

On your Birth Chart the **horizontal brown line** is simply the Horizon - with the visible sky above it, and the non-visible sky beneath it. The arrowed end is called your **Ascendant** (ASC) - that is, where the Sun, Moon and Planets are seen to rise. The other, more or less **vertical brown line** with an arrow is called the Meridian. The arrowed end of this line is your **Midheaven** or MC.

The familiar twelve **Signs** of the **Zodiac** (depicted as petals) form an imaginary band encircling the Earth, and this is seen on your Birth Chart as bisected by the Horizon. The Sun, Moon, Planets, Ascendant and Midheaven are positioned in the Signs they were in at the time of your birth. The Sign that the Sun is in is what you know as your Sun-Sign or Star-Sign. Each Sign has the quality of one of the four Elements: **Red=Fire=Intuition/Creative**; **Yellow=Air=Thinking/Intellectual**; **Blue=Water=Feeling/Empathetic**; **Green=Earth=Sensation/Practical**.

The circular area within the Zodiacal band is divided into twelve segments called **Houses**, marked as the arrowed **House Cusps** in **brown** or **light blue**. The First House begins with your Ascendant, going in an anti-clockwise direction. The Tenth House begins with your Midheaven.

The various coloured lines joining one Planet with another are graphic depictions of what are called your **Aspects**. These are determined by any two planets forming a particular angle at the centre of your Birth Chart, i.e. where you were born. However, one of the strongest aspects is the Conjunction. These, if you have any, are not marked by lines because they are made obvious by the planets involved being next door to one another.

Below the Chart Wheel, under the section headed 'Radix1' and your name, you will see the following information: your Date, Time, and Place of Birth (by Latitude and Longitude, and usually the name of the actual place or nearest town). Please check this information is correct. 'Zone' refers to the Standard Time in which you were born, giving the number of hours it was ahead of (East) or behind (West) Greenwich Mean Time. The middle part of this section gives at the top the exact Sign positions by degree of your MC (MidHeaven) and ASC (Ascendant). The figures that are given immediately below this are the other House Cusps, headed by the House System used (Plac for Placidian) and followed by the Sign and House positions for your North Lunar Node (Nod) and your Part of Fortune (Poi). The right-hand part of this section lists the Sun, Moon and Planets, giving their **exact Sign positions**, along with their **House placement numbers** in the last column.

Finally, the lower section gives all your interplanetary **Aspects**. You will see that each of your Aspects has a figure beside it which refers to the number of degrees and minutes of arc outside of exact it is (which would be 0 00), and within a maximum orb of 10 degrees that are allowed for an Aspect to be made. As a rule, the closer to exact an Aspect is then the more influential it is. The Aspect names and abbreviations are as follows: Conjunction=Cnj; Square=Sqr; Opposition=Opp; Trine=Tri; Sextile=Sxt; Quincunx=Qqx; Semi-square=Ssq.

Now, by using the table of Symbols set out below, you will be able to see for yourself where the Sun, Moon and Planets are in your Birth Chart, and what Signs and Houses they are placed in. Start out by determining your Sun's Sign position for you probably already know this.

The Planets & Lunar Nodes

SUN		MER		MAR		SAT		NEP		N Nod	
MOO		VEN		JUP		URA		PLU		S Nod	

The Signs (opposite Signs are given above and below one another)

ARI		TAU		GEM		CNC		LEO		VIR	
LIB		SCO		SGR		CAP		AQR		PSC	