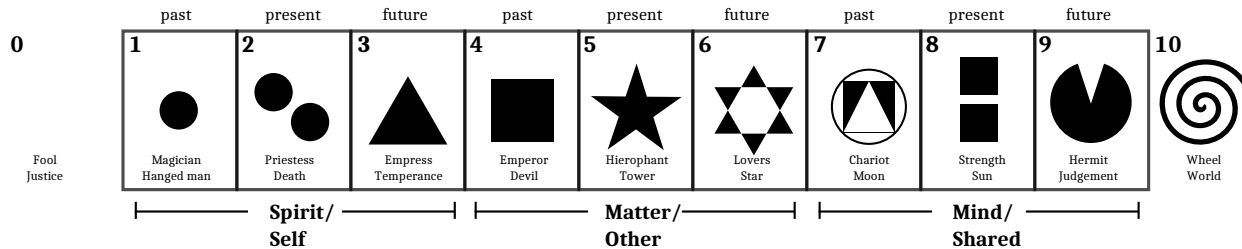


Pragmatic Celtic Cross

The Tarot tells no fortunes. The cards allow us to use both logical and intuitive pattern recognition to aid our understanding of the world around us. Change is the only constant, and Tarot is simply a language of change. Don't fear that death card.

The Celtic Cross is a ten card Tarot spread. The layout is both a tool for applying the cards in a reading, and learning the meanings of the cards themselves.



The Pragmatic Tarot asserts that the meaning of the numbers from one to ten is consistent - whether it's the number of a card, or the position in a spread.

The first card in a spread is the equivalent of an ace, the second card is of a two, and all the way through. Ten is the spiral to the next iteration.

The Pragmatic Tarot also associates the major arcana directly with the ten numerals as inner/outer, higher/lower aspects. Investigating these relationships with the position in the cross can aid understanding

Emergent Possibility

3
Three is the space of possibility, the immediate future.

This is what you understand as the consequence of the first cards

9
Hopes and fears, the last 10% that we imagine ahead.

It is never easy to finish. The last effort to reach the other side is a combination of hope and fear. Not, one or the other, both.

Shared reality

5
Five is what is changing, what will pass, what must be let go of.

Five is a transition, it's the destruction that makes change possible.

1
Card 1 is the immediate state. The world at this moment (sometimes called "the past")

2
Card two the world's reaction to the energy of now, what you must move through - the present.

6
The sixth card is the balance, the centre, the place to find harmony.

This card represents the active, conscious focus of the spread. This is the point where the inner and outer worlds meet.

8
How to interact with the world. An eight is two squares, two systems interacting, two sets of rules than need to align and fit together.

10
The last card represents the next level out in the spiral.

The end, the next beginning, the next reality - containing all the other cards.

Energy sources

4
Four is the foundations, the source of growth.

The first three cards give rise to/arise from their expression in the world outside - from the system and the rules we made.

7
The seventh card is the inner state. The deeper, subconscious, emotional experience that underlies and powers your perception of reality.

Time works in ripples from the centre. With each card we move outwards, both backwards and forwards in time. (So be careful with the ideas of "past" and "future".)

You can layer multiple readings to move even further. Take one card from a reading, and place it face down in the centre. Shuffle the rest of the cards and iterate your spread. The card you removed becomes the zero, the constant or "significator" in your next reading. (Three iterations will probably exhaust your pattern recognition facilities)

Disclaimer / Warning

This is all made up. The whole concept of Pragmatic Tarot is simply based on the idea that we can apply one basic pattern to the process of change, and that understanding this pattern allows us to understand the universe. That is very obviously a silly concept and should be laughed out the door immediately.