

The Fifteen Card Crowley Spread

This Crowley spread is my favorite for the past 25 years. Don't worry, it is simpler than it may first appear. It may help to think of it as five groups of three cards, which are based upon the four elements with spirit uniting them at the center of the spread. The number order of the 15 cards follows a spiral starting from the center and progressing counterclockwise.

The cards are grouped together in threes:

- 1 (center card): This card represents the querent, the atmosphere or nature of the question or the issue ~ the main influences which surround the querent.
- 2, 3: Along with card 1, describe the nature of the circumstances and the personality of the querent.
- 4, 8, 12: These cards indicate potential future events and influences. They show what direction the querent's life will naturally take, unless alternate steps are taken to change the course of events.

- **5, 9, 13:** These cards represent an alternative course of action that the querent may choose to take. Or can stand for far future (6 or more months), if the querent continues on with the near future that was indicated in cards 4, 8 and 12.
- **6, 10, 14:** These cards share the psychological implications of the situation (or spiritual/karmic lesson). They assist the querent in making whatever decision is needed and offer a glimpse of the reason why the querent is experiencing the situation. (What is being learned or gained from the situation.)
- 7, 11, 15: These cards show the outcome: forces at work 'beyond the querent's control'. The destiny or karma.

Elemental Attributions:

Cards 1,2,3, represent the 5th element - that of Spirit. Earth represents near future - 4,8,12. Water is far or alternate future - 5,9,13. Air is represented by 6,10,14 – the 'psychological basis'. Destiny/Karma/Outcome (7,11,15) would then, be Fire. Note how the 'opposing' elements are in opposing corners of the spread...

Hints to Reading the Crowley 15 Card Spread

The center card of each block can be treated as the Principal, and the cards around it become the Modifiers. Since there is a spiral ordering of the spread, we can understand this to mean that one of these Modifiers represents an earlier stage. So, for example, in the Air or psychological section of the spread, 10 is the principal card, while 6 shows earlier influences and 14 would then indicate later influences. Pretty cool spread, huh?