also find it in the guidebook of Archangel Power Tarot Cards on page 11.

Traditional Celtic Cross

- Card 1 represents the situation.
- Card 2 represents the current challenge affecting the issue.
- Card 3 represents the basis of the situation.
- Card 4 represents the past relevant to the situation.
- Card 5 represents the present.
- Card 6 represents the near future.
- Card 7 represents your power in the situation.
- Card 8 represents the effects of people around you.
- Card 9 represents your hopes or fears.
- Card 10 represents the outcome.



Radleigh Valentine is the best selling coauthor with Doreen Virtue of Angel Tarot Cards and Archangel Power Tarot Cards. He is an internationally known speaker, author, spiritual intuitive, and radio-show host. He has studied tarot for more than 20 years and teaches workshops including the ground-breaking Certified Angel Card Reader™ course with Doreen around the U.S. and Europe. www.radleighvalentine.com

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BECOME A CERTIFIED
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CARD READER



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In this entertaining and enlightening one-day seminar, Doreen Virtue (the best-selling author of 24 oracle card decks) will guide you through the symbology and art of using angel oracle cards. Joining Doreen will be Radleigh Valentine, the co-author of the best-selling *Angel Tarot Cards* and *Archangel Power Tarot Cards*.

You'll learn how to open your intuition and natural spiritual abilities to receive accurate information during your readings. This seminar will take your readings to the next level, so that you can receive specific and detailed answers for yourself and your client.

The class topics include:

- Which card decks are best for various types of readings
- How to prepare yourself and your cards for an accurate reading
 - Giving yourself a daily reading
- How to answer other people's questions accurately
 - Interpreting the cards' true meanings
- Gaining confidence and clarity in your reading abilities
 - Working with Angel Tarot Cards
 - Understanding the Celtic Cross card layout
- Working with multiple card decks simultaneously to receive detailed answers
- Giving readings about life purpose, love life, and health.



At the end of the class, you'll be eligible to be a licensed Certified Angel Card Reader™, and you'll receive a certificate that's suitable for framing. This paraprofessional worldwide designation demonstrates that you've taken extra training to understand angel oracle cards, and underscores your preparation to teach angel card classes to others or give professional angel card readings.

To view the class schedule visit www.facebook.com/cacr



Oracle Cards are the easiest way to get clear answers, especially if you're stressed, worried, or sensitive to the energies of this complicated world. This online course is suitable for those who are new to oracle cards, as well as seasoned pros. Following up on their enormously successful Certified Angel Card Reader Course, Doreen Virtue and Angel Tarot Card co-author Radleigh Valentine offer this advanced course on how to get detailed, accurate, and inspiring information from oracle and tarot cards.

*As an added BONUS, complete this course and receive a frameable Certificate of Attendance! Those who take this course from Doreen and Radleigh will receive a Certificate of Attendance, suitable for framing, validating their participation in the class.

Lesson 1: The Power of Symbolism

Our course begins with Doreen and Radleigh guiding you through the process of interpreting the symbolism in Oracle Cards and Angel Tarot Cards. Symbolism is a powerful connection to the subconscious and the spiritual. During this class, Doreen and Radleigh will discuss the energetic influences of such things as angel numbers, crystals, flowers and plants, and animals within the cards. You will learn how to focus on which aspects in a card are important to a reading as well as how to research and connect with the powerful world of symbols.

Lesson 2: The Dreamer's Journey: A trip through the Major Arcana of Angel Tarot Cards

This week's lesson focuses upon the magical story of The Dreamer's Journey. Radleigh Valentine will take you on the path through the Major Arcana of Angel Tarot Cards. Radleigh will explain how each card in the Major Arcana represents a particular part of our path through Life, why a particular Archangel was assigned to each card, and the historical astrology related to each card. Radleigh will also discuss the symbolism that is lovingly embedded in the Major Arcana of this beautiful, safe, and loving tarot deck.

Lesson 3: The Minor Arcana: Daily life in the Tarot unveiled. Plus creating your own spreads!

Card spreads are a major tool in giving readings. During this lesson, you'll work with your cards as Doreen and Radleigh guide you on how to create your own unique, and magical spreads! You will be provided with several spreads to guide you on doing readings on such important topics as relationships, career, and life purpose. In part two of this class, Radleigh will discuss the minor arcana of Angel Tarot Cards. How are all the aces alike? What do the court cards have in common between suits? Radleigh will explain key aspects to these cards that represent our day to day lives in tarot.

Lesson 4: Building a Career as an Angel Card Reader

Doreen Virtue has shown thousands of people how to follow their Divine life purpose by creating careers based on giving readings and helping those in need. In this class, Doreen will discuss how to build a business as an Angel Card Reader. Radleigh will also talk about how he made the transition from Certified Public Accountant to spiritual teacher and tarot card expert.

Visit www.hayhouse.com/cacr for details on how to sign up!