

# Astrology

This document sets out how to determine your ruling planet, and thus surmise your character and the professions that would suit you, according to early modern astrological theory. We'll be using some shortcuts, courtesy of modern technology.

**Step 1:** Go to

<https://horoscopes.astro-seek.com/>

Scroll down and enter your date, place and time of birth to generate your birth chart.

For the examples below I'm going to calculate the chart of Donald J. Trump.

*Early modern philosophers commonly held that the heavenly bodies influenced human behaviour. The position of the planets at the time of somebody's birth was a good indicator of how that person's life would play out. Respectable astrologers were thoroughly trained in astronomy and mathematics, enabling them to calculate these charts for their clients.*

**Birth Chart Report** - Enter your birth data

**Date of Birth** 14 June 1946 **Time (local time)** 10 [am] h 54 min  (unknown time)

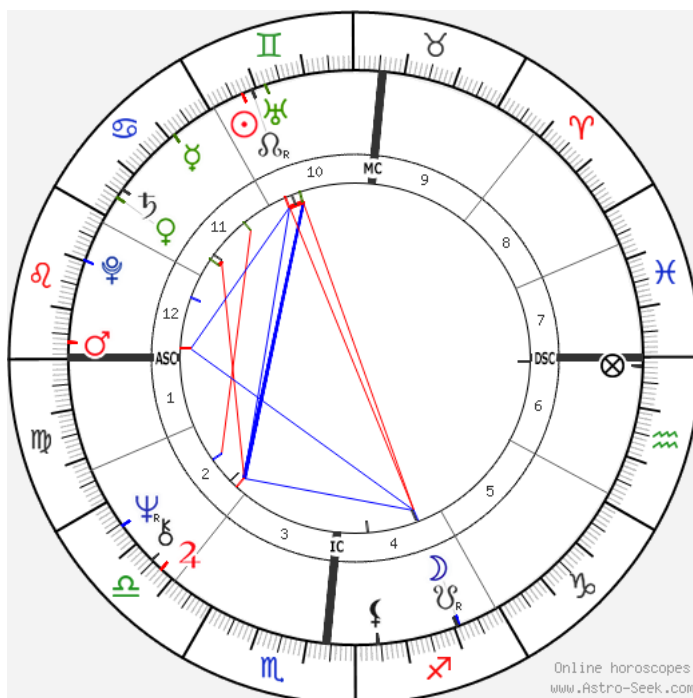
**Birth city:** New York, USA, New York (Enter coordinates manually)



**Calculate chart »**













Extended settings: House system, Aspects, Orbs



You should get something that looks like this:



-  Sun
-  Moon
-  Mercury
-  Venus
-  Mars
-  Jupiter
-  Saturn

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Aries   | Taurus  | Gemini  | Cancer  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Leo   | Virgo   | Libra   | Scorpio   |
|  |  |  |  |
| Sagittarius   | Capricorn   | Aquarius  | Pisces  |

Let's talk about what's going on in this chart! If you're not that interested you can skip this bit.

We have three rings. The outer ring is signs of the zodiac, the middle ring shows the positions of the heavenly bodies (represented by symbols) in relation to these zodiac signs, and the inner ring identifies significant relationships between heavenly bodies. The middle and inner rings are divided into 12 segments, known as houses.

From the perspective of an observer on Earth, over the course of a year the sun moves along a path (the ecliptic) in relation to the fixed stars in the celestial sphere. The zodiac is a 'belt' of sky that extends about 8 degrees north and south of the ecliptic. The sun, moon and planets always appear (to us) to move through the zodiac. Western astrology divides the zodiac into 12 signs, each aligned with a particular constellation.

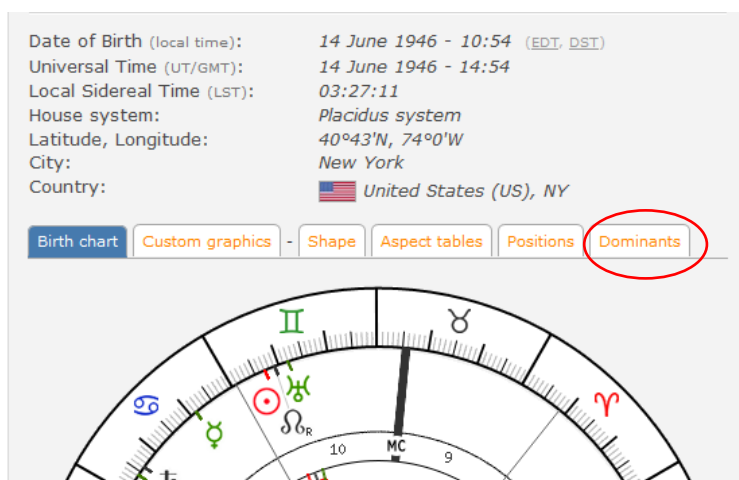
In modern-day astrology, your zodiac or star sign is the sign that the sun was in when you were born – so it depends on how far the sun has progressed along the celestial path it travels over the course of the year. Early modern astrologers called this your sun sign, but didn't attach as much importance to it as do modern-day astrologers. If you look at your natal chart, the red symbol representing the sun (shown in the key above) should be in the section of the chart corresponding to your zodiac sign – so Gemini for Trump.

The middle ring is a picture of the sky when you were born, showing the position of the heavenly bodies. Sunrise is at the 9 o'clock position on the chart, noon at 12 o'clock, sunset at 3 o'clock, and midnight at 6 o'clock. Trump was born at 10.46, meaning the sun is between sunrise and noon. According to astrological theory, the sign in which a planet is located influences how that planet behaves.

The innermost ring identifies aspects, or the angles the planets make to each other. If you're curious about the kinds of things that aspects might signify, scroll down to the 'main aspects' section towards the bottom of the natal chart page.

The houses correspond to different areas of life. If you wanted to know about someone's character, you'd look at what was going on in the 1<sup>st</sup> house; information about family would come in the 4<sup>th</sup> house; education and knowledge in the 9<sup>th</sup> house, etc.

**Step 2:** Click on 'Dominants', then click 'Switch to traditional'.



Here we're measuring how influential each heavenly body (planet) was when you were born. The more influential a planet, the more impact it had on your character, according to early modern astrologers. We look at which sign the planet is in, because planets get on better with some signs than others; they can exert a stronger influence if they are located in signs that have similar natures to them. We look at which house a planet is in, because some houses are more influential than others. We look at how the planet is placed relative to key angular points in the ecliptic, and how they are placed relative to other planets.

Date of Birth (local time): 14 June 1946 - 10:54 (EDT, DST)  
 Universal Time (UT/GMT): 14 June 1946 - 14:54  
 Local Sidereal Time (LST): 03:27:11  
 House system: Placidus system  
 Latitude, Longitude: 40°43'N, 74°0'W  
 City: New York  
 Country: United States (US), NY

Birth chart Custom graphics - Shape Aspect tables Positions **Dominants**

**Dominant Planets (Modern method)** [switch to Traditional](#)

Planet	Sign (?)	House (?)	Angle (?)	Ruler (excl.)	Aspects (excl.)	SUM Points	Dominant %
☉ Sun	+2	+1	+0	+5	+4	<b>12</b>	15.79%
☾ Moon	+3	+1	+0	+3	+5	<b>12</b>	15.79%
☿ Mercury	+2	+0	+0	+2	+1	5	6.58%
♀ Venus	+2	+0	+0	+3	+2	7	9.21%
♂ Mars	+4	+0	+5	+0	+3	<b>12</b>	15.79%

We 'switch to traditional' so that we don't include new-fangled heavenly bodies like Uranus and Neptune.

Disclaimer: there were other early modern methods of determining the ruling planet, but this was probably the most popular.

**Step 3:** Which heavenly body has the highest score? This is your 'ruling planet' (it may not actually be a planet). In the example for Trump, it's Mars.

If it's a tie, go with the option that has the highest score in the first three columns (sign / house / angle). If it's still a tie, read the descriptors (coming up) and see what suits you best.

Date of Birth (local time): 14 June 1946 - 10:54 (EDT, DST)  
 Universal Time (UT/GMT): 14 June 1946 - 14:54  
 Local Sidereal Time (LST): 03:27:11  
 House system: Whole Sign system  
 Latitude, Longitude: 40°43'N, 74°0'W  
 City: New York  
 Country: United States (US), NY

Birth chart Custom graphics - Shape Aspect tables Positions **Dominants**

**Dominant Planets (Traditional method)** [switch to Modern](#)

Planet	Sign (?)	House (?)	Angle (?)	Ruler (excl.)	Aspects (excl.)	SUM Points	Dominant %
☉ Sun	+2	+0	+0	+4	+4	<b>10</b>	19.61%
☾ Moon	+3	+0	+0	+3	+4	<b>10</b>	19.61%
☿ Mercury	+2	+0	+0	+1	+0	3	5.88%
♀ Venus	+2	+0	+0	+2	+2	6	11.76%
♂ Mars	+4	+2	+5	+0	+3	<b>14</b>	27.45%
♃ Jupiter	+2	+0	+0	+1	+3	6	11.76%
♄ Saturn	+0	+0	+0	+0	+2	2	3.92%

**Step 4:** How high is the score? A higher score is better; it means your ruling planet has a strong position and is able to exert influence effectively.

The usual range is about 8-20, with 14 being average. If you have a score of 15+ you can count your ruling planet as *well dignified*; if it's 13- you're in the *ill dignified* bracket. (If you somehow have a score under 8 we should probably just lock you up now.) A score of 14 is borderline; you incline towards both the good and the bad qualities listed below.

**Step 5:** Check your results below; they outline your character and the professions to which you are suited. How strongly the points about character apply depends on how well or ill dignified you are.

Trump has a ruling planet of Mars and a borderline score of 14, so he has the potential to go in either of these directions: 'invincible ... subject to no Reason, Bold, Confident, Immoveable, Contentious ... Valiant, lovers of Warre and all things pertaining thereunto, hazarding himself to all Perils, willingly will obey no body; nor submit to any, a large reporter of his own Acts, one that fights all things in comparison of Victory, and yet of prudent behaviour in his own affaires.'

**Or:** '...Pratler without modesty or honesty, a lover of Slaughter and Quarrels, Murder, Theevery, a promoter of Sedition, Frayes and Commotions; and Highway-Theef, as wavering as the Wind, a Traytor, of turbulent Spirit, Perjurer, Obscene, Rash, Inhumane, neither fearing God or caring for man, Unthankful, Trecherous, Oppressors, Ravenous, Cheater, Furious, Violent.'

## Results

Extracts from William Lilly, *Christian Astrology* (London, 1647), bk. 1, pp. 57–83.

You can view the full document here:

<https://search.proquest.com/eebo/docview/2240946347>

## Sun

### **Manners & Actions, when well dignified**

Very faithfull, keeping their promises with all Punctuality, a kind of itching desire to Rule and Sway where he comes: Prudent, and of incomparable Judgment; of great Majesty and Statelinesse, Industrious to acquire Honour ... the Solar man usually speaks deliberately, but not many words, and those with great confidence and command of his own affection; full of Thought, Secret, Trusty, speaks deliberately ... Affable, Tractable, and very humane to all people, one loving Sumptuousnesse and Magnificence, and whatever is honourable; no sordid thoughts can enter his heart, &c.

### **When ill dignified**

Then the Solar man is Arrogant and Proud, disdainning all men, cracking of his Pedegree ... restlesse, troublesome, domineering; a meer vapour, expensive, foolish, endued with no gravity in words, or sobernesse in Actions, a Spend-thrift, wasting his Patrimony, and hanging after an other mens charity, yet thinks all men are bound to him, because a Gentleman borne.

### **Quality of Men and Profession**

He signifieth Kings, Princes, Emperours ... Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, Barons, Lieutenants, Deputy-Lieutenants of Countries, Magistrates, Gentlemen in generall ... Justices of Peace, Majors ... great Huntsmen, Lieutenants ... Stewards of Noble-mens houses, the principall Magistrate of any City ... yea, though a petty Constable, where no better, or greater Officer is; Goldsmiths, Brasiers, Pewterers, Coppersmiths, Minters of Money.

## Moon

### **Manners & Actions, when well dignified**

She signifieth one of composed Manners, a soft, tender creature, a Lover of all honest and ingenuous Sciences, a Searcher of, and Delighter in Novelty, naturally propense to flit and shift his Habitation, unstedfast, wholly caring for the present Times, Timorous, Prodigal, and easily Frighted, however loving Peace, and to live free from the cares of this Life, if a Mechannick, the man learns many Occupations, and frequently wil be tampering with many wayes to trade in.

### **When ill dignified**

A meer Vagabond, idle person, hating Labour, a Drunkard, a Sot, one of no Spirit or Forecast, delighting to live beggarly and carefly, one content in no condition of Life, either good or il.

### **Quality of Men and Profession**

She signifieth Queens, Countesses, Ladies, all manner of Women; as also the common People, Travellers, Pilgrims, Sailors, Fishermen, Fish-mongers, Brewers, Tapsters, Vintners, Letter-carriers, Coach-men, Huntsmen, Messengers, ... Marriners, Millers, Ale-wives, Malstors, Drunkards, Oister-wives, Fisher-women, Chare-women, Tripe-women, and generally such Women as carry Commodities in the Streets; as also, Midwives, Nurses, &c, Hackney-men, Water-men, Water-bearers.

## Mercury

### **Manners & Actions, when well dignified**

Being wel dignified, he represents a man of a subtil and politick brain, intellect, and cogitation; an excellent disputant or Logician, arguing with learning and discretion, and using much eloquence in his speech, a searcher into all kinds of Mysteries and Learning, sharp and witty, learning almost any thing without a Teacher; ambitious of being exquisite in every Science, desirous naturally of travel and seeing foraign parts: a man of an unwearied fancie, curious in the search of any occult knowledge; able by his owne *Genius* to produce wonders; given to Divination and the more secret knowledge; if he turne Merchant no man exceeds him in way of Trade or invention of new ways whereby to obtain wealth.

### **When ill dignified**

A troublesome wit, a kinds of Phrenetick man, his tongue and Pen against every man, wholly bent to spoil his estate and time in prating and trying nice conclusions to no purpose; a great lyar, boaster, pratler, busibody, false, a tale-carrier, given to wicked arts, as Necromancy, and such like ungodly knowledges; easie of beleef, an asse or very ideot, constant in no place or opinion, cheating and theeving every where; a newes-monger, pretending all manner of knowledge, but guilty of no true or solid learning; a trifler; a mere frantick fellow; if he prove a Divine, then a meer verball fellow, frothy of no judgment, easily perverted, constant in nothing but idle words and bragging.

### **Quality of Men and Profession**

He generally signifies all literated men, Philosophers, Mathematicians, Astrologians, Merchants, Secretaries, Scriveners, Diviners, Sculptors, Poets, Orators, Advocates, School-masters, Stationers, Printers, Exchangers of Money, Attorneys, Emperours, Embassadours, Commissioners, Clerks, Artificers, generally Accomptants, Solicitors, sometimes Theeves, pratling muddy Ministers, busie Sectaries, and they unlearned; Gramarians, Taylors, Carriers, Messengers, Foot-men, Userers.

## Venus

### **Manners & Actions, when well dignified**

She signifies a quiet man, not given to Law, Quarrel or Wrangling, not Vitious, Pleasant, Neat and Spruce, Loving Mirth in his words and actions, cleanly in Apparel, rather Drinking much then Gluttonous, prone to Venery, oft entangles in Love-matters, Zealous in their affections, Musical, delighting in Baths, and all honest merry meetings, or Maskes and Stage-playes, easie of Beliefe, and not given to Labour, or take any Pains, a Company-keeper, Cheerful, nothing Mistrustful, a right vertuous man or Woman, oft had in some Jealousie, yet no cause for it.

### **When ill dignified**

Then he is Riotous, Expensive, wholly given to Loosenesse and Lewd companies of Women, nothing regarding his Reputation, coveting unlawful Beds, Incestuous, an Adulterer; Fennatical, a meer Skip-jack, of no Faith, no Repute, no Credit; spending his Means in Ale-houses, Taverns, and amongst Scandalous, Loose people; a meen Lazy companion, nothing careful of the things of this Life, or any thing Religious; a meer Atheist and natural man.

### **Quality of Men and Profession**

Musitions, Gamesters, Silk-men, Mercers, Linnen-Drapers, Painters, Jewellers, Players, Lapidaries, Embroiderers, Women-tailors, Wives, Mothers, Virgins, Choristers, Fiddlers, Pipers ... Ballad-singers, Perfumers, Semilers, Picture-drawers, Gravers, Upholdsters, Limners, Glovers, all such as sell those Commodities which adorn Women either, in Body (as Cloaths) or in Face, (as Complexion-waters.)

## Mars

### **Manners & Actions, when well dignified**

In feats of Warre and Courage invincible, scourning any should exceed him, subject to no Reason, Bold, Confident, Immoveable, Contentious ... Valiant, lovers of Warre and all things pertaining thereunto, hazarding himself to all Perils, willingly will obey no body; nor submit to any, a large reporter of his own Acts, one that fights all things in comparison of Victory, and yet of prudent behaviour in his own affaires.

### **When ill**

Then he is Pratler without modesty or honesty, a lover of Slaughter and Quarrels, Murder, Theevery, a promoter of Sedition, Frayes and Commotions; and Highway-Theef, as wavering as the Wind, a Traytor, of turbulent Spirit, Perjurer, Obscene, Rash, Inhumane, neither fearing God or caring for man, Unthankful, Trecherous, Oppressors, Ravenous, Cheater, Furious, Violent.

### **Quality of men & profession**

Generals of Armies, Colonels, Captaines, or any Souldiers having command in Armies, all manner of Souldiers, Physitians, Apothecaries, Chirurgions, Alchimists, Gunners, Butchers, Marshals, Sergeants, Bailiffs, Hang-men, Theeves, Smiths, Bakers, Armourers, Watch-makers, Botchers, Tailors, Cutlers of Swords and Knives, Barbers, Dyers, Cooks, Carpenters, Gamesters, Bear-wards, Tanners, Carriers.

## **Jupiter**

### **Manners & Actions, when well dignified**

Then is he Magnanimous, Faithfull, Bashfull, Aspiring in an honourable way at high matters, in all his actions a Lover of fair Dealing, desiring to benefit all men, doing Glorious things, Honourable and Religious, of sweet and affable Conversation, wonderfully indulgent to his Wife and Children, reverencing Aged men, a great Reliever of the Poor, full of Charity and Godlinesse, Liberal, hating all Sordid actions, Just, Wise, Prudent, Thankfull, Vertuous...

### **When ill**

When Jupiter is unfortunate, then he wastes his Patrimony, suffers every one to cozen him, is Hypocritically Religious, Tenacious, and stiffe in maintaining false Tenents in Religion; he is Ignorant, Carelesse, nothing Delightfull in the love of his Friends; of a grosse, dull Capacity, Schismaticall, abating himself in all Companies, crooching and stooping where no necessity is.

### **Quality of men**

He signifies Judges, Senators, Councillours, Ecclesiasticall men, Bishops, Priests, Ministers, Cardinals, Chancellours, Doctors of the Civill Law, young Schollers and Students in an University or College, Lawyers, Clothiers, Wollen-Drapers.

## **Saturn**

### **Manners & Actions, when well dignified**

Then he is profound in Imagination, in his Acts severe, in words reserved, in speaking and giving very spare, in labour patient, in arguing or disputing grave, in obtaining the goods of this life studious and solicitous, in all manner of actions austere.

### **When ill**

Then he is envious, covetous, jealous and mistrustfull, timorus, sordid, outwardly dissembling, sluggish, suspicious, stubborn, a contemner of women, a close lyar, malicious, murmuring, never contented, ever repining.

### **Quality of men**

In generall he signifieth Husbandmen, Clowns, Beggars, Day-labourers, Old-men, Fathers, Grand-fathers, Monks, Jesuits, Sectarists, Curriers, Night-farmers, Miners under ground, Tinnars, Potters, Broom-men, Plummers, Brick-makers, Malsters, Chimney-sweepers, Sextons of Churches, Bearers of dead corps, Scavengers, Hostlers, Colliers, Carters, Gardiners, Ditchers, Chandlers, Diers of Black cloth, an Herdsman, Shepheard or Cow-keeper.