



# KING OF SWORDS

M I N O R   A R C A N A

**Sickles:**  
Masculine and  
Feminine Energy  
Harmonization



**Crown:**  
Authority



**Sword:**  
Honesty, Ethics



**Butterflies:**  
Transformation



**Cherubs:**  
Innocence



**King:**  
Authority



**Trees:**  
Maturity



**Yes/No Reading:**



Yes



No




Maybe

**Names in Other Tarot Systems:**

Golden Dawn: King of Swords

Tarot of Marseilles: Roi of Swords

Thoth: Knight of Swords

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PLANET	ZODIAC Gemini, Libra, Aquarius	ELEMENT Air	NUMEROLOGY	COUNT

**Upright: Routine, Truth, Integrity, Discipline, Authority, Intellect**

The King of Swords embodies intellectual clarity, logic, and understanding. When this card emerges in a reading, it signifies a presence or need for decision-making based on facts, reason, and clear thought. They stand as a beacon of truth, cutting through ambiguity with their sharp insights and unwavering focus. Their decisions are made after careful analysis, ensuring that each step taken is well-calculated and just. Those who encounter the King of Swords know them to be fair, transparent, and consistent in their actions. They earn respect not just because of their position but because of their integrity, honesty, and commitment to ethical principles.

The King of Swords also represents effective communication. They have a gift for articulating their thoughts clearly, making them an excellent advisor, mentor, or spokesperson. They can be relied upon for wise counsel, offering a balanced and well-informed perspective on complex issues. This card encourages individuals to seek out knowledge, engage in open dialogue, and, like the King, always strive for a deeper understanding.

**Reversed: Manipulative, Cruel, Weak, Aggressive, Cynical, Abuse of Power**

When the King of Swords appears reversed in a reading, it often points to a potential misuse of intellectual prowess. They might be harnessing their keen intellect for manipulative tactics, cunning schemes, or deceitful actions. Their once-clear vision could be clouded by personal biases, leading them to twist facts or create false narratives. This card serves as a warning to be wary of those who may present themselves as knowledgeable but have ulterior motives or hidden agendas.

The King of Swords can indicate a tendency to become emotionally distant or even cold-hearted. Instead of guiding with wisdom and compassion, they might dismiss or belittle others without proper consideration. They can become overly analytical, often missing the emotional nuances of situations and failing to connect with others on a deeper, empathetic level.

## Upright Interpretations

**General Reading:** Clear, rational thinking is needed. Base your decisions on logic, facts, and reason rather than your heart. The King of Swords encourages you to approach situations with a clear head, to seek the truth, and to communicate with honesty and precision.

**Love Reading:** The King of Swords suggests a relationship grounded in mutual respect and clear communication. It can also signify a partner who is rational and provides wise counsel.

**Health Reading:** When the King of Swords appears in a health reading, it advises a logical and researched approach to health issues. Seek expert opinions and make informed decisions.

**Career Reading:** The King of Swords indicates clear leadership, strategic planning, and effective communication. It embodies the qualities of a fair, wise, and rational leader who serves the best interests of all.

## Reversed Interpretations

**General Reading:** The King of Swords can signify manipulation, harsh judgment, or a misuse of intellectual power. Be wary of those that may be overly critical. Keep a close eye on your affairs to ensure that no one is taking advantage.

**Love Reading:** The reversed King in a love reading may indicate a partner who is emotionally detached, overly critical, or controlling. There may be communication barriers or an imbalance of power in the relationship.

**Health Reading:** It may suggest being closed off to professional advice, neglecting mental well-being, or over-rationalizing health issues.

**Career Reading:** The reversed King might indicate a boss or colleague who is overly authoritative, manipulative, or dismissive of others' ideas.

The King is usually depicted holding a long, upright sword, symbolizing their authority, clarity of thought, and the power of truth. The upright position of the sword emphasizes justice, fairness, and balanced judgment.

The King's throne, often adorned with butterflies, clouds, and sometimes cherub faces signifies their high intellectual position and dominion over thought.

In many decks, the King is set against a backdrop of mountains, suggesting challenges they have overcome and their elevated perspective and clarity of vision.

The King of Swords often wears armor beneath their robe, indicating their readiness for any intellectual battle or challenge. Their attire, often blue or in cool tones, aligns them with the element of air, further emphasizing their intellectual and communicative prowess.



**ZODIAC:** Gemini (May 21 – June 20) is an Air sign ruled by Mercury. The dual nature of Gemini embodies a mix of yin and yang, and Geminis often feel as though they have two distinct sides.



Libra (September 23 – October 22) is an Air sign ruled by Venus. Libras often strive for harmony and balance in their lives.



Aquarius (January 20 – February 18) is an Air sign ruled by Uranus. Aquarians are self-reliant, analytical, independent, clever, and optimistic.



**ELEMENT:** Air represents logic, intellect, and communication. The intangible element is considered to be active, masculine energy. It is associated with Spring, the Suit of Wands, and the East cardinal direction.



**HERMETIC QABALAH** Associated Hebrew Letter: Waw – Hook, Nail (Connections, Secure)



**QABALISTIC SEPHIROT:** Chokmah (Wisdom)



**TIMING:** May 11 – June 10