

The Pathfinders Deck

Suggested Use Guide

The cards in the Pathfinders deck can be used for divination, which is using the cards in order to ask a question and gain an answer through the meaning that each card possesses. The Pathfinders deck incorporates the qualities of animals to aid your divination needs. Individual cards have their meanings, but it's also important to take into account the combined meaning of all cards present in the spread. The more you use your deck, the more you'll be able to use your own intuition coupled with the attributes represented by the cards.

These spreads are here to get you started, there's no problem at all if you choose to develop your own, or use other tarot spreads for your readings. It's a relatively simple process to ask your questions, but complexity arises from how one arranges the cards into a spread, and the various meanings each card position holds. Cards that are upside-down in a spread are reversed, their meanings opposite of those that the card would normally hold.

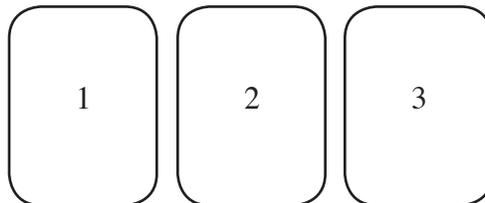
These spreads can be used for readings for yourself, or for others. In this guide, the "querent" is the person on whose behalf the reading is being conducted.

Steps to Reading Cards:

1. Ask the question that you're seeking to investigate while handling and shuffling the deck.
2. Lay out the cards in the spread that you desire.
3. Look up the meanings of each card.
4. Apply the meanings to the overall spread in order to gain the answer to your inquiry.

Three Card Spread

Using three cards is an excellent way to get an answer regarding a particular question. While there are many ways to address this abbreviated spread, here are two that are particularly handy.



Approach 1: Problem Solving Spread

Is there a challenge or problem coming your way? Use this spread to identify the qualities of the upcoming event.

Card 1 - Attributes of the challenge or problem.

Card 2 - How the querent will handle the situation.

Card 3 - The end outcome.

Approach 2: Past, Present, Future

This is another way to use the three card spread. Be sure to focus on the length of time that you seek to uncover, as the closer events are to unfolding, the more accurate of a reading you should receive.

Card 1 - Past events which have influences the querent.

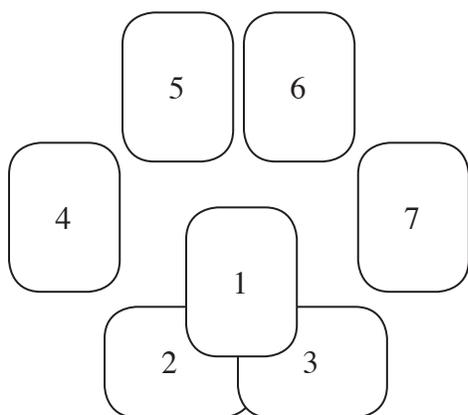
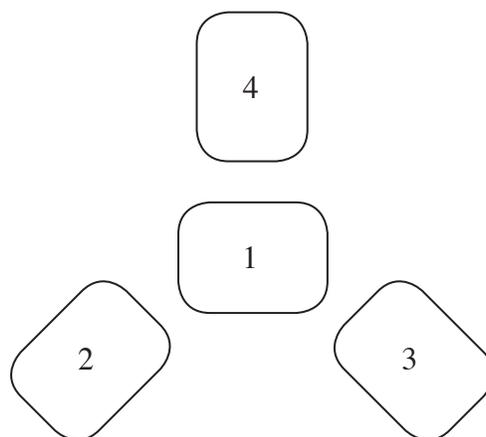
Card 2 - Where the querent is at present.

Card 3 - The future of the querent.

Totem Spread

This spread is to be used to commune with your personal spirit animal if you have selected one, or to rely on the wisdom of the animals of the deck.

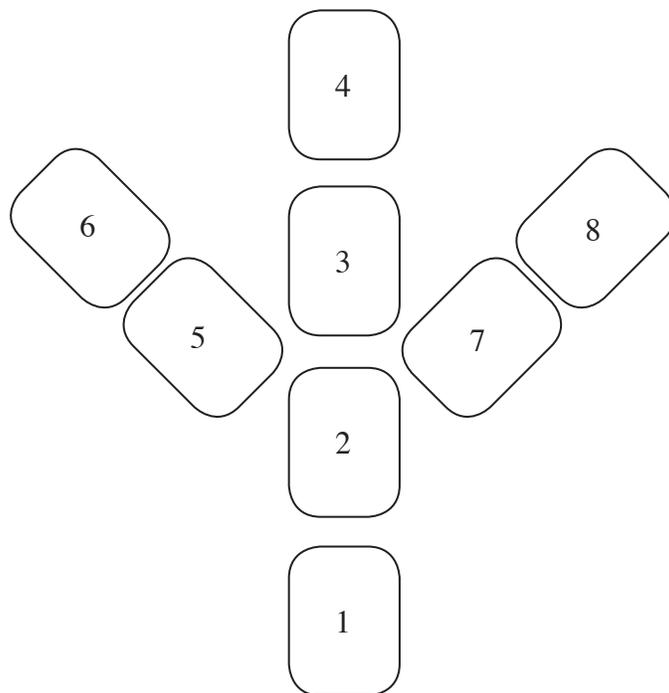
- Card 1 - The main aspect of the querent's situation.
- Card 2 - A supporting factor or lesson to be learned.
- Card 3 - Something to be wary of, or to handle with care.
- Card 4 - An aspect to which the querent should aspire.



Bird Claw or Talon Spread

For this spread, lay out the first four cards from the bottom up, then each stem of shape.

- Card 1 - Represents the querent at the beginning of her or his inquiry.
- Card 2 - The first progression of the querent, the beginning of her or his path.
- Card 3 - An event that leads out of, or happens as a result of effects represented by the second card.
- Card 4 - The likely conclusion of matters covered by this query.
- Card 5 - One choice available to the querant.
- Card 6 - The likely result of the choice indicated by Card 5.
- Card 7 - An alternate choice available to the querant, though this and Card 5 are unlikely to encompass all of the querant's options.
- Card 8 - The likely result of the option indicated by Card 7.



Cat's Paw

The Cat's Paw spread is meant for whole situations, rather than simple questions. Lay out the inner three cards first, centre first, then left and right. Proceed with the 'toes' from right to left.

Cards 1, 2, & 3 - These cards should be turned and considered as a whole, they represent the situation the querant is inquiring after, or rather, the elements that compose it. Each card may refer to more than one element.

Cards 5 & 6 - These cards represent the results of the interactions between the elements in the 'pad' of the paw formed by cards 1, 2, and 3.

Cards 4 & 7 - These two cards represent factors that will influence the maturing of the situation, while originating outside it.