

2017 Janet's Plan-its™ On a Page

Dates based on North American time zones. May differ from calendars using Greenwich Mean Time.

AR	Aries
TA	Taurus
GE	Gemini
CN	Cancer
LE	Leo
VI	Virgo
LI	Libra
SC	Scorpio
SG	Sagittarius
CP	Capricorn
AQ	Aquarius
PI	Pisces

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RETROGRADE MOTION

As the earth spins, the signs along the zodiac belt and the planets appear to move east to west hour by hour. But over time, the planets move through the signs west to east. The Moon takes two to three days to traverse a sign while Neptune and Pluto take over a decade! Each planet (other than the Sun or Moon) appears to stop and reverse its direction from time to time. This is an optical illusion called "Retrograde" motion. Later, it stops a second time and resumes forward (Direct) motion. It hangs out longer at the degrees of these stopping points, called "stations." When that planet, or even another planet, later makes connections ("aspects") to the station degrees, issues that emerged during that Retrograde period are re-visited. Matters associated with the planet are more difficult during a Retrograde and more intense at stations.

Planets move through the Retrograde range three times. First they proceed forward through the range of degrees where the backtracking will occur. This is called the entry "shadow" (shaded on the graph). Next, they back up over that degree range in the Retrograde portion of the cycle (marked in black on the graph). Finally, they go forward again through the backtracking range in the exit "shadow" (shaded). Related events can occur during these three phases. We don't feel the effect of the shadows as much as we do the Retrograde, but may sense a slow-down at stations.

Many people keep an eye out for the Retrograde of Mercury since it's linked to mix-ups in all forms of communication and local transportation. Anything begun then (or in the entry shadow) is subject to mistakes or revisions. A safer time for contracts, major decisions or beginning new activities is when Mercury is not in the entry shadow or Retrograde. There's less likelihood for revision later for activities initiated during the exit shadow.

Looking at the 2017 Retrograde graph, you can see there is usually one planet (or more) in Retrograde motion. Shadows are always in progress, which is typical. Times of "least resistance" are when no heavenly bodies are Retrograde. This happens for almost a month early in 2017, from 1/9 to 2/5. Only one planet is Retrograde 1/8 and 2/6-3/3. Two are Retrograde 1/1-1/7, 3/4-4/5 and 6/9-6/15. At all other times, three or more are Retrograde. The highest numbers are seven 8/13-8/24 and six 8/3-8/1 and 9/5-9/28. (These numbers include Eris, not shown on the graph.) Progress is impeded more when more planets are Retrograde.

Check to see if any of the station degrees makes a strong connection to your chart (within a couple degrees of being exact). In such a case, the entire time frame of the Retrograde will present challenges for the part of your life related to the affected item(s) in your chart. This is most noticeable for a few days around the time of the station as well as around the time the associated shadow begins or ends, when the planet is also at the station degree (by definition). For example, if you have a natal planet around 19° of any of the four Cardinal signs (Aries, Cancer, Libra, Capricorn), Pluto has your planet in its sites. On 4/20/17, Pluto turns Retrograde at 19°24' Capricorn. That degree resonates again when the shadow ends there on 1/19/18. Pluto's mission of major transformation will work on the house matters where your natal planet is positioned. It will also affect the affairs of the house which your natal planet impacts by virtue of ruling the sign on the house cusp.

MOON GROOVES

New and Full Moon degrees repeat for about six months, moving through consecutive signs. (I coined the term "moon groove" for this phenomenon.) The next six months or so, the position of each New and Full Moon decreases one to two degrees per month until the next groove ensues.

New Moons occur within one degree of 7-8° of the signs from September 2016 through March 2017. Full Moons are within one degree of 22° from October 2016 through April 2017. In the next groove, New Moons occur within one degree of 26° of the signs from September 2017 through April 2018 and Full Moons are within one degree of 11° from October 2017 through March 2018.

If you have a planet in your birth chart at a moon groove degree, it receives extra attention during a groove period. If it's accentuated by New Moons, take new action in the area of your life represented by that planet. If Full Moons spotlight your natal planet, matters culminate in a big way over several months regarding the affairs of that planet. In interpreting effects, consider your birth planet's sign, house and aspects. If a New or Full Moon falls on your birthday, that's important, especially if it's within the period of a moon groove.

For keywords describing planets, signs and aspects, see my handy "[Astrologer's Apprentice Cheat Sheet](#)."

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	MERCURY	VENUS	MARS	CERES	JUPITER	SATURN	CHIRON	URANUS	NEPTUNE	PLUTO	MOON PHASES
	R 12/19/16 15°08' CP			D 12/9/16 21°8' AR	B 11/10/16 13°13' LI	B 12/30/16 21°11' SG	D 12/1/16 20°40' PI	D 12/29/16 20°33' AR	D 11/19/16 9°14' PI	B 12/29/16 16°51' CP	E = ECLIPSE
JANUARY	D 1/8 28°51' SG									(next R shadow) E 1/16 17°29' CP (prior R shadow)	Full 1/12 22°27' CN New 1/27 8°15' AQ
FEBRUARY	E 1/27 15°08' CP	B 1/30 26°55' PI		E 2/22 5°24' TA	R 2/6 23°8' LI				B 2/23 11°28' PI (next R shadow)		Full 2/10 22°28' LE New 2/26 8°12' PI
MARCH		R 3/4 13°9' AR	MARS				B 3/8 24°19' PI (next R shadow)		E 3/10 12°2' PI (prior R shadow)		Full 3/12 22°13' VI New 3/27 7°37' AR
APRIL	B 3/27 24°16' AR		DOES			R 4/6 27°48' SG	E 3/24 25°15' PI (prior R shadow)				Full 4/11 21°33' LI New 4/26 6°27' TA
MAY	R 4/9 4°51' TA	D 4/15 26°55' PI	NOT				E 4/14 24°30' AR B 4/15, 24°34' AR			R 4/20 19°24' CP	Full 5/10 20°24' SC New 5/25 4°47' GE
JUNE	D 5/3 24°16' AR	E 5/18 13°9' AR	GO								Full 6/9 18°53' SG New 6/23 2°47' CN
JULY			RETROGRADE		D 6/9 13°13' LI			R 6/16 14°16' PI			Full 7/9 17°9' CP New 7/23 0°44' LE
AUGUST	B 7/24 28°25' LE		IN				R 7/1 28°52' PI				Full 8/7 15°25' AQ New 8/21 28°53' LE
SEPTEMBER	R 8/12 11°38' VI		2017			D 8/25 21°11' SG		R 8/3 28°32' AR			Full 8/7 15°25' AQ New 8/21 28°53' LE
OCTOBER	D 9/5 28°25' LE		.		E 9/6 23°8' LI					D 9/28 16°51' CP	Full 9/6 13°53' PI New 9/20 27°27' VI
NOVEMBER	E 9/19 11°38' VI			B 10/7 4°44' LE							Full 10/5 12°43' AR New 10/19 26°35' LI
DECEMBER		Dates based on Eastern Time Zone									Full 11/4 11°59' TA New 11/18 26°19' SC
	B 11/14 13°0' SG									D 11/22 11°28' PI	Full 11/4 11°59' TA New 11/18 26°19' SC
	R 12/3 29°18' SG									B 12/30 18°45' CP (next R shadow)	Full 12/3 11°40' GE New 12/18 26°31' SG
	D 12/22 13°0' SG			R 12/16 18°12' LE	B 12/12 13°21' SC	E 12/1 27°48' SG	D 12/5, 24°19' PI	D 1/2/18 24°34' AR	E 3/13/18 14°16' PI	E 1/19/18 19°24' CP (prior R shadow)	Full 12/3 11°40' GE New 12/18 26°31' SG
	E 1/10/18 29°18' SG			D 3/19/18 4°44' LE	R 3/8/18 23°13' SC		E 3/28/18 28°52' PI				

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The shadows of Chiron, Neptune and Pluto overlap, creating brief double shadows (darker shading). Eris has overlapping shadows, as well. Eris begins 2017 Retrograde, turning Direct 1/9 at 22°32' AR. It has overlapping shadows from 3/1 to 5/28 between 22°46' AR and 23°38' AR, turning Retrograde 7/20 at 23°52' AR. It next turns Direct 1/10/18 at 22°46' AR.