

# 2017 SKYWATCH LONG-RANGE DATEBOOK

An Astrological Timing  
Guide for All Signs

Research & Analysis by  
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PRICE \$25.00

**WELCOME TO 2017.** Good timing is often the deciding factor in the success or failure of events in our lives. The information in this Datebook will give you an overview of the energies and astrological cycles appearing in the heavens each month and a “heads up” about when the timing is good to make a move and to take action—and when to step back and stay out of the line of fire. Skywatch is a report on the astrology of the day, the energy that is on the street—the energy that charges up the herd to either stampede or stop dead in their tracks. Both kinds of days are noted every month in this report—the days to hold ‘em and the days to fold ‘em. You will profit by using the good Kiss days to conduct the priority matters in your life. And by staying out of the line of fire on the stressful Quack days. As times change.

How do I know the good days from the grumpy ones? By watching the planets as they travel through the signs, and by noting when they make angular alignments with each other. A Full Moon is a good example as that’s when the Sun and Moon are lined up exactly opposite each other—an event that often marks a major turning point in our lives. Watching the Sun, Moon and planets travel through the Zodiac is an old study. Astronomers have analyzed these cycles and alignments in the heavens for thousands of years. What they realized was that the patterns repeated. And that negative alignments in the heavens appeared just as challenging situations/energy appeared here on Earth. But they also noticed that when sweet Venus or lucky Jupiter came to the foreground in the Skywatch, most folks were in a much better mood and more open to new ideas and plans. As above, so below. The proof is in your hands.

This information will be the most valuable to you if you will get out your 2017 calendar and mark the Kiss and Quack days for each month—hopefully in green and red. This is my simplified way of alerting you as to when there are positive connections in the heavens—and when the stress levels are higher than usual. Once complete you will see the target days to schedule upcoming events, and you’ll see the days, too, to pull back and simplify your plans in each of the twelve months.

Positive planetary alignments, like a trine or sextile, on the Kiss days puts most folks into a more receptive mood to new ideas and your thoughts—and you’ll note that you are more confident and clear on the days when the astrological weather is positive. These are better days for anything high priority, medical, financial or dangerous as most situations and conditions you encounter on these days are likely to go as expected with no surprises. These are the days to take action and to ask for what you want whether work or play. Developments and new connections that come to you and/or begin on these days also tend to be very helpful to your cause.

Squares are some of the most difficult alignments between planets in astrology. When they appear up in the heavens we often run into frustrating people and situations down below here on Earth. Semi-squares and other difficult alignments that appear in the heavens all become Quacks in my system—alerts to keep it simple. What do you do on Quack days? Heads up! These are the times when you are least likely to get approval of your plans and when complications, some unexpected, can make your day a bit more stressful. Fights on the school playground, angry callers, rude behavior are all more likely on the Quack days. And you might not be at your best on these days either which is another reason why these are good times to back off and reconsider your actions.

The days not on either list usually have less energy and often have a Kiss and a Quack at about the same time of the day. If you read the daily Skywatch reports every morning you’ll learn how to use the positive energy on these days as you also learn more about the planets, signs, and the aspects/alignments they make. The study of astrology is complex. This is my 42nd year of study in the books of the masters—and I’m still learning. Help your loved ones and friends; let them know about these dates, especially the + power days each month, and the Retrograde cycles.

That’s it. Very simple. There is no secret magic formula here. The stars impel, they don’t compel. Outcomes in all situations are all at your command—Skywatch is a report on timing to give you the best chance to succeed. But realize that a leaky boat will still quickly sink on a Kiss day. You can still have a lovely day when Quacks are in the Skywatch since you have your own personal astrology to play out. But unless there is something big happening in your natal chart, the Skywatch calls out the vibes and energy of the day—and will help you know when to take action, when to set sail on a high tide with the wind at your back. Welcome aboard!

*Lance*

## ★JANUARY★

A hangover. We begin the new year with Mercury still Retrograde from Dec 19, 2016. Mercury began the Rx cycle in Winter sign Capricorn and will end it in Fall sign Sagittarius on Jan 8. Mercury backing into another sign during a Rx cycle usually brings important matters and people from the past back into our lives that require our attention. It may bring some strange weather, too, as Mercury rules the winds.

Your energy level will be low as we start the new year with Mars in water sign Pisces until Jan 27—disturbed sleep and strange dreams are more likely for all of us at this time, too. Give yourself and others lots of time/space to perform tasks during this low point; Pisces is the least compatible sign for Mars to work through. Think how much more energy it takes to go fast in water compared to the energy needed to speed on land or in the air. You can run much faster than you can swim.

The big picture is good now as Saturn and Uranus keep their trine alive for most of the month. Saturn is the old guard. Uranus is the new. The trine encourages a balance and positive exchanges of energy. These two planets rule Aquarius and give a big boost to any planets you have in Aquarius and to the house Aquarius rules in your chart. So while our energy level may be low, this is still a very good month to make changes in our lives and to acquire new skills or education. Many successful people will begin their climb up the ladder this month as lucky Jupiter also remains in a positive alignment to realistic Saturn. Be aware of some difficult days.

A Full Moon on Jan 12 in sensitive Cancer makes a square to Jupiter and a square to Uranus forming a Cardinal T-Square in the heavens. Cardinal planets = go to action. Uranus is the rebel and unpredictable. Jupiter overdoes everything. The energy will begin to power up two days prior to exact and won't knock you off your horse but will make some pilgrims break the law or a young girl's heart.

Mars takes a hard line on Jan 18-19 as he squares selfish Saturn. Accidents, arguments, breakdowns and negative responses are much more likely with this square. Headaches, too. Mars rules your head and muscles, soldiers, cops and athletes. Stay under the speed limit, avoid the cops, and don't force the issue on these days. A big energy shift in the Skywatch appears when Mars enters his home sign, Aries.

Start your engines on Jan 27 as Mars leaves Pisces and gets back into a fire sign and the sign he owns. Mars spends about six weeks in each sign as he travels through the Zodiac, returning to home base once every two years. Mars in Aries is found in the chart of great athletes and leaders, people with guts and courage. It's time for all of us to do something new and to have the courage to step forth concerning our beliefs and thinking. It's a good time to start a gym membership or to take a class that challenges us. Expect hostility to increase in some quarters and for impatience to seem more prevalent in others; self-centered teenager reactions are also an Aries trademark. But Mars lights a fire in all of us at month's end and if you have been waiting for the moment to do something for the first time, something different, having Mars on your side is a plus. As times change.

**JANUARY KISS DAYS: 1, 7+, 20, 22, 23, 28.** These are the better days for priority calls, appointments and business.

**JANUARY QUACK DAYS: 5, 10, 11, 12+, 18, 19+, 27, 31.** People and situations may not be what they seem on these days or you have to deal with rude behavior. Keep it cool and safe on the + days as little problems can get out of hand.

## ★FEBRUARY★

The pace picks up in February. Mars travels through home sign Aries all month long. He brings stellar energy to put new plans into motion and to have the courage of your convictions to fight for what's right. He loves the gym and being first, but can give you headaches from overdoing it. Of course, he also gets into needless fights and often carries a weapon when he tangles with the other planets. The hot dates are Feb 22 when Mars squares dangerous Pluto and Feb 26/27 when Mars conjuncts Uranus and opposes Jupiter. Avoid anything difficult, dangerous or first time on these dates.

A new spice appears in the Skywatch on Feb 3 when Venus also enters Aries. She is uncomfortable in the sign that Mars built and is prone to spending more than she has and being overly idealistic about her abilities and gifts. But she is sexy and loves to start things she won't finish. And Venus is about turn Retrograde on March 4. That means she is stationing in the heavens in Feb and will remain in Aries for a longer spell than usual. Venus is the ruler of your art. In Aries, she finds new ideas, perspectives and challenges that are worth pursuing—this is a very good month to do something different and for the first time. Just count the cost first. Venus often spends more than she has.

Mercury enters favorite sign Aquarius on Feb 7 and suddenly we have a huge collection of planets in fire and air signs with only Pluto in Capricorn and Neptune in Pisces in earth and water signs in the Skywatch. Fire and air signs are good at taking the initiative and bringing new conditions into being. This Mercury placement signals a very good time to send out important communications and to create new folders on your desk with new contacts and connections. Mercury will remain in Aquarius until Feb 25, and then enter dreamy and creative Pisces.

There are two Eclipses in Feb. They tell two different stories. A Full Moon and Lunar Eclipse in 22° Leo creates a Fire Grand Trine as it becomes exact on Feb 10. Important decisions, agreements and conclusions are always more likely during a Full Moon. The Eclipse adds power to the events that come down during this lunation and for the next two weeks. A Grand Trine is an alignment of three bodies 120 degrees apart creating a pyramid of power as each planet shares with the others. It's a very good set of planetary alignments to see during a powerful Eclipse. Marriages that last forever will be declared on this night—a child or business born with the Moon trines to Saturn and Uranus will have unusual gifts and talents.

Caution lights are up around the New Moon and Solar Eclipse on Feb 26. This lunation is in 8° Pisces and sits next to dreamy Neptune, ruler of Pisces. Neptune is idealistic, compassionate and creative, but easily fooled by appearance. This is stellar energy for art, music, charitable work and spiritual pursuits. New Moons bring a time to plant seeds and to initiate new plans—Neptune and Pisces work best with artistic, imaginative, spiritual energies. Be aware that some folks will be dialed out on this day when Mars meets Uranus—accidents and unexpected problems are very likely to complicate your plans. Breakthroughs of some kind are also certain for some in this extremely unusual pair of events in the heavens.

**FEBRUARY KISS DAYS: 9, 10+, 11, 15, 16, 20.** Pack all your priority calls, appointments and travel into these dates and take advantage of positive energy in the Skywatch.

**FEBRUARY QUACK DAYS: 2, 8, 22+, 26+, 27.** There aren't many but the last three dates have higher stress levels than usual

## 2017 PLANETARY RETROGRADES

From time to time the planets appear to be backing up in the heavens and driving in reverse. This apparent motion is caused by the Earth speeding by in her orbit creating the illusion of the planet Retrograding. Notable that the Sun and Moon never Rx. While the most important Rx cycles we observe in Skywatch belong to Mercury, and Mars. These are the personal planets and their Rx cycles are quite noticeable and will be major events in the astrological weather of 2017. Any Rx planet loses clarity and focus which turns on the caution lights on all new events ruled by that planet.

**Venus** rules love, our money and what we value. As she backs up on the bases we get confused about what we need/want to spend or what an item is really worth. And there's usually a relationship issue or two to work through during her 40+ day Rx cycle which appears in the Skywatch every other year. The benefit: This is a very good time to finish up old projects and to go over budgets and expenses where you will likely find a way to plug a financial leak. This is not a good time to decide to get married or divorced as your emotions may be in a temporary mood that doesn't last. Getting married at this time is not a big problem as the decision was made earlier when Venus was direct. Venus rules Taurus and Libra birth signs and will Rx from **March 4–April 15**.

**Mercury** is the messenger planet who rules our computers and all the machines we use for travel and communications, including our cars—all more subject to malfunction and breakdown during Mercury's three Rx cycles in 2017. Yes, back up your computer and get your car serviced before the Rx cycle begins. The benefit: This is a good time to go back over recent plans and actions and to review, rethink and reexamine your work—improvements are likely to be significant and most helpful once the Rx cycle ends. This is a poor time to travel, sign important papers and to make binding decisions that have long-range significance—you might change your mind. Mercury Rx periods in 2017 are: **December 19, 2016–January 8, April 9–May 3, August 12–September 5, December 3–22**. Mercury rules both Virgo and Gemini birth signs who typically can feel the Mercury Rx cycle coming on a week ahead of time.

due to Mars connections. Tell your friends who are wait staff or substitute teachers to avoid working on those dates if possible—expect to be busy if you drive an ambulance.

### ★MARCH★

Caution lights. Looking back over the last five years we've seen a horrible escalation of violence and destruction worldwide. In this time period, rebellious Uranus has been aligned in a challenging square to the ruler of death, Pluto. This square appears in the heavens only once every 80+ years, is still within shouting distance, and more importantly can be re-activated by a passing visitor. Jupiter makes this connection in March by opposing Uranus on Mar 2nd and then squaring Pluto on the 30th.

Jupiter encourages us to go way overboard in spending, drinking, and expecting everything to work out. Jupiter rules the law, travel, foreigners, sales, publishing—and gambling. Pluto squares appear in the Skywatch as divorces and bankruptcies show up in the headlines. Better to stay way under the speed limit and to be conservative in your actions, purchases and expectations in March. Sagittarius, Pisces, Aquarius and Scorpio birth signs especially be aware as these planets are your rulers. These difficult alignments will begin to dissolve in April and over the next few months only to reappear again in late Summer.

Adding an additional difficult element to the Skywatch is that sweet Venus turns Retrograde on Mar 4th. She begins this Rx cycle in Aries, her least favorite sign, and will back up from 13° Aries to 27° Pisces when she turns direct in action on April 15—tax day. All planets when Rx lose their clarity and focus—Venus rules our finances and what we value. In Aries, she is likely to impulsively buy something first time that seems like a good idea at the moment. But when Venus turns back to direct motion that article of clothing you bought during Venus Rx that you thought was so cool might be pushed to the back of your closet and end up going to Goodwill. And it's the same idea with people you meet this month. Some will be who they say they are, while others will be in a disguise that won't come off until after Venus

resumes direct motion. So take your time evaluating people and purchases in March—especially true for Taurus and Libra birth signs since they are ruled by Venus.

Mercury leaves sleepy Pisces and enters fired up Aries on Mar 13th. Expect storms and arguments around the water cooler to increase in the days to follow. Mercury joins Venus Rx, Uranus, the Sun and the Moon in Aries at the New Moon on Mar 27th. This is a very rare occurrence to have five players in the sign ruled by aggressive Mars. A child born at this time will have extraordinary abilities as an athlete—Mars rules your muscles. A horse, a business, anything that is born at this time is going to have great potential. Use this powerful time in the Skywatch by starting something new in your life and times—and you create a new birth chart with this extremely powerful lineup of planets as the crown jewel. And be aware that five in Aries is bound to push some folks into violence and selfish acts—behaving like a self-centered teenager with no regard for others.

Notable that Mars enters Taurus on Mar 9th and will travel through this earth sign, ruled by Venus, until April 21. The positive spin here is that Mars makes only two contacts with other planets this month: Mars trines Saturn on Mar 5th and sextiles creative Neptune, exact on the day of the New Moon.

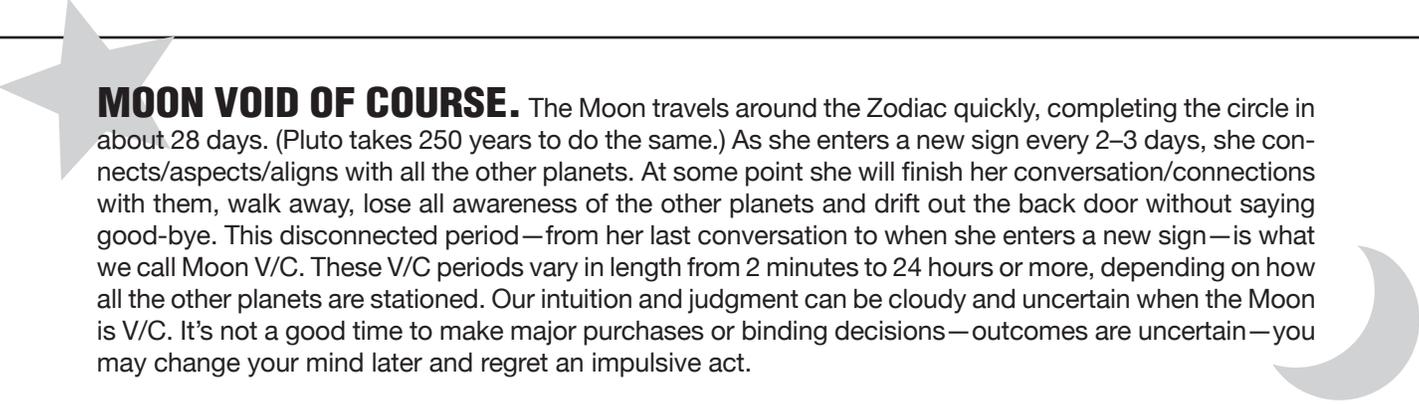
Bottom line: Proceed with caution in March. But be ready to plant a seed and to take a first step at month's end, even if it's something very simple.

**MARCH KISS DAYS: 5, 7 (morning best), 18+, 19, 24, 27+.** The dates with a + are the best for handling priority matters and important appointments.

**MARCH QUACK DAYS: 1, 12+, 17, 23, 30+.** Financial errors, misunderstandings, selfish reactions and serious trouble are all more likely on these days, especially those marked with +.

### ★APRIL★

Complications. We begin the month with Venus still Retrograde. She backs into Pisces on Apr 2nd and back into a square with selfish Saturn on the 8th. She slowly backs up one more degree



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## MOON VOID OF COURSE.

The Moon travels around the Zodiac quickly, completing the circle in about 28 days. (Pluto takes 250 years to do the same.) As she enters a new sign every 2–3 days, she connects/aspects/aligns with all the other planets. At some point she will finish her conversation/connections with them, walk away, lose all awareness of the other planets and drift out the back door without saying good-bye. This disconnected period—from her last conversation to when she enters a new sign—is what we call Moon V/C. These V/C periods vary in length from 2 minutes to 24 hours or more, depending on how all the other planets are stationed. Our intuition and judgment can be cloudy and uncertain when the Moon is V/C. It's not a good time to make major purchases or binding decisions—outcomes are uncertain—you may change your mind later and regret an impulsive act.

**BENEFITS:** While we are cautioned to pull back from the material world during Moon V/C, we can turn our attention to the spiritual world and find satisfaction. This is a good time for meditation, recentering, spiritual studies and for helping others. Stick to routine and keep your plans simple during V/C periods and you will not find them to be difficult.

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over the next few days and stops in the heavens, ending her Rx on Apr 15th, just a whisker past the exact square alignment. Venus then slowly moves forward back into the exact square to Saturn again on the 21st. Saturn tests us. Venus rules money and love. Typically these two make a square to each other twice a year, and it lasts for a day. Two weeks of this square is going to be a grumpy and somewhat negative period of time that will prompt many to ignore their responsibilities and blow off their budgets. You may have extra responsibilities appear during this period and financial difficulties you had not considered. Yes, tax day is in this window of time—many folks will owe more than planned—Saturn rules the government and IRS.

More complications. Mercury will turn Retrograde on April 9th in money sign Taurus doubling the chances of errors, misunderstandings, misplaced orders and theft around your home and office—Mercury rules thieves. And these two events kick on the caution lights for all of April. Suggest you get your taxes done early, if possible. And I suggest you hold off on making important decisions, purchases and binding commitments to others during this month. Mercury will back into Aries and conclude the Rx cycle on May 3 suggesting a change in your thinking from when Mercury was in Taurus.

There are three Mercury Rx cycles a year. Each one lasts about three weeks. However, in two of these cycles Mercury backs up 13-16 degrees. One of the cycles observes Mercury backing up only 9-10 degrees. Small difference but it signals a much more difficult Rx cycle from the others here on Earth during this shorter Rx travel. And the Rx cycle this month is one of the most difficult as Mercury begins the Rx at 5° Taurus and only retreats to 24° Aries. A total of 10° degrees. Thus, severe storms are very likely in the days ahead—Mercury rules the winds. And errors made during this Rx cycle are likely to be much more difficult to unwind. Pay attention Gemini and Virgo—Mercury is your ruler.

Even more complications. Saturn begins his Rx cycle on the 6th. Pluto begins his Rx cycle on the 20th. Both planets spend four or five months backing up each year. Their cycles are not as directly personal as Mercury and Venus. But they up the total to four planets Rx during most of the month as Jupiter is already Rx. Expect slowdowns, delays, changes in the plans. Capricorn, Aquarius and Scorpio birth signs especially—these are your rulers.

Mars enters air sign Gemini, the Twins, on the 21st. New ideas and points of view accompany this shift, and perhaps a war with

words in the weeks ahead. Mars remains in Gemini until June 4. One of his tricks will be to encourage us to handle too many details at once and lose our focus, especially while Mercury is Rx.

Bottom line: there's nothing in the Skywatch to knock you off your horse in April. But there is enough confusion in the heavens to send you on a pointless journey or to convince you to get a tattoo from an artist who can't spell. Again, the Venus Saturn square is in force from April 8-21. Don't overreact to negative stuff in this window of time and hold off on burning any bridges. Be conservative with money/purchases—deals can be found in this time period for those who know the marketplace. So I'm not putting this event in the Quack list. Your attitude is what matters then.

**APRIL KISS DAYS: 5, 6, 15, 16, 17, and 23** with V/C hours you can read about in my daily report. And remember: there will be Rx planets on these days, too. But they are the best I can find this month for priority matters.

**APRIL QUACK DAYS: 8+, 9, 21.** Not many and no really difficult days except for the 8th when the Sun squares Pluto, adding another stressful challenge to the day's events. Double-check the details and all financial transactions/bills/appraisals as errors are more likely.

## ★MAY★

Change your mind? I didn't point it out last month but Mercury met Uranus, the god of Change, on April 28 as he backed up in his Retrograde cycle. And while Mercury ends his Rx period on May 3, he is sitting right next to Uranus and makes the exact conjunction again on May 9. This all happens in impulsive Aries and suggests problems with computers, electricity, rebellious behavior, and the tendency to make snap decisions that are either brilliant—or worthless. So here we have another long connection between two planets due to the Rx cycle—April 28 to May 9—and you would be wise to hold off finalizing anything in this time period, even if Mercury is in direct motion, because Uranus could make him change his mind. And you, too.

There are two major planetary markers in the Skywatch this month. Jupiter makes an inconjunct to Neptune on the 18th. Inconjuncts generate stress in job and health matters. Neptune always brings a touch of confusion, misunderstanding and often deceit. This is a minor aspect meaning it tends to come on strong a few days before exact and then leaves the playing field quickly. Strange sleep and dreams follow Neptune to the bar

where he drinks too much and doesn't want to take responsibility. Jupiter inflames the situation and adds his tendency to bullshit. If something looks too good to be true, this marker agrees with that estimation and warns you not to buy in to overly hyped suggestions and blue sky deals this month.

The best news this month is Saturn forming a trine to Uranus, exact on the 19th. A trine connects two planets in harmony and gives each of them a say in matters—and you know two heads are better than one. Saturn is the old guard who is patient, reliable, practical and grounded. Uranus is the new age thinker who lives outside the box and comes up with brilliant new ideas never seen before. Together they signal a powerful time for all of us to join the old and new and to make some serious progress in our lives. This trine first showed up at the end of last December and will appear again in the Skywatch this Fall.

Yes, both energies are in the Skywatch this month. The trine is a much stronger event, encourages you to take a realistic and practical approach, and to not be afraid of changes or putting new ideas into motion. Saturn and Uranus rule the sign of Aquarius and this is an excellent signal to the Water Bearers that this is a good year to get on the path to your destiny. All of us have the sign Aquarius in our birth charts commanding one house, or part of our lives. In my chart, Aquarius is on the house of partnerships, so this will be a good month and year for me to meet new people, conservatives and liberals, and to work with all of them in harmony. You'll have the same positive energy brewing in the house ruled by Aquarius in your chart. And this trine also boosts the power of any planet you have in Aquarius, too. Major trines with big planets always have three exact passes or alignments and usually this takes most of a year as they all Rx back to the first hit, then turn back direct and finally come forward to make the third pass. This means the trine stays in power through next November.

**MAY KISS DAYS: 3, 5, 7, 9, 18, 30.** There's a big energy push on May 11th as Mars squares dreamy Neptune at 10:52 am PDT and things seem cloudy. Green lights come on in the hours after this marker passes as Mercury trines Saturn and Mars trines Jupiter—two big time winners.

**MAY QUACK DAYS: 1, 15, 16, 25, 28+.** Mars opposes Saturn and the Moon squares Uranus at the same time late Saturday night, May 28th. The rest of the Skywatch is pleasant on Labor Day with the Moon in fun-loving Leo.

## ★JUNE★

This is an excellent month to catch up on anything that has been delayed of late. It's a very good time to get your message out and to handle important financial matters. There are no major squares or challenges in the Skywatch in June; the most difficult maker appears on June 24th when Mars squares Jupiter. Just stay under the speed/drink limit that Saturday night, and you can ride past this event without getting into trouble. The only other difficulty in the Skywatch this month is that again we have frequent Moon Void of Course cycles. However, they are not terribly long and therefore dealing with them will not really be that difficult.

Clever Mercury enjoys returning to full speed and traveling through home sign Gemini from the 6th to 21st. This once-a-year part of his cycle gives us all a stellar time to come up with new ideas, plans and possibilities—and to communicate our needs and wishes to others. Note that Mercury trines/agrees with lucky Jupiter in the morning of the 13th, but squares dreamy Neptune that evening suggesting a touch of confusion.

Green lights are also up this month for making financial decisions and for buying and selling. Venus enters home sign Taurus on June 6th and will travel through this earth sign until July 4. Venus attracts love and money and she brings us all a very good time to find both in our lives. Venus loves nice things: chocolate, massages, making good deals and finding bargains at the flea market. She helps us in the social arena to meet the right people—this is a stellar time for introductions and throwing your hat into the ring of love. And this setup is helpful to Taurus and earth signs Virgo and Capricorn.

Retrogrades. The good news is that Jupiter ends his Rx cycle on the 9th. The planet of expansion is back in business at this moment until the next Rx cycle begins in early March, 2018. The day itself won't matter, but this is a good sign that kicks on the green lights for travel, education and handling legal matters in the weeks and months ahead. And for reaching out for more and better in whatever you attempt.

Neptune turns Retrograde on the 16th. This Rx cycle is quiet but suggests we pay attention to the spiritual side of our lives; this is when we should not be afraid to let emotions and feelings from the past surface so that we can attempt to heal the part that hurts. Neptune rules charitable organizations who may need more help/support than usual during this Rx cycle that ends in late November.

**JUNE KISS DAYS: 3+, 9, 13 in AM hours only, 14, 19** with a few V/C hours, **20, 27** in the PM hours. The 3rd is a day of Grace and a wonderful day for everything on your agenda.

**JUNE QUACK DAYS: 13 in PM hours, 24+, 27 in AM hours, 29.** Not many stressful days in this list. If you read the daily reports on these days at [Skywatchastrology.com](http://Skywatchastrology.com) you'll have the chance/awareness to be able to take advantage of the positive elements mixed up with the difficult ones.

## ★JULY★

"There is a time for every season." And in July the time comes to make important endings and new beginnings. As we have extremely powerful lunations this month. Pluto is sitting next to the Full Moon on the 8th. Mars accompanies the New Moon on July 23rd. Both cowboys are powerful in this context and are valuable, even if they bring challenging times. We harvest on a Full Moon; this is the best time to finalize decisions and to complete projects during the two week-period from Full to New Moon. This part of the lunar cycle encourages us to let go of people and situations that no longer help us grow and achieve. Pluto rules death and rebirth and is the master of healing old wounds and giving us a new and better perspective after we give up unhealthy ways and attitudes.

We plant seeds on a New Moon. And this one is in the first degree of Leo and is sitting next to courageous Mars. What a time to set sail! Leo rules your heart—this is an excellent New Moon to start something dear to your heart. Mars gives you energy and the guts to step out on your ideas and creative thinking on the day of this lunation and in the two weeks that follow until the next Full Moon. Follow your bliss and plant a seed under the umbrella of this event—the Force is with you.

Caution lights are up over July 4th weekend. The main event is Jupiter making an inconjunct to spacey Neptune at the same time Mercury squares Uranus. The inconjunct is minor but will still bring problems with alcohol, water activities, poisons/infections and folks who are irresponsible. Uranus adds the short fuse to evening plans increasing the chances of accidents, arguments, lightning strikes and problems with cars, computers and teenage behavior/reactions in some folks. Mars opposes dangerous Pluto

on July 2; the Skywatch clears on July 3, but be certain to follow all safety precautions over this four-day period. Be cool. Be safe.

Mars enters fiery Leo on July 20 and will travel through this fixed sign until Sept 5. This is a good placement for vacations, family reunions and having some fun during this six-week journey. And Mars will meet Pluto in Leo in all the baby boomer charts—he brings high energy for coming up with new ideas and all creative projects. But before he gets to Leo, the day to note is July 17 when Mars in Cancer squares Uranus in Aries, the sign ruled by Mars. Venus squares Neptune that day, too. Both squares can lead to mistakes, unexpected trouble, breakdowns and problems with anything electrical—ruled by Uranus. Put a big red “X” on that day in your calendar and stick to routine.

**JULY KISS DAYS: 3, 18+, 19, 23, 24, 29.** Venus trines lucky Jupiter on the 18th and you have green lights to buy a scratcher, have cosmetic surgery or to just get a haircut. There are no guarantees but I suspect somebody is going to hit the jackpot in one way or another with Jupiter’s blessing on that day.

**JULY QUACK DAYS: 1, 2, 4+, 5, 8, 9, 17++, 20.** Danger lurks on the + days. Make safety a priority over the 4th. And realize some folks will drink too much and thus be the source of accidents on land and sea as Neptune is part of the problem on both of the difficult days.

## ★AUGUST★

Heads up! The most difficult marker in the Skywatch this month turns exact on Aug 4 as Jupiter in Libra squares Pluto in Capricorn. The energy in this square promotes overindulgence in every way possible: promises, expenses, expectations, on and on. This square has been “creeping” into power over the last three weeks, and we’ve seen it before. This is the last pass. But caution lights are up in the face of this square. Jupiter rules the law, travel, foreigners, and bullshit. Pluto rules death/rebirth and the positive side of this square is to end something detrimental to your mission in life FOR GOOD! This message to teenagers is: clean up your room and take out the trash. (I can hear my father’s instructions from long ago.)

Most helpful is that we have two more powerful Eclipses in the heavens and both are connected to other planets in positive trines. Yes, yes, yes. The Full Moon and Lunar Eclipse on Aug 7 makes a lovely trine to lucky Jupiter. We only get four Eclipses a year usually and they are the most powerful New and Full Moons. Their connection to the other planets varies and is a determining factor in whether the Eclipse is helpful or is “A bad Moon rising.” Jupiter helps you make a graceful exit wherever needed and encourages you to think of your future—how long will you put up with a person or situation that does not fit into your future plans?

The Solar Eclipse and New Moon this month on Aug 21 makes a very tight trine to Uranus, the planet that rules changes. Note events around these lunations. Endings and conclusions—“I love you”—the words shine in the face of a Full Moon. Seeds planted in the dark of the New Moon are power packed with the Sun and

Moon together in the same spot in the Zodiac. This pair will encourage and help to expand/grow your new plans and initiatives as the Moon gains light in the heavens in the days ahead. Bottom line: this is an excellent month to end the unnecessary crap in your life, and to begin something unique, experimental and outside the box from your own creative gifts. This is the time to speak up and to place your order. Just double-check the details.

**Complication.** Mercury turns Retrograde on Aug 12 in home sign Virgo. This Rx cycle is not difficult as the Twins make no squares or challenging aspects as they back up on the bases. However, Mercury backs into Leo on Aug 31 and will end the Rx roaring like a Lion on Sept 5 after meeting Mars in the heavens and making a trine to Uranus. This is a power packed ending to the Rx cycle after a fairly quiet beginning.

A sextile in astrology is a 60-degree angle between two planets and signals a time of opportunity here on Earth. Lucky Jupiter and realistic Saturn form a sextile in the heavens on Aug 27. This marker fills the space left by the Jupiter square at the month’s beginning and will be in full power even with Mercury Rx. Good timing is a hallmark of this marker—tune in to opportunities that come up during this sextile as this is when you meet the person who can help you—Jupiter is in Libra, the sign of partnerships. It also signals a very good time for starting new classes this Fall and all matters ruled by Jupiter.

Saturn leaves his Retrograde cycle and resumes direct motion on Aug 25. He turned Rx on April 6 and now kicks on the green lights to put new energy into priority ambitions over the next eight months. You may have to wait until Mercury turns direct in motion to get any satisfaction from Saturn’s revival. Capricorn and Aquarius birth signs ruled by Saturn, especially.

**AUGUST KISS DAYS: 7, 12, 13+, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 30.** Double-check the details with Mercury Rx, but these are all good days to schedule priority matters. A Sun Saturn trine with the Moon in peaceful Taurus sets up the 13th as a day of Grace.

**AUGUST QUACK DAYS: 3, 4+, 16, 24.** Venus gets into trouble and makes challenging aspects to other planets on the last two days on this list—errors and worse in financial transactions are more likely then—pay extra attention to receipts, appraisals and first-time purchases.

## ★SEPTEMBER★

Uranus is on stage again this month—changes are in the wind. And it’s likely an important truth will come out as well. Mercury is finishing up his Retrograde cycle that started in August and as he slowly stations in the heavens, he makes a lovely trine to Uranus that is in power over the first six days. Mercury stops on Sept 5 and resumes direct motion holding on to the positive energy in the trine for at least another day. Uranus rules the truth and usually brings an unexpected point of view. This is a good period of time to plan your future, or to schedule important matters. New ideas/connections that come to you could be winners—take notes, investigate new options/possibilities in Sept. Mars links up with



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an astrological timing guide for all signs

Mercury and also trines Uranus as the month begins. Venus will also trine Uranus on Sept 17.

Overriding it all is that Jupiter slowly moves back into an exact opposition to Uranus on Sept 27. This marker first appeared at the end of Dec/16. We had the second pass last March. This is the third pass. This is the typical pattern of the big planets as they move forward and hit a planet, then Retrograde back over the same point and make the same connection again when they turn back in direct motion = they make three passes. The first pass is always the most difficult as the energy is so new. The second pass occurs when the planet is Rx and often brings a complication from the first pass. The third pass is typically the most positive of the three as we have had time to work with the planets over the months it takes for this pattern to unfold.

This opposition inspires the rebel side in all of us. Some folks will go over the edge in demanding freedom and ignoring their responsibilities in the face of this opposition. You can bet this will be a challenging time for teenagers. We use this energy well by joining forces with others and by promoting positive changes in our life and times. Relationships are part of the focus here with Jupiter in partnership sign Libra. This is a very good time to meet new people who may not think like you do, but are still on your wavelength and/or can teach you something valuable. Uranus also rules groups that have a humanitarian/charitable mission—this is a very good month to find one you support—it will be easy to make new friends there.

Notable: Pluto leaves his Rx cycle and resumes Direct Motion on Sept 28. This is important news for Scorpio birth signs as ruler Pluto has been Rx since Apr 21. This guy is so far out there we don't really notice his Rx cycles like the personal planets. However, these dates often mark important changes or eras starting and stopping to Scorpios and to folks with heavy Scorpio energy in their birth charts. Pluto's next Rx period begins on Apr 23, 2018.

**SEPTEMBER KISS DAYS: 4, 9, 10, 17+, 18, 23, 28, 30.** Love is in the air on the 17th. It's a day of Grace and an excellent day for a wedding or social event. Yes, yes, yes. It's also a stellar day for introductions and blind dates—reach out.

**SEPTEMBER QUACK DAYS: 2, 13, 19, 24+, 25.** Mars lines up opposite spacey Neptune on the 24th. Stay out of leaky boats and you'll cruise past trouble that day by doing nothing. And that's the worst of it this month. Double-check the details, keep it simple on the other dates and you can probably avoid minor hassles and unpleasant scenes.

## ★OCTOBER★

Green lights. The pace of events picks up in October. Only two planets are Retrograde now, Uranus and Neptune—A pair not likely to interfere with your plans or to slow you down. All the other planets are blazing into new territory opening the door to new opportunities and connections—some exceptional days are ahead.

As the month begins, loving Venus and aggressive Mars find the same spot in the Zodiac and conjunct/meet in the heavens on Oct 5. This pair likes to buy things, make love, be creative and their energy and desire will be very strong the first week of the month. Amplifying the energy in this somewhat rare, once-a-year conjunction, is a Full Moon, also exact on Oct 5. It's a superb date and time to propose marriage or a business partnership. A child born on this date will have an incredible sex appeal and charisma.

The main event in October's astrological weather is Jupiter entering water sign Scorpio on Oct 10. Jupiter spends a year in each sign and thus he visits the sign of healing and transformation once every twelve years. It's valuable to note the events of these years when Jupiter traveled through Scorpio: Nov/05 to Nov/06, Nov/93 to Nov/94, Nov/81 to Dec/82. I moved on every one of these periods as Jupiter transited my 4th house of home/family during those years. Remember, Jupiter is the planet of expansion and he is most helpful when we take action and keep the faith that matters can improve. Obviously this is a good period of time for Scorpio birth signs and planets in Scorpio to shine. Water signs Cancer and Pisces will also get a blast of this positive energy in the months ahead. Yes, yes, yes. The energy to heal an important component in our life remains high for all of us over the next twelve months while Jupiter is in Scorpio. How has he helped you before?

Sweet Venus enters her home sign, Libra, on Oct 14 opening hearts and minds of most folks to love and compromise. She travels through Libra once a year and will leave the sign of partnerships on Nov 7. This is a very good window of time for finding new partners, getting a cosmetic treatment, buying art and beautifying your home or office in some way. It's also a good time to find consultants who can really help you, including a lawyer. Venus loves weddings and all social events—this is a better than average time to schedule such.

**OCTOBER KISS DAYS: 1, 3, 14, 16.** The afternoon and evening hours are splendid for introductions and all social plans on the 17+. The Sun and lucky Jupiter meet in the heavens on the 26+. Both + days are the best of the month to make an appearance and to ask for what you want. They are days of Grace.

**OCTOBER QUACK DAYS: 8, 9+, 11, 27.** Not many and no really difficult days. The Sun and Mercury square inflexible Pluto on the 9th which makes a compromise hard to come by. And it's not good Skywatch for cosmetic surgery or trying to force the issue.

**WHO KNOWS?** The New Moon on **Oct 19th** sits exactly opposite unpredictable Uranus. Likely the truth comes out as Uranus acts like a bolt of lightning. Cars and computers might need some attention and the kids in third grade are likely to be a bit rebellious—it's a strange day with Uranus on stage. And a good day to step outside the box.

## ★NOVEMBER★

The beat goes on and on and on. This is the best month of the year for financial and business concerns, handling legal problems, travel, buying a car or computer—and for priority appointments of all kinds. There are two powerful trines setting up in the heavens that connect big planets in harmony and thus bring a time here on Earth to take action. And for new conditions to appear that can bring success and satisfaction.

Dependable Saturn lines up in a trine to experimental Uranus on Nov 11. This marker has been in the Skywatch since last May and whose powers will begin to fade after this month is over. Uranus rules cars, computers, the process of change, your friends and the groups you belong to. Saturn is practical, realistic, and dependable. So this is an excellent time to work with others to perfect a project and to blend the old and the new into something that improves the situation. And again, this trine sends a message to all Aquarians, and to the Aquarian elements in our birth charts: a rare month of progress and awareness is here.

The second trine links philosophical Jupiter with creative and spiritual Neptune, exact on Dec 2. Both of these trines power up four to six weeks ahead of exact. Again, we have a pair of planets that rule a sign: Pisces. Neptune is the new ruler; Jupiter is the old ruler. This pair inspires artists, musicians, dancers and poets to create a masterpiece. Dreams and visions can be powerful with this pair who also will encourage all of us to space out and leave the material world behind, if only for a few hours. Obviously, this is a very good trine for all Pisces Sun signs and for energizing the Pisces planets and the house ruled by Pisces in your birth chart. And this trine will slowly dissolve in December but returns next Spring and Summer. That means this is a good month to plant a seed that will blossom next May.

This is a valuable blend of energies as the trines speak to different parts of our soul and thinking. Saturn and Uranus are in fire signs: creative, aggressive, high energy and built to be leaders. Jupiter and Neptune are in water signs: emotionally aware, vibe sensitive, and relentless submarines. That's the first question beginning students ask me: Which element is the most powerful? They are stunned when I tell them: Water. Water always wins. That means you will be at your most "Jedi" if your feelings are engaged in your work and projects this month, and when you observe the emotional component in all transactions as Saturn and Uranus create opportunities to move ahead.

The only hot spot in the Skywatch this month finds aggressive Mars squaring dangerous Pluto Nov 19. Mars is in Libra now, the sign of partnerships, and likely to start a major argument or fight that could get out of hand. A New Moon that weekend is in Scorpio, ruled by Pluto and Mars. Of course, this square puts pressure on all Scorpio birth signs, the planets you have in Scorpio and the house ruled by Scorpio in your natal birth chart. Snap decisions and impulsive moves are very likely to backfire with the square. This is not the weekend to gamble or risk life and limb.

The Skywatch on Thanksgiving Day is peaceful. The kiss of the day appears at 4:05 pm PST when the Sun and Moon sextile. Quiet hours follow for the rest of the day and night.

**NOVEMBER KISS DAYS: 3, 4, 11+, 12, 16, 17, 25.** The days in between these dates are better than most but have a slight blemish or two—check out the daily reports this month and you'll find additional kiss times to work some magic.

**NOVEMBER QUACK DAYS: 13, 18+, 19+, 30.** Not many, but don't push your luck during the hard square—breakdowns are certain.

## ★DECEMBER★

High hopes. But what are the facts? It's hard for me to see how the Skywatch in the first three days of this month plays out. A dangerous Mars Uranus opposition on the 1st kicks on caution lights. But there is a lovely kiss, Jupiter trine Neptune, on Dec 2nd. Followed by a Full Moon that is exactly square dreamy Neptune on the 3rd. And topping it off is Mercury again entering his Retrograde cycle near midnight, PST, on Saturday the 2nd, right in the middle of it all.

First, Jupiter trine Neptune has been on the hob for the last four weeks and will slowly dissolve as the weeks go by. For some folks a dream will come true this month; for others the illusion of success will be challenged by the facts and lose the name of action. Both outcomes are encouraged by the Neptune square to the Full Moon in Gemini. Squares are powerful and reward the folks who sit up straight and deal with all the issues on the table looking for a way to compromise. Those who ignore the facts brought up by a square usually suffer and feel the dark side of the planets involved.

The Joker in this Skywatch lineup is Mercury Rx in Sagittarius, the sign ruled by Jupiter. This is the sign opposite to Mercury's home sign Gemini and thus not a good spot to find Mercury backing up on the bases. Do your holiday shopping before this Rx cycle gets started, if you can, and be sure to save your receipts if you don't as the need to exchange merchandise will be high this month with Mercury Rx until Dec 22. Travel is bound to be difficult for many during this Rx cycle; legal matters are best postponed until another time—both ruled by Sag.

Another major event in the astrological skies this month is Saturn leaving easygoing Sag and entering his home sign of Capricorn on Dec 19. He will stay two-and-a-half years in this powerful earth sign in a return he makes only once every twenty-nine years. A planet in a home sign is extra powerful and puts new demands into our lives—gifts, too. Saturn rules our ambitions, our responsibilities, our career and long-range goals. He is realistic, practical and conservative. His rulership includes the mountains, the government, big biz, ice and your knees, bones and joints. His dark side is cold-blooded, selfish, cruel and irresponsible. He is a saint when he gets the job done, and/or takes the responsibility for others safety and leads them out of the wilderness. You'll likely be presented with the necessity to choose between these responses more than once during his travel through Capricorn. To those who are ambitious and who want to continue to climb up the ladder of life, this part of Saturn's cycle seats you at a poker table where you can win if you take care of your duties and are patient. For others, including old astrologers like me, Saturn brings a time to reconsider our long-term plans/ambitions and to make finances and security issues a priority. This shift in Saturn's influence will squeeze "the extra" out of past excesses and suggests the beginning of a period of difficult economic news.

Cold. We always cast a chart of the Sun's entrance into Capricorn each year to use as a guidepost as to events that occur during Winter's three months. This year, the Sun and Saturn meet in the heavens on the Winter Solstice Day. Translation: Cold. Big time Winter weather is the forecast from this rare combination.

Venus meets Saturn in the heavens on Christmas Day. Something old and treasured from the past will be deeply valued as a gift this year. The Skywatch is clear and friendly on New Year's Eve.

**DECEMBER KISS DAYS: 8+, 14, 23, 28+,** add **2** and **20** to this list although there are some V/C hours on both days—get the details in the daily reports. Two days of Grace + this month are stellar for important appointments and handling priority matters.

**DECEMBER QUACK DAYS: 1, 3+, 21.** Double-check the details while Mercury is Rx from Dec 2-22.

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*"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven."*

—Ecclesiastes 3

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