

# STARTING WITH ASTROLOGY

*Part 1- recognizing the  
symbols*



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# INTRODUCTION

**Welcome to the Astrology Practicum Starter Guide. This is the first part of a multi-step learning process designed to help you build a clear and grounded foundation in astrology.**

**This guide focuses on the symbols used in astrology—those of the planets, signs, and houses. Each symbol is a visual shorthand that carries a specific meaning. Learning to recognize these symbols is the first essential step in reading and interpreting astrological charts.**

**In this section, you will:**

- **Become familiar with the core symbols used in astrology**
- **Learn their basic associations and themes**
- **Begin to visually identify parts of a natal chart**

**This guide does not go into deeper interpretive material or archetypal synthesis (such as connecting Mars with Aries and the 1st House)—that comes in the next stage of your learning journey.**

**Use this PDF as your visual language primer. Repetition, practice, and symbol recognition will make everything that follows much easier to absorb.**



## **Intro**

**Reading Astrology Symbols – the language of the sky**

**The Signs + meanings**

**The Planets + meanings**

**The Houses + meanings**

**The Wheel + Angles (AC, DC, IC, MC)**

**How to understand Houses, Signs, Planets together**

**Chart diagram – identifying symbols in practice**

**Practice pages**



# READING ASTROLOGY SYMBOLS:

## The Language of the Sky

**Astrology is a symbolic language. Each planet, sign, and house has its own symbol—a visual shorthand that represents its energy, purpose, and influence. Learning these symbols is like learning the alphabet of a new language: it is the first step toward fluency.**

**Symbols are not just drawings; they carry meaning. The faster you become familiar with them, the sooner you will be able to read a chart with ease.**





# THE SIGNS

 **Aries**

 **Taurus**

 **Gemini**

 **Cancer**

 **Leo**

 **Virgo**

 **Libra**

 **Scorpio**

 **Sagittarius**

 **Capricorn**

 **Aquarius**

 **Pisces**



## SIGNS AND THEIR MEANINGS:

- ♈ Aries – courage, action, initiation
- ♉ Taurus – stability, values, sensuality
- ♊ Gemini – communication, curiosity, adaptability
- ♋ Cancer – nurturing, home, emotional security
- ♌ Leo – creativity, self-expression, performance
- ♍ Virgo – service, precision, analysis
- ♎ Libra – harmony, relationships, balance
- ♏ Scorpio – transformation, depth, intensity
- ♐ Sagittarius – exploration, philosophy, freedom
- ♑ Capricorn – discipline, achievement, responsibility
- ♒ Aquarius – innovation, community, vision
- ♓ Pisces – compassion, imagination, spirituality

These are starting keywords. Over time, your understanding will expand with practice and archetypes



# PLANETS AND THEIR SYMBOL

☉ **Sun**

☾ **Moon**

☿ **Mercury**

♀ **Venus**

♂ **Mars**

♃ **Jupiter**

♄ **Saturn**

♅ **Uranus**

♆ **Neptune**

♇ **Pluto**



## PLANETS AND THEIR MEANINGS

- ☉ Sun – life force, purpose, vitality, ego
- ☾ Moon – emotions, instincts, home, family
- ☿ Mercury – communication, thinking, learning
- ♀ Venus – beauty, values, relationships, money
- ♂ Mars – action, drive, assertion, anger
- ♃ Jupiter – expansion, growth, faith, blessings
- ♄ Saturn – discipline, structure, responsibility, limits
- ♅ Uranus – innovation, rebellion, awakening, disruption
- ♆ Neptune – dreams, spirituality, illusion, compassion
- ♇ Pluto – transformation, power, regeneration, depth



# THE HOUSES AND THEIR MEANINGS

## **The Houses and Their Meanings**

**1st House – identity, appearance, self**

**2nd House – money, values, possessions**

**3rd House – communication, learning, siblings**

**4th House – home, family, roots**

**5th House – creativity, romance, children**

**6th House – work, health, routines**

**7th House – relationships, partnerships**

**8th House – shared resources, intimacy,  
transformation, death**

**9th House – travel, philosophy, higher learning**

**10th House – career, public life, reputation**

**11th House – friends, community, goals**

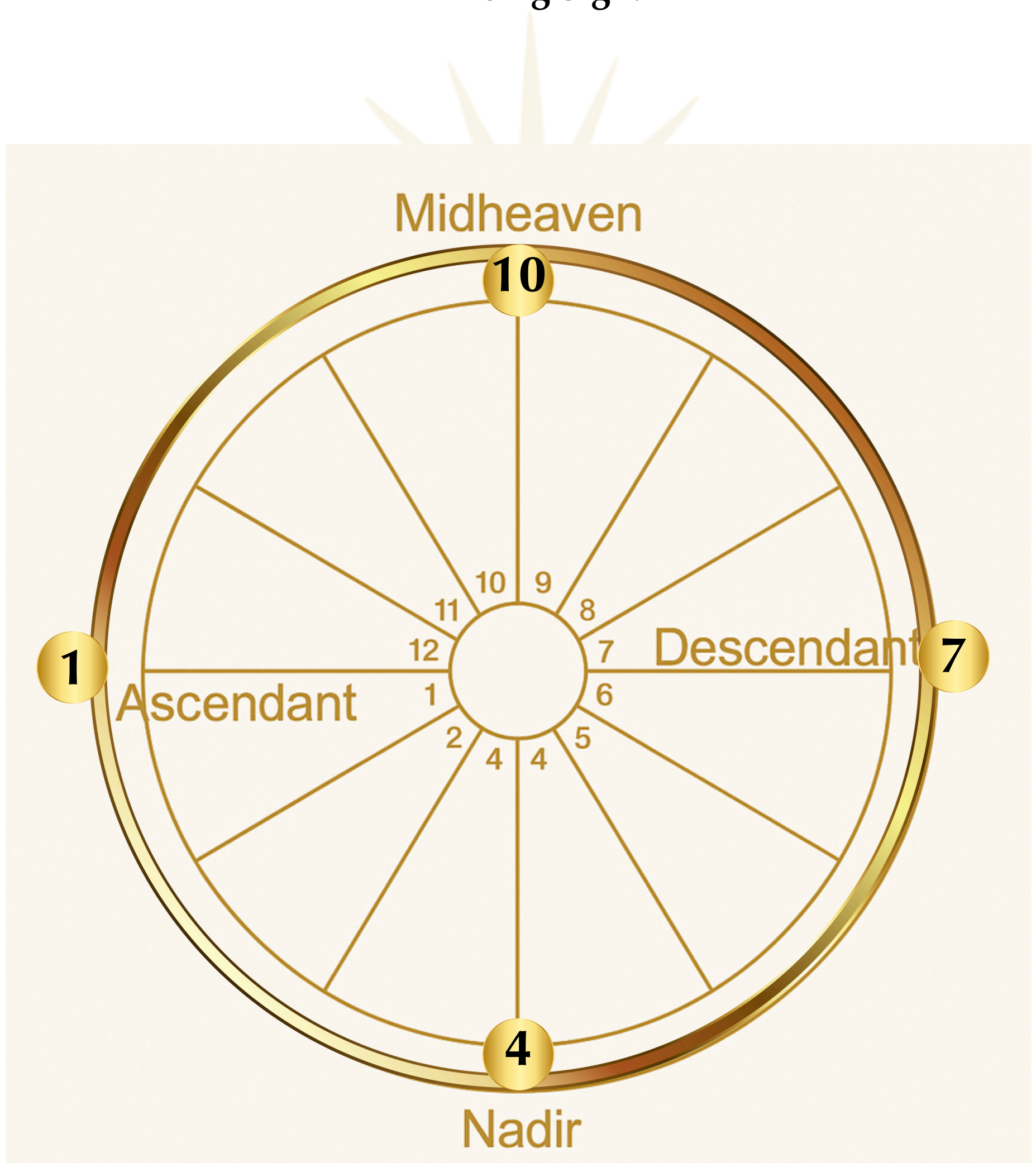
**12th House – spirituality, hidden matters, endings**



## THE HOUSES IN THE WHEEL

This image shows how the houses are arranged in the astrological chart wheel.

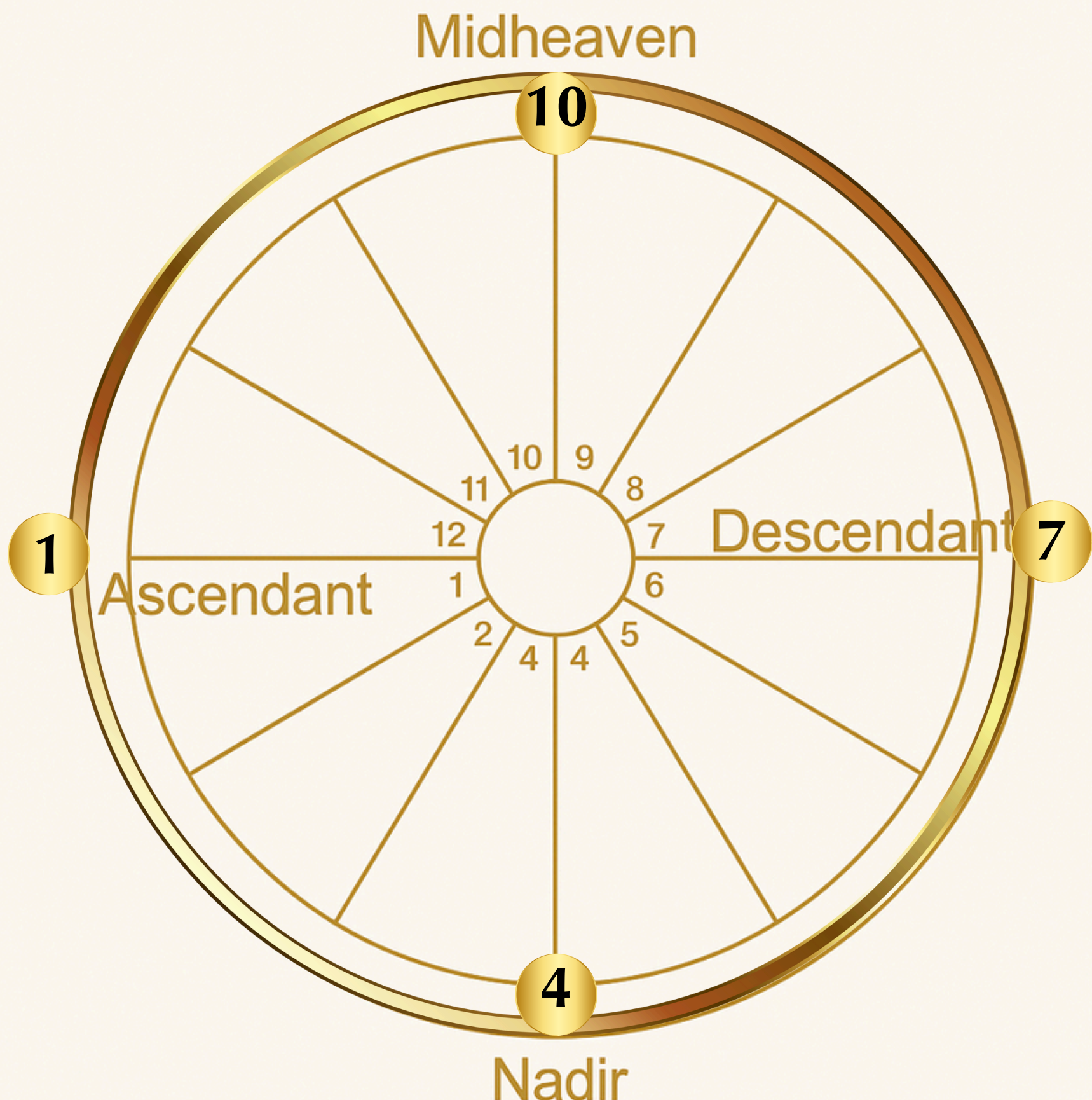
- The 1st House begins on the left side at the horizontal center. This point is the Ascendant (AC), also called the Rising Sign.





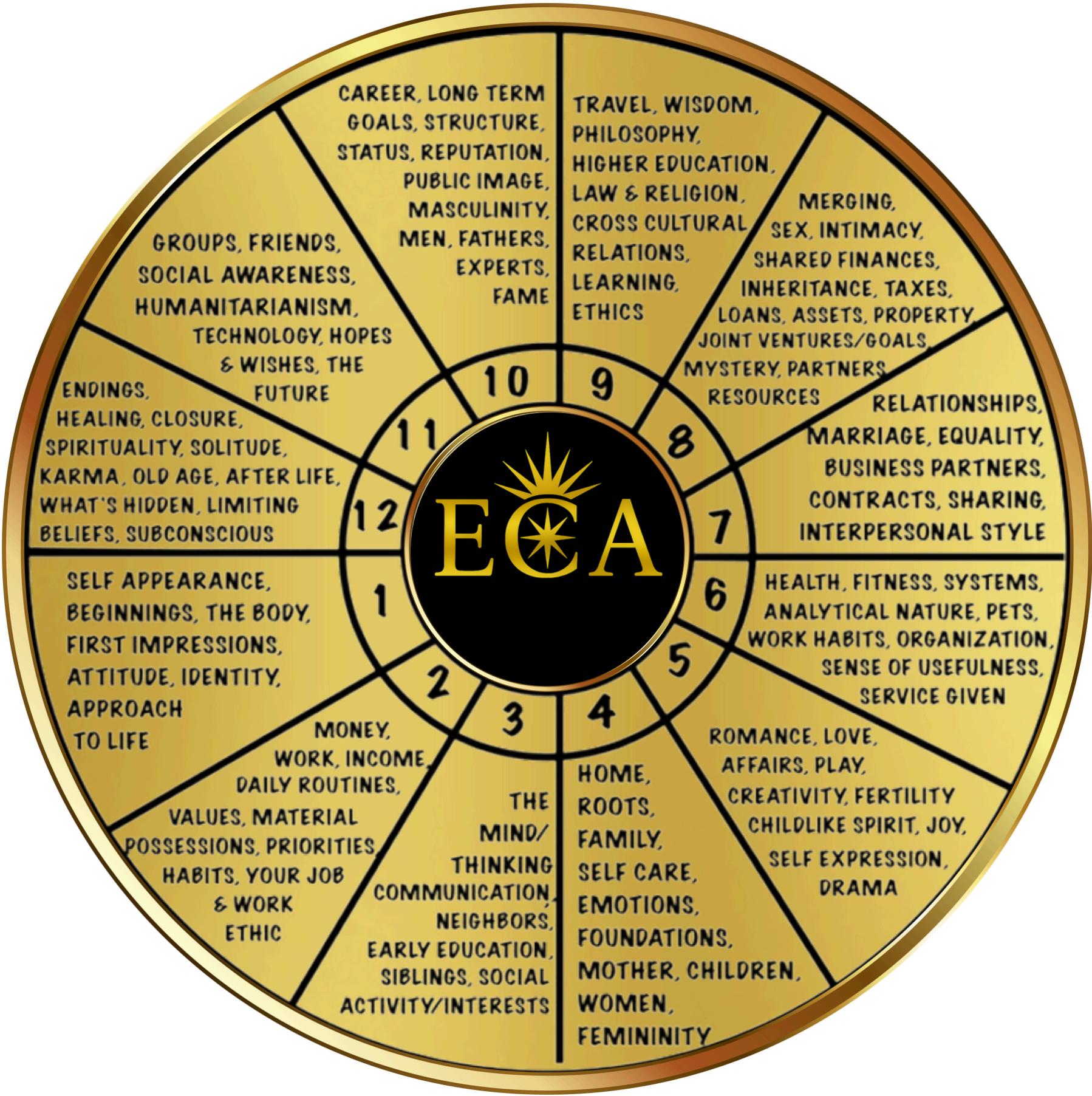
- Directly opposite is the Descendant (DC), the starting point of the 7th House.
- At the bottom of the chart is the Nadir (IC), the beginning of the 4th House.
- At the top is the Midheaven (MC), the start of the 10th House.

These four points are called the Angles—they are among the most important points in a chart. Once you recognize them, the rest of the houses fall neatly in between and are easy to locate.





# THE HOUSES AND THEIR MEANING





## HOW TO UNDERSTAND HOUSES, SIGNS, AND PLANETS

**As you become familiar with these symbols, you will start to see the story of a chart unfold at a glance.**

- **The Planet = the energy, the character → the “who” is speaking in the chart**
- **The Sign = the costume, the behavior, the agenda → how the planet speaks, expresses itself, and what it ultimately wants**
- **The House = the arena of life → where the energy is expressed, the decor of the scene**

**Visualizing the houses helps you place the energy in life.**

**Think of the chart like a play: the whole play is you, and each placement is a different part of you expressing through character, agenda, and stage.**

**Later, we will see how the planets speak to each other through aspects. For now, focus on learning the symbols and archetypes first.**



## PRACTICE TIP

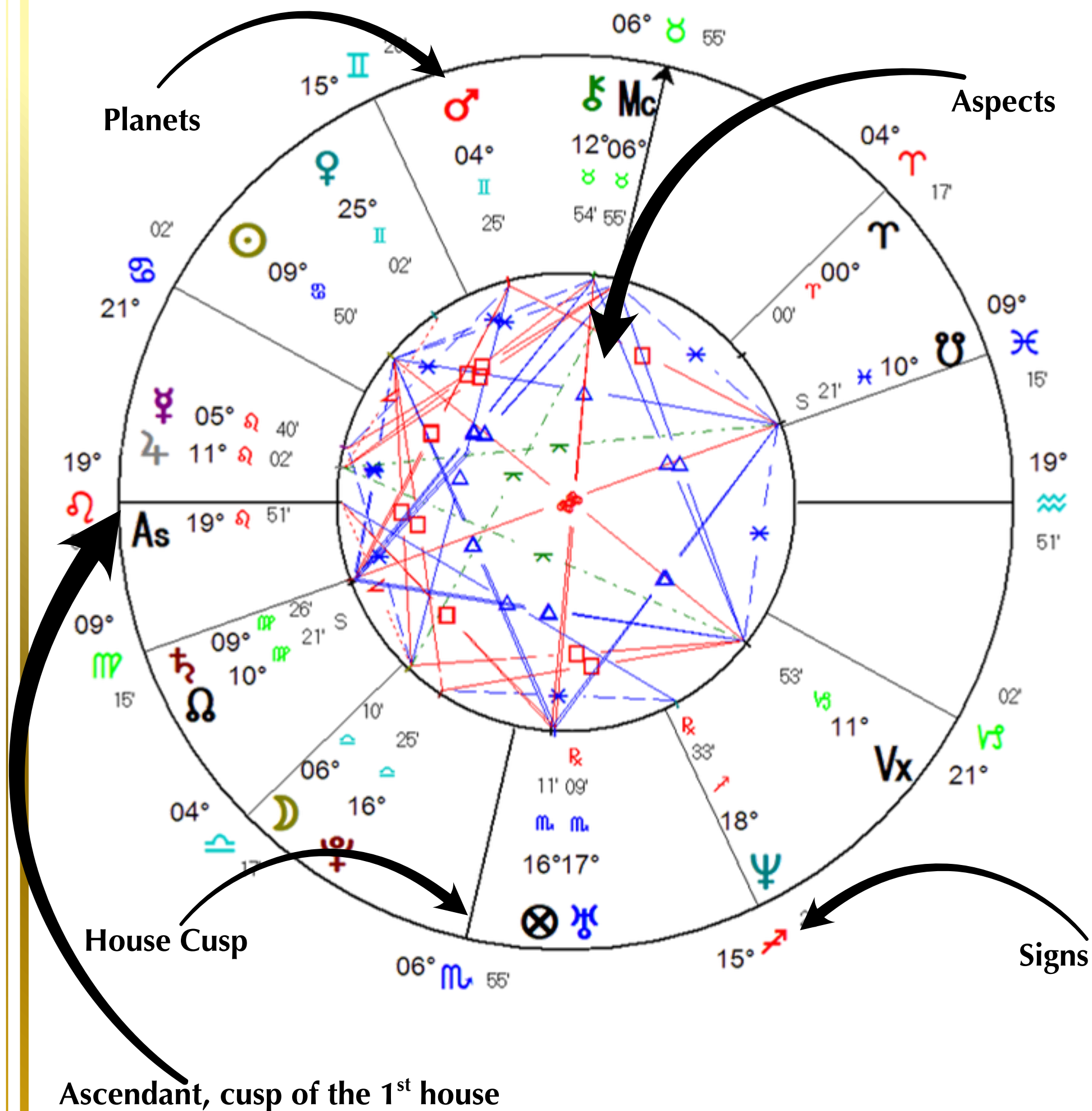
- **Visualize charts daily.**
- **Start with one planet at a time: name the symbol, the sign, the house, and its keywords.**
- **With repetition, your brain will automatically translate the symbols into meaning.**

**At this stage, focus only on recognizing the symbols—like learning an alphabet. The deeper meanings will come later.**



# HOW TO IDENTIFY THE SYMBOLS IN PRACTICE

At first, the chart may look complicated.  
But in just one session of the Astrology Practice Circle, you will be  
able to recognize the key parts with ease:



**Here you can practice writing your own symbols  
here:**





♈	♂
♉	♀
♊	♀
♋	☾
♌	☉
♍	♀
♎	♀
♏	♀
♐	♂
♑	♂
♒	♂
♓	♂

✦ This guide is part of  
the Astrology Practice Circle  
by Estelle California Astrology.  
Learn more at [estellecalifornia.com](http://estellecalifornia.com)

