

The Meaning of Planets in Retrograde Motion

☿ **Mercury Retrograde: Communication Concerns** - this usually occurs 3 times a year, about 24 days each occurrence. **(Back up your computers prior to these dates!)**

Mercury rules communications, contracts, mechanical things, just to mention a few. During retrograde periods, miscommunication can occur more frequently, contracts can have more errors and mechanical things seem to malfunction more often. Therefore this is not the best time to make automobile or other mechanical purchases, or sign contracts. If you do, expect delays and/or really check and double check that all the “t’s” are crossed and the “i’s” are dotted. Communications can become confused or delayed (letters lost or misrouted). You could sum all this up as irritating disruptions. Medical tests or elective surgery are not recommended.

However this is a good time to finish up old projects or readdress items that you have procrastinated on, such as getting those loaned items back or closing old files or projects down. The best actions are those with the prefix “re” ahead of them such replace, restore, rewrite, revise, return, repair, renew and reschedule.

♀ **Venus Retrograde: Relationships Review** - this lasts about 42 days, every 1½ years.

This retrograde usually influences our partnerships, love impulses, conscious emotional responses, personal values, and attractions. It can influence our personal possessions and attitudes considering current financial conditions. This is a time to use caution for any partnership commitments, marriage or divorce. It is best to delay all major financial purchases until Venus goes direct. After this retrograde period, you won’t even like the clothes purchased during this time. Cosmetic surgery is not recommended.

This time is best used (like in a Mercury retrograde) to review or finish up projects, particularly of an artistic nature. Review partnerships and relationships for their true value and see if there is a good balance within the relationships. Old friends or lovers could contact you, or you may look them up.

♂ **Mars Retrograde: Aggression Redirected** – this lasts about 80 days every 2 years.

Plans seem to backfire, with a feeling of running through deep mud, not making expected headway. This is not a good time to initiate new major projects that take a lot of energy and resources. Vitality in a person with a weak health condition could deteriorate, as vitality can be lessened during Mars retrograde. Elective surgery is not recommended. Watch how you and others handle **frustrations**.

This is a good time to review where you have neglected to focus energy or failed to carry through on a project. This allows redirected energy to be used efficiently.

♃ **Jupiter Retrograde: Expansion Subdued** – this lasts about 4 months once a year.

The slower moving planets can influence your character, behavior or attitude rather than directly impacting events. Extended travel (overseas) or long distance moves can prove frustrating with unplanned delays and expenses. Also this is a time when enthusiasm or joviality could be at a low point.

This is a good time to go inward and review spiritual or philosophical matters to gain a greater insight.

♄ **Saturn Retrograde: Structure progress slowed** – this normally lasts about 4 ½ months once a year.

Allow for postponements or setbacks to effect your enterprises. Unfinished business or neglected steps can show up or be made public at this time.

This is a good time to review more efficient ways or procedures, and to resolve neglected steps in previous processes. It is best NOT to initiate lawsuits during this retrograde.

These last three outer planets transit so slowly that the Natal chart will need to be reviewed more so, to bring these to a personal level. Also they may affect us on a more internal rather than external event orientation, again depending on the “area of life” impacted (the house in your chart). The slow movement means that the same “area of life” may be affected for a few years or up to many years giving us ample opportunity to integrate the deep changes that are encouraged to occur to the depth of our being. And allowing external changes to occur after working through these internal changes.

♅ **Uranus Retrograde: Disruption of plans** - this usually is for 155 days once a year.

Disruptions or sudden alterations to personal goals may occur due to environment changes. Check your Natal chart to see which department of life this may be impacting.

A good time to look towards your personal freedom constraints being lifted is when Uranus goes direct.

♆ **Neptune Retrograde: Stir up unresolved conditions of the past** – this usually is for 158 days once a year.

Again your Natal chart will point to what department of life this may be affecting. Fraud, deceit, or nebulous idealism will possibly occur during this time, and may bring up deep feelings and more clarity when Neptune goes direct.

This is an opportune time for reviewing with more depth and understanding those undercurrents of hidden feelings.

♇ **Pluto Retrograde: Reveal hidden weak spots** – this is for 160 days once a year.

Retrograde Pluto can be proficient at digging out hidden weak spots in the area of our Natal chart, where it focuses it’s probing abilities. Since this transit usually stays for a very long time in one house (area of life), we will have ample opportunity to work with this change during our life time. Pluto has many avenues to probe into our hidden secrets (more times than not, secret even from our own consciousness), and into the fundamental basic inner pattern that we have of our whole understanding of what our World is built upon. This is why Pluto is called “the transformation and rebirth planet” as it can facilitate helping us replace our “taught” view of the World with our own perception of the World.

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12 / 28 / 2008