

BUFFALO GAMES, INC

# The TAROT

A FORTUNE Jigsaw Puzzle™

❖ GUIDE  BOOK ❖



Take a Mystical Tarot Journey  
Piece by Piece

Welcome to the fascinating world of the unseen:

# The TAROT

A FORTUNE Jigsaw Puzzle

This guide book will help you get the most out of this unique product. Our Fortune Jigsaw Puzzle™ Series was developed to present various fortune telling topics from a historical, unbiased, and entertaining perspective. Your level of belief will not hinder you from enjoying this item. The next section tells you how to quickly get started. After the instructions is a brief history of the Tarot and a list of Frequently Asked Questions.

## How to begin

**First assemble the jigsaw puzzle.** You will find a puzzle diagram on the inside flap of the box to use as reference. As you do, you'll gain familiarity with the design of the Celtic Cross, which becomes the layout for your in-depth Tarot reading.

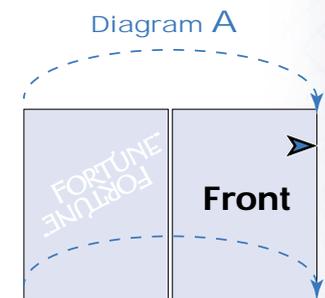
**Sort the Tarot deck.** Included with the puzzle is a deck of 24 cards. Of these, 22 cards form what was the original Tarot deck, or the Major Arcana. The 2 additional cards should be set aside before use - one summarizes these instructions, the other gives brief card meanings.

**Pose a question.** Formulate a question which may be answered with "yes" or "no". Common questions are "Will I become wealthy?", "Should I take a job in another state?", "Will my relationship thrive?",

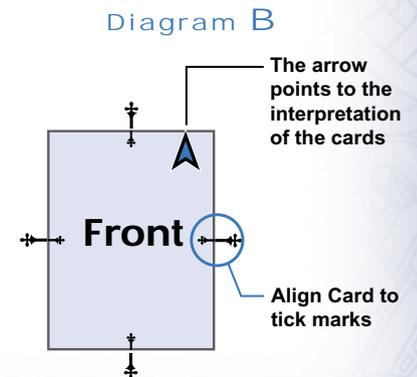
etc. Though you may ask any question, the Tarot gives answers specific to your involvement in a situation. Therefore, a question involving you directly will have more relevance than a question like, "Will my friend's mom find a new car?". Don't be afraid to pose your most pressing concerns; the cards will be as serious as you are. That doesn't mean you can't ask how your softball league will do this season!

**Shuffle the Tarot deck.** As you concentrate on your question, shuffle the Tarot deck. Be sure to shuffle the cards in such a way that not only are they in a new order but that some are upside down (the picture will "stand on its head"). When they are mixed, set them in a stack face down, ask your question aloud and then cut the cards by taking about half the stack off the top and placing the remaining cards on top of those. Place the deck, face down, in your left hand. You're now ready to draw the first card.

**Place the first card.** Before you begin your reading you must be aware that the orientation of the card is very important to the card's meaning. To get a true reading, follow this procedure: Flip each card from left to right, sort of like turning the pages of a book (see diagram A), rather than flipping them from top to bottom. In this manner, flip the top card and place it on the space marked with a 1, marked "start". Carefully align the four black tick marks on the card face with those on the puzzle space (see diagram B). Your reading commences now.



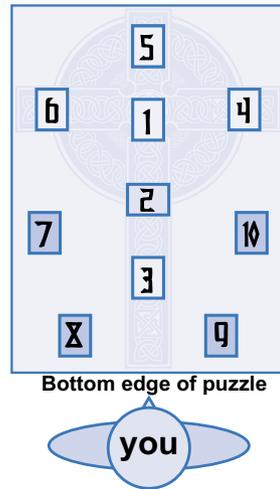
Flip the card from left to right like turning the pages of a book (if you were reading it backwards!)



**The Reading.** To interpret the card, locate the red arrow on the face of the card (see diagram B). It will point to a black line which leads to that card's interpretation. This first card may reveal the reason you were motivated to ask the question. For instance, if you asked "Will I get rich?", it could point to your desire to be productive or feel appreciated. Consider the outcome of the first card as you draw and interpret the remaining 9 cards on the Celtic Cross in a similar fashion.

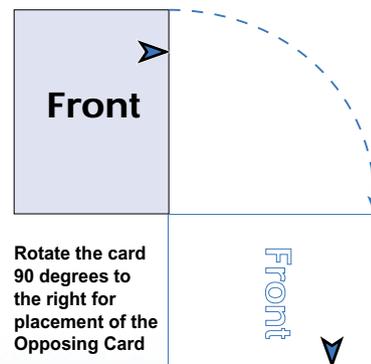
(Remember, once you start drawing cards, you must keep the deck in the same orientation with respect to the puzzle, as in diagram C. Hold the cards in your left hand with your thumb pointing at the bottom edge of the puzzle to help you accomplish this).

Diagram C



**The second card.** Called the Opposing Card, this card is placed across in a crossways orientation, symbolic of an obstacle which lies in your path. Draw the card in the normal fashion, then turn it 90 degrees to the right, (clockwise) and place it (see diagram D). This will ensure that it is oriented properly.

Diagram D



**The remaining cards.** These describe important events in your distant or recent past, an upcoming event,

something you may need to know to be successful, your attitude. Draw each, in order, and consider each card's meaning before proceeding to the next. The pathways between the numbered spaces and the spaces themselves contain information which will help you better understand what the cards forecast.

**Your question answered.** Follow the directional arrows on the puzzle from your current position to the next portion of your reading until you come to the last (10th) position, which is the result, or outcome card. This is, for some, the moment of truth. This card adds up the cumulative influences of the previous 9 cards and supplies the most likely outcome based on current conditions.

## Tips for better understanding

The Tarot cards tell a story and the more considerate you are of what they may be telling you, the more complete and detailed this story will be. Try to figure out what event, person, fear, or desire each card could be describing.

The Tarot cannot describe what will be, only how current factors in your life point to likely outcomes. For that reason, all outcomes are indefinite and no card simply says "yes" or "no" in answer to your question. However, each reading will give the likelihood of success, and in many cases the magnitude of that success.

Continue readings for as many questions as you like; undoubtedly you will learn something of value from each reading. Always reshuffle and re-cut the deck as you carefully consider each distinct question.

You can perform a reading for another person, but that person must personally shuffle and cut the deck. Be watchful of the card orientation and keep it consistent throughout the reading.

## History of the Tarot

The first Tarot deck appeared in the mid 1400's. It was probably used by nobility to play a gambling game. The Tarot deck is still used today, particularly in European countries to play a trumping card game. Though the deck's first use is no real mystery, the symbolism and artwork of the basic card design led people to suspect that the cards had a hidden meaning.

In the eighteenth century the Tarot cards came to be used for fortune telling. Some believed the symbolism used on the cards to be related to a lost Egyptian book of secret knowledge. Based on this and other conclusions, standardized meanings for the cards were developed. These interpretations have been refined over time and hundreds of other decks have been created, each with it's own perspective. Native American, Japanese and other regional decks have been created to express the specific cultural attitudes of various heritages. Each of these adds to the basic Tarot, while still retaining the traditional meanings.

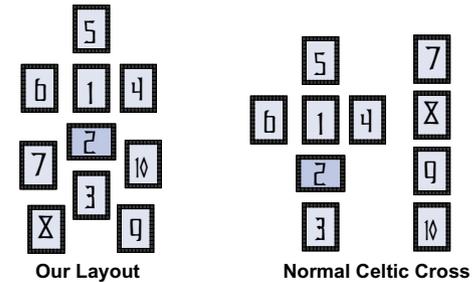
Today, the Tarot is experiencing a resurgence in popularity, as people seek advice and direction from diverse sources.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How does this puzzle differ from a Tarot reading I'd get from a fortune teller?

Our Tarot deck has been simplified to include only the Major Arcana of 22 cards; the most significant cards in a full Tarot deck of 78. Specific qualities such as hair color and age are not addressed. An interpretation from a Tarot reader will be more

detailed. To fit the Celtic Cross layout to the constraints of the puzzle, we took some liberties with the card placement. See the comparison chart below:



### Where can I find out more about the Tarot?

For the history of the Tarot, try "The Tarot: History, Mystery and Lore" by Cynthia Giles. For card interpretation, we recommend "Tarot Card Combinations" by Dorothy Kelly and "Learning the Tarot" by Joan Bunning. She also has a web site for beginning Tarot readers at <http://www.learn.tarot.com>

### Are there other layouts besides the Celtic Cross?

Yes, there are about as many different layouts as there are Tarot readers. See the above web site for links to some of them.

### Are there other Tarot decks?

Yes, there are many, available in most bookstores and elsewhere. For reviews of hundreds of decks, including the one used in this puzzle, go to <http://www.aeclectic.net/tarot/>

### Are there other editions of Fortune Jigsaw Puzzles™?

Yes. Go to our web site for lots of information: <http://www.buffalogames.com>

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Paul A. Dedrick  
President

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