
THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Embracing Life's Cycles

Life is rarely a straight line.

There are seasons of growth and seasons of rest. Moments when everything seems to fall effortlessly into place, and moments when nothing seems to go according to plan. The Wheel of Fortune reminds us that change is one of the few constants in life.

As the tenth card of the Major Arcana, the Wheel of Fortune represents cycles, timing, destiny, karma, and the ever-turning nature of existence. It teaches that life is always in motion. No circumstance—good or bad—lasts forever.

Rather than promising constant luck or unavoidable fate, the Wheel invites us to understand our relationship with change. It asks us to trust that every ending creates space for a beginning and that every challenge carries the potential for growth.

Core Themes

- Life cycles and natural rhythms
 - Fate versus free will
 - Karma and consequences
 - Divine timing
 - Opportunity and change
 - Adaptability
 - Growth through experience
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Upright Meaning

When the Wheel of Fortune appears upright, it often signals movement, opportunity, and positive momentum. Something that has been stagnant may finally begin moving forward.

This card can indicate:

- Unexpected good fortune
- A fortunate coincidence
- A turning point
- Positive life changes
- New opportunities
- Being in the right place at the right time
- Trusting the timing of life

The Wheel reminds us that while we cannot control every event, we can choose how we respond to them. Sometimes the greatest gift is allowing life to unfold rather than forcing outcomes.

Reversed Meaning

Reversed, the Wheel of Fortune suggests resistance to change or feeling trapped in repeating patterns.

It may represent:

- Delays or setbacks
- Feeling unlucky
- Resisting necessary change
- Repeating old mistakes
- Lack of personal accountability
- Trying to control what cannot be controlled

The reversed Wheel isn't necessarily a sign of bad luck. More often, it encourages us to pause and ask whether we are holding onto something that has already completed its purpose.

Sometimes the lesson is not to push harder—but to turn inward and recognize the pattern asking to be broken.

Symbolism

The Wheel

The great wheel represents the endless cycles of life—birth and death, beginnings and endings, success and struggle. Everything rises and falls before rising again.

The Sphinx

Resting calmly at the top of the wheel, the Sphinx symbolizes wisdom, balance, and the mystery of life. It reminds us that true stability comes from inner awareness, not external circumstances.

The Four Winged Creatures

The angel, eagle, lion, and bull occupy each corner of the card, traditionally linked with the fixed signs of the zodiac:

- Aquarius (Angel)
- Scorpio (Eagle)
- Leo (Lion)
- Taurus (Bull)

Each holds a book, representing wisdom gained through experience and the enduring truths that remain steady even as life changes.

Wheel of Fortune in Love

Love, like the wheel itself, moves through seasons.

This card often appears when relationships are entering a new chapter. It may signal unexpected meetings, renewed passion, healing after difficult periods, or significant relationship milestones.

If you're single, the Wheel may suggest a chance encounter, a meaningful connection, or being ready for a relationship when the timing is right.

If you're in a relationship, it can indicate positive changes such as moving in together, deepening commitment, overcoming previous challenges, or rediscovering each other after a period of distance.

Reversed, the card may highlight repeating relationship patterns, unresolved emotional lessons, or resisting changes that could help the relationship grow. It invites honest reflection about what cycles keep appearing and what they are trying to teach you.

Wheel of Fortune in Work & Career

Career paths rarely move in a straight line.

The Wheel of Fortune often appears during promotions, career changes, new opportunities, business growth, or unexpected professional developments. Sometimes a door closes only because a better one is about to open.

This card encourages flexibility and openness to opportunities that may arrive unexpectedly. Networking, learning new skills, or saying yes to something unfamiliar may lead to significant progress.

Reversed, it may indicate workplace frustrations, delays, missed opportunities, or feeling stuck in a job that no longer aligns with your growth. Rather than viewing these moments as failures, they may simply be signs that change is overdue.

Wheel of Fortune in Money & Finances

Financially, the Wheel reflects the natural ebb and flow of abundance.

Upright, it can suggest:

- Unexpected income
- Financial improvement
- Wise investments paying off
- New earning opportunities
- Positive financial momentum

It is a reminder to appreciate periods of prosperity while also preparing wisely for inevitable fluctuations.

Reversed, the card encourages caution. It may point to unexpected expenses, inconsistent income, poor financial timing, or repeating money habits that no longer serve you. Instead of reacting from fear, it asks you to examine your long-term financial patterns and make intentional choices that create greater stability.

The Lesson of the Wheel

Perhaps the greatest wisdom of this card is that life is not happening *to* us—it is continually inviting us to grow through changing circumstances.

The Wheel teaches resilience.

It reminds us to remain humble during success, hopeful during difficulty, and present through both.

Every season has something to offer.

Every ending carries the seed of a new beginning.

And every turn of the wheel brings another opportunity to become who we are meant to be.

Reflection Questions

- What season of life am I currently moving through?
 - What recurring pattern continues to show up in my life?
 - Where am I resisting change because it feels uncomfortable?
 - What opportunity might be hidden inside my current circumstances?
 - Am I trying to control something that asks instead for trust?
 - What lessons keep returning until I choose to learn them?
 - If I believed life was working with me rather than against me, how would I approach my current situation differently?
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Bohemia Collective