

# **Simplicity Tarot**

**by Emilie Muñiz**

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## @ Introduction @

Do you remember the first time you ever read tarot for yourself? I remember I was mystified, intrigued and felt like I had a power source of hidden knowledge in my hand. I shuffled the tarot deck all excited and a bit nervous, drew three cards, flipped them over, looked down, stopped and thought, “What the heck does this mean?”

This memory, of course, stuck with me. Over the years, as my passion for tarot grew, so did my yearning to create a tarot deck that would make reading easier for newbies and all those still struggling with the cards. To achieve this, I knew I had to create a deck with the following components. First, I wanted to base the deck on Rider-Waite™ artwork, because that is the most familiar tarot imagery. I also wanted to modernize the artwork to make it easier to interpret. Secondly, I decided I would add keywords to the cards to make the tarot

reading experience easy. Next, I wanted to create a tarot deck with uplifting light colors to make it more inviting. Lastly, I planned to add only the essential card symbolism to simplify each tarot card's meaning. Following these concepts, Simplicity Tarot was born.

## © About the © Simplicity Tarot

The Simplicity Tarot is a working tarot deck of 78 cards, including the 22 Major Arcana cards, 40 Minor Arcana cards and 16 Court cards. The Simplicity Tarot deck was created with the beginner tarot reader in mind, as well as for the struggling reader. That does not mean there is nothing for the seasoned tarot reader to discover and enjoy in this deck. While the Simplicity Tarot's imagery is inspired by the classic Rider-Waite Tarot, its images have a modern style approach, filled with watercolor images on a white background, giving each card a delicate, uplifting and clean aesthetic. To make each card easy to interpret, the more advanced, confusing symbology was removed, and the essential symbols were kept. Keywords have also been placed at the bottom of each card to suggest the basic tarot meanings.

# Simple Tips to Prepare for a Reading

## Preparing Yourself for a Tarot Reading

Everyone has different ways they prepare to do tarot readings. Below are some common methods and my personal recommendations for using your Simplicity Tarot deck.

### Setting Up, Cleansing and Protecting a Tarot Reading Space

Before conducting a tarot reading, create a space for the reading to take place. This can be an area that is dedicated just for divination, an altar, or a very simple surface that is laid out with a cloth of some kind to place your tarot cards. There's no limitation on the size, or how simple or elaborate this space can be. Do what works best for you. What is important is that the space should be clean and treated as a sacred place to channel divine information.

I also recommend you spiritually cleanse your divination space of negative vibrations before conducting a tarot reading. To do this, you can burn any type of cleansing incense such as sage or palo santo. Spraying spiritual colognes such as Florida Water or Kolonia 1800 has been said to chase negative vibrations away quickly. Lighting white candles is also a common method for keeping your sacred space protected, for the color white is known to deflect negative vibrations, while attracting positive vibrations that can uplift one's energy. You may also say a short prayer to whatever angels, protective spirits or spiritual guides you work with.

Placing crystals such as Black Tourmaline around your sacred reading space is another great way to protect and cleanse your sacred space. Black Tourmaline is known to transform negative vibrations into positive ones. Clear Quartz is another excellent crystal to place in your tarot

reading space, because it can amplify one's intuition. Amethyst is also known to enhance psychic ability and creates a soothing atmosphere. Choose whichever crystal feels right to you, and trust that what you have selected is perfect for your reading space.

## **Creating Your Tarot Reading Atmosphere**

Being grounded, calm and in a clear state of mind aids in channeling and interpreting a tarot reading. As a way of creating a grounding, calm atmosphere, some choose to dim the lights, light candles and burn soothing incense such as lavender or frankincense. For some, meditation is essential before conducting a tarot reading to be in a thoughtful mindset.

## **Visual Work**

Here is a quick and simple visualization exercise to help get you into the right



mindset to conduct a reading. To do this, ground yourself and envision a small bright white light that no darkness can touch at the center of your chest. Feel this light pulsing. See and feel it growing bigger and bigger, until it's larger than the room you are in. See it beaming out beyond the windows, releasing all darkness away. Stay in this moment for some time, then open your eyes and notice how energized your body feels.

# Care for Your Simplicity Tarot Deck

## Clearing Your Tarot Deck

Personally, I recommend using a simple method to clear away stagnant energy from the cards before performing tarot readings with them. One easy way is using sage. Sage is many diviners' best friend. Some believe that lighting sage around one's tarot deck clears away stagnant energy and attracts positive vibes. Another method to clear away old energy is to shuffle the tarot deck a few times, which will immediately clear it.

## Storing Your Tarot Deck

There are many ways to store your tarot deck. I like to keep it very simple. I keep it either in the box the deck came in, or I place my tarot deck in a special box that is appealing to me. Others prefer to wrap their decks in cloth bags.

## Connecting with Your Tarot Deck

A quick method to connect with your tarot deck is to just go through every card slowly. Look at the keywords at the bottom of each card, and analyze each card to understand how the meaning was derived from the drawings. Connect with how you feel with each card. Review the keywords and revisit a personal memory or a situation that relates to that keyword, and perhaps, make a mental note of this. The more you do these types of activities, and spend time with your deck, the more personal the cards will become to you.

# How to Conduct a Tarot Reading with the Simplicity Tarot

## Step 1

Now that you have completed all the preparations for your reading and connected to your deck, it is time to conduct your reading. Close your eyes, and start off by taking a deep breath to ground yourself and quiet your mind.

## Step 2

Hold the cards in your hands and feel your energy transmitting into the cards.

## Step 3

Choose a tarot spread of your liking. This can be a simple tarot spread such as a quick single card draw, a simple three-card spread such as the common past, present, future, one or any other tarot spreads of your choosing. Tarot spreads are the methods a

tarot card reader uses to interpret the tarot card's meaning, based on the position of the cards in the spread. Each position in the layout has its own specific meaning. There are numerous different types of tarot spreads that vary in topic and size. Simple ones can be found in the back of this guidebook under the TAROT SPREADS section. I have also included some examples here to guide you.

*Example:* I decided to use the three-card tarot spread named, “My Next Three Months.” It can also be found in the Tarot Spread section of this guidebook.



Tarot Spread  
“My Next Three Months”

## Step 4

Ask the cards a question or state the topic you would like to know about. Next, shuffle the cards or have the person you are reading for shuffle the cards. Ask the tarot cards a question out loud or to yourself. For example: “What do I need to know about\_\_\_\_\_?” or, “What is the best course of action with\_\_\_\_\_?” or, “What does the future hold for me in regard to\_\_\_\_\_?” Concentrate on your question and what you want to know, while shuffling the cards.

*Example:* I asked the tarot the question “What does the next three months hold for me in regard to my finances?”

## Step 5

When you personally feel drawn to stop shuffling, stop shuffling the cards. If you are reading for someone, instruct the person to do the same.

## Step 6

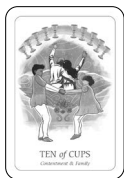
You can then cut the cards into small piles and put them back together into one pile, or not. This is a highly a personal choice and does not affect the accuracy of your reading.

## Step 7

Draw the number of cards required for the tarot spread you have chosen to use.

*Example:* I now draw three cards, because this is the number of cards required for this spread that I picked “My Next Three Months”

Cards drawn results:



Month 1



Month 2



Month 3

## Step 8

Interpret the tarot cards.

The easiest way to approach your tarot reading is by first interpreting each individual card in its spread position in relation to the question. After this, I like to interpret the cards as one whole message, putting it all together, as if I were telling a story to form a conclusion. See if you can tell a story with the cards by reading the cards straight across like a filmstrip to answer your question, or as if you were reading a child's picture book. You can also tell a story by combining each card meaning with the other surrounding cards to tell your story, and linking your keywords for each tarot card to answer your question. For novice tarot readers, I recommend beginning with a small number of cards, about two to five, in order to simplify things and to avoid confusion.

Another tip on interpreting the tarot cards



is to interpret your information based on how the tarot cards are interacting with each other. Look at the characters in the cards. What are they facing? What are their backs turned away from? Are they looking toward each other or turned away from each other? The hands are also something to be aware of when interpreting tarot. What are the characters pointing to or away from? Movement is another thing to keep in mind while treading the cards. What are the characters in the tarot cards moving toward or away from? Analyzing these specifics will help make it easier to understand the message that the tarot cards are trying to relay to you.

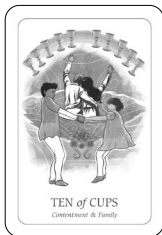
Be open to the guidance that the cards are giving you. Take your time to analyze the cards' patterns and symbolism. First, let your intuition flow, then look up the meanings in this guidebook and reflect on how that message is relating to your question. It's helpful to take notes of your tarot reading.

## *Example for Tarot Reading*

### *Interpretation:*

Let's take the three-card reading below entitled "Three Month Tarot Spread"

My question is, "What does the next three months hold for me in regard to my finances?"



### **Month 1**

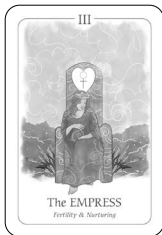
For the first month, I drew the Ten of Cups. This is the card of contentment and family related matters. Interpreting this card in regard to my finances, it feels as if the first month

will bring me great pleasure and happiness. This card may even indicate that I may have extra abundance and successful fulfillment of a goal. I have been seriously considering purchasing a family car if the loan goes through. This reading might indicate that this could happen.



## Month 2

For the second month, I drew the card of Strength. This is the card of courage and self-control. This can indicate that in month two, I may need to hold on to money and have self-control to prevent overspending on unnecessary things. I must admit that I do have the nasty habit of spontaneously buying things that I don't need, and that I regret later. I have a major trip to Europe that I am saving for, and the tarot may be giving me a pre-warning not to do any impulsive spending. By the same token, this is not a tarot card that indicates an increase or a decrease. Most likely my income will remain the same, so I will take the advice and not do any extra spending.



## Month 3

For the third month, I drew the card of the Empress, which represents fertility and nurturing and is a very positive card to see. This can mean that prior investments that

I'd made, such as hard work or previous financial investments, will pay off. The Empress in the tarot in relation to finances is all about growth, prosperity and fertile opportunities to increase finances.

### **Interpreting the cards as a whole message**

Now that I have interpreted my tarot cards one by one, I will try to interpret the cards as a whole using the tips mentioned above, to form a conclusion on what the tarot is trying to tell me about my finances over the next three months.

***My conclusion:*** Over the next three months,