

Arcanum: 14

Zodiac Affinity: Sagittarius

Element: Fire

As a "Yes" or "No" Card: Yes



## Overview

Temperance is the 14<sup>th</sup> Major Arcana card in the suit and it is quite pleasing after the prior Death card. Temperance shows an angelic figure crowned with the halo of the Sun... Temperance as a definition means abstinence from alcohol; the meaning of this card can be interpreted to mean abstinence generally. The card also represents balance; duality is a concept that exists everywhere, you just have to look for it.

The Temperance card shows a large, winged angel who is both masculine and feminine. She wears a light blue robe with a triangle enclosed in a square on the front; representing that humans (the triangle) are bound by the Earth and natural law (square). The angel balances between one foot on the rocks, expressing the need to stay grounded, and one foot in the water showing the need to be in flow. She pours water between two cups, symbolic of the flow and alchemy of life.

In the background, there is a winding path up to a mountain range, reflecting the journey through life. Above the mountains hovers a golden crown encased in a glowing light, a symbol of taking the higher path and staying true to one's life and purpose and meaning.

## Keywords

*Self-Control - Compromise - Moderation - Virtue & Abstinence - Balance - Patience Purpose - Blending - Art - Seeker of Purity*

"Bringing together all the right things, at just the right time, and in the right place. This is a magical kind of balance, more complex than just mixing equal parts." - *Tarot of Pagan Cats, Lo Scarabeo.*



## Key Phrases

- I. The blending of ideas
- II. Harmony and understanding
- III. Moderation is the key to success
- IV. Alchemical process
- V. Recognizing co-operation
- VI. Healing Energy

## General

Temperance is the card for bringing balance, patience and moderation into your life. You are being invited to stabilize your energy and allow the life force to flow through you without force or resistance. It's time to recover your flow and get your life back in to order and balance.

It will call (and continue calling if you are a Sagittarius) on you to remain calm, even when life feels stressful or frantic. Maintain an even temperament and manage your emotions. You have learned to keep composed in stressful situations. (You really have worked hard!) Little things don't get to you, thanks to your seemingly abundant source of patience. Your respect for balance and tranquility is what will help you achieve and then experience **THAT** fulfillment in your life.

The angel asks you to take the middle path and accommodate all perspectives. Now is not the time to be highly opinionated or controversial. Be the peacekeeper and take a balanced and moderate approach, avoiding any extremes. (I know this to be hard for my special centaurs' out there because they are naturally born warriors driven to protect at all costs - so avoiding extremes is a new foreign practice.) Include others and bring together diverse groups of people to create harmony and cooperation. By working together, you will collectively leverage the right mix of talents, experiences, abilities and skills.

There are alchemical elements present within this card; it is about blending, mixing, and combining diverse elements in a way that creates something new and even more valuable than its separate parts. 'Blending' can take on many forms; for example, a blended family, an artist who blends different materials or techniques, a bartender who mixes new and exciting cocktails, or a chef who combines different cuisines and cooking styles.

Temperance is good at showing that you have a clear, long-term vision of what you want to achieve. You are not rushing things along; instead, you are taking your time to ensure that

you do the best job you can. You know you need a moderate, guided approach to reach your goals.

Finally, it reflects higher learning. You are learning a great deal where you are now and are at peace with what you are doing – it is all blending together well. Your inner voice is guiding you to the right outcome, and you are patiently listening and following. (If you are reading this because you **ARE** a Sagittarius, well lets be real, who are we kidding, it's very rare that **your** inner voice is doing anything along the lines of guiding in the right direction... rejoice in this moment!)

## Relationships

The Temperance card and work; this is an easy one to interpret. Have balance in your life. Are you working too hard or too little? The biggest regret people have when they die is that they didn't spend enough time with their family. Work isn't everything. Achievement is only relative. Make sure you spend some time doing what **YOU** enjoy as well.

In basic matters of financial relations; things seem to be starting to even out if you were in debt prior to this spread. Don't expect any sudden surprises; either way, a lottery win isn't coming, but neither is a big payout. Don't worry. If you're not well off with money, it might be good to think about the balance of incoming and outgoing finances. Is there any way you can cut down on expenses, or do you have things that you don't need that could possibly even be sold for extra cash?

In Romantic relationships again we're going to stress balance signified by this card. It may even be worth analyzing your relationship again, is it all toxic? Have you changed in ways you didn't wish to? As always it might be worth having some 'alone-time' now and then.

Maybe you are even simply spending too much time around the same friendship circle, or if you're neglecting your friends; not enough time. Be sure to contact them, but if you feel like you're the one starting all the conversations, it might be time to back off.

Temperance reminds us that our body is made up of the things we take in, physically and mentally, we should treat it well; it's a reflection of who we really are as individuals.



It in the position of a spirituality or religious connotations makes it a good time to just lean back and ponder on your inner thoughts and desires. As always, its good to take a bit more of time, say 10 mins a day, to sit in silence and just think. You don't have to think about anything in particular, just let your mind wander. You might receive answers or grasps a concept you've previously missed.

## †ast

Temperance in the past position means that things have been relatively stress-free in the recent past... It's acted as a good foundation for you to thrive in whichever fields you're interested in and it can also represent a tragic past event that you've grown from and it has made you are you are. Such as the blending of families that led you to have the values you currently possess?



This card may have once portended to a period of creative inspiration, or a time of harmony and peacefulness that led you in to becoming the archetypal force of sheer peace and Harmony that you are now. Self-control and inner guidance have already gotten you through difficulties. A trip gave you a new perspective on some pas issues or an old issue; you need to adapt to the new circumstances now that the past lessons have been learned. Now is when your inner voice will take over and guide you to the right present outcome, you must have patiently listened & followed.

## †resent

In the present position, this card means that you should be practicing moderation... Do not go overboard, don't over work yourself - you'll only wear yourself out. If anything bad is happening in your life, remind yourself that it's going to end soon. Temperance means that balance will come back into your life.

If you are trying to make a decision, you will find a solution, and it will be much easier to see another's point of view. *Your self-control and willingness to compromise* are a good influence on others.

## †uture

This is literally the best position for Temperance when used in a time based spread; it means that things will work out in the immediate future. Things will be balanced. You will

possibly have to moderate your desires and try to see both sides of an argument, but clarification of your true goals or aspirations will be coming your way. There will soon be clarity, harmony and mutual respect, and healing energy for any existing emotional wounds or confusions will be generated by your search for the happy medium.

You have learned a great deal where you are now and are at peace with what you are doing – it is all imminent, as well. Your inner voice is guiding you to the right outcomes, and you are patiently listening and following it as always.

### In Reverse

#### *Imbalance - Excess - Self-Healing - Re-Alignment*

Consider any imbalances in your life, particularly to do with moderation. Are you overindulging in a certain aspect of your life, or looking for escapism when you need to face the real world? It is tempting to forget your problems through alcohol, food, or even entertainment. Or maybe you simply had a period of excess; this is your warning signal, to stop and restore balance and moderation as soon as possible. You may have been over-eating, regularly drinking, buying things you can't afford, arguing with loved ones, or engaging in negative thought patterns. These activities are taking you further away from who you are and what you are here to do. **SO – IT IS TIME TO STOP**, as they say, “everything in moderation!” Or, you may find you need 100% abstinence to break this negative cycle and bring your life back into balance again. As a person, you are stunting your growth if you ignore the difficult parts of your life.

Look for others doing the same; learn from their mistakes. The best thing you can do with your life is to help others, and there may be others close to you who are having trouble dealing with their problems through overindulgence. It may also be a sign that you sense that something is ‘off’ in your life, creating stress and tension. Life is not flowing as easily as you had hoped or there’s a niggling voice from within going “wait a second! This doesn’t feel right” You can ignore it and carry on with life as usual. But, heed Temperance’s warning: if you stay in this state for too long, that force will just get louder and louder.

Similarly the card can be called up on for self-profound healing. By creating more balance and moderation in your life, you are open to the possibility for such healing to occur. Given the reversal of this card, you are doing it in a way that is personal and private to you, without the influence of others. You know you have exactly what you need to heal yourself and create more ‘flow’ in your own life.