

## The Transits of Saturn

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### Current Transits: Jul 15, 2008

#### Saturn in the first quarter.

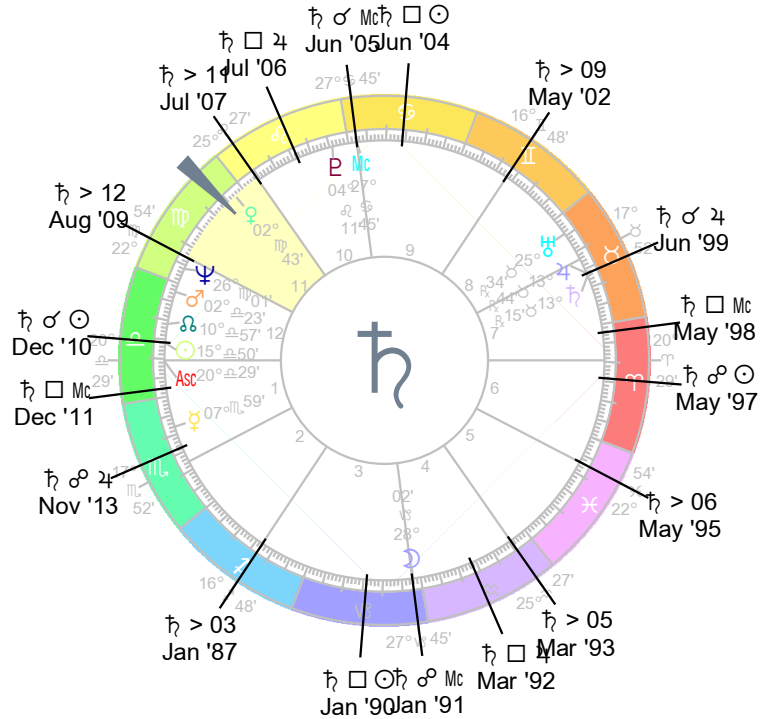
Saturn is in the first quarter of its 3rd cycle, a time for discovering your new self and its limits. A formative period, intent on defining who you are and where you fit in the world. As a child, you build your emotional support system and learn to trust it or not; around thirty you find work you are willing to do to build a life-style; at sixty and beyond you draw from both periods to reach across generations and seek work that offers more emotional return.

#### Saturn in the 11th house.

Saturn is in Virgo in the 11th house. Spend some time consciously analyzing and reworking the social circles you move in, sifting out the truly important and close friends from those who are, essentially, hangers-on. Expect to have the same done to you and be glad of it, as you will now know who you can really count on and who you cannot.

#### Current Saturn Transits

Jul 01 2004	Saturn Square Sun
Aug 06 2004	Saturn Square Ascendant
Mar 12 2005	Saturn Square Ascendant Rx
Mar 31 2005	Saturn Square Ascendant
Jun 28 2005	Saturn Conjunct Midheaven
Jul 01 2005	Saturn Opposite Moon
Jul 25 2006	Saturn Square Saturn
Jul 29 2006	Saturn Square Jupiter
Dec 17 2010	Saturn Conjunct Sun
Mar 08 2011	Saturn Conjunct Sun Rx
Sep 07 2011	Saturn Conjunct Sun
Oct 16 2011	Saturn Conjunct Ascendant
Dec 24 2011	Saturn Square Midheaven
Dec 28 2011	Saturn Square Moon
Mar 21 2012	Saturn Square Moon Rx
Mar 25 2012	Saturn Square Midheaven Rx
Sep 15 2012	Saturn Square Midheaven
Sep 18 2012	Saturn Square Moon
Oct 29 2013	Saturn Opposite Saturn



#### Understanding Saturn Transits

For centuries Saturn has been identified with misfortune and hard times. Most modern astrologers have a more benign attitude, but a general apprehension remains. Its cycle is nearly thirty years, it completes its first trip around the zodiac around the age of thirty and its second just before the age of sixty, marking the beginnings of middle and old age. Saturn usually bears a message of aging that we aren't eager to receive.

Traditionally, the image of Saturn has been the Grim Reaper: a skeleton with a long blade mowing a field of wheat. In the popular mind this image is synonymous with death, but in astrology there is no symbol for death since everything in the solar system is cyclical and every death is a rebirth, a phase in a cycle. This is why the skeleton holds a scythe, it represents reaping the harvest. Today, "harvest" means simply gathering in crops and we miss the power of the metaphor. In reality, harvesting is an involved process that begins with cutting and gathering the crop, and then proceeds to separating the straw from the wheat and the chaff from the grain. For thousands of years this was done by threshing, or beating the plant with flails to shake the grain loose. The result was then often cleaned by winnowing—throwing it all into the air and letting the wind carry away the chaff while the heavier grain settled to the ground. Then the grain still needed to be milled and ground into flour to be used.

This entire harvesting process is the image of a Saturn transit. This is what Saturn does; it stresses an area of life,

like thrashing wheat until the chaff falls away and you are left with the grain. The chaff represents all of the old habits and old conceptions that don't fit your reality any longer. Saturn provides the means for testing and discarding the old, and what survives is the grain of experience that is carried on into a new cycle. A modern image of the grim reaper is a harvesting machine; a huge combine rolling across a field as it cuts and threshes wheat. Not only is this image less lurid than a grinning skeleton, but you don't have to identify yourself with the crop. Instead of standing in the way of the machine, you can drive it, or follow behind collecting the harvest.

This is the key to a modern, more productive approach to Saturn. It doesn't eliminate hard times from your life but it allows you to prepare for them and potentially minimize their effect. Perhaps even more important, it provides the means of extending the good times, a way for carrying insights and inspirations from one period of your life into another. Rather than ride a perpetual roller-coaster of good and bad fortune, you extend the benefits of the peak times to carry you across the valleys. Immediately within the orbit of Saturn is the orbit of Jupiter; when Jupiter provides a spontaneous insight, Saturn provides the means to build a vessel to hold that inspiration.

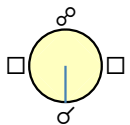
This is not secret or esoteric wisdom, it is the normal way organisms function on this planet. We all use the

principle of Saturn, with or without astrology. Its simplest form is a conditioned reflex, like Pavlov's dogs. A more sophisticated form is learned behavior, like the skill-set of an artist or artisan. Jupiter provides a reward and Saturn responds to it by forming habits. We all form good habits and bad habits, but we can't always control them because we are not always aware of when we are forming them. This is where timing can be helpful, along with a little self-awareness. Astrology excels at honing our sense of timing.

As Saturn moves around the zodiac it passes over every area in a chart. All these areas are facets of your self. Each point defines a unique cycle and each cycle, in turn, has a peak and a valley of its own. Saturn may be conjunct your Sun, at the peak of your Sun-Saturn cycle, while it is opposite your Jupiter. Usually you would look at one, or maybe two, cycles at any given time and not all of them. The objective is to identify trends and directions that are normally lost in the flood of events that make up daily living. The key to doing this is to focus and direct your attention only to cycles of particular interest at the moment.

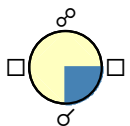
When Saturn transits an area, that area is in flux, it is under construction and it is far easier to make changes then than it will be later. Saturn is a tool, a lever, and you have more leverage at the point Saturn is transiting than at any other point in your chart.

## The Four Phases of a Cycle



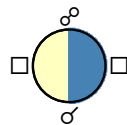
### ♄ Conjunction - First Quarter

Conjunctions mark a time when the ball is in your court and your interests will often prevail. You have something new to contribute or discover in the area indicated by the point being transited. Your will is most effective during these times and it is possible to effect changes that have long range results. Here is where you make your plan.



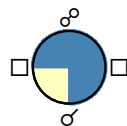
### □ Waxing Square - Second Quarter

The waxing square, between the conjunction and opposition, is a period of initial resistance when the weaknesses of your plan are revealed. Modifications and adaptations will be needed and there is always a danger of going off course and losing sight of the ultimate goal.



### ♄ Opposition - Third Quarter

The goal is realized, successfully or not, and your message has been delivered. Your creation has been born and it is no longer under your control. Power now is with your opposition, and if you find yourself at odds with authority you are not likely to prevail.



### □ Waning Square - Fourth Quarter

The waning square, between the opposition and conjunction, is a period to learn and reap the benefits of experience. It begins a period that could be difficult and directionless; any feelings of dissatisfaction that arise are forerunners of the new direction that you are beginning to look to.

		Age	♄ - ♄	♄ - ♄	♄ - ☉	♄ - ☽	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀
1940	1940	00	♄ ♄	7th			♂ ♂										
	1941	01		♄ 8th			♂ ♀										
	1942	02		♄ 9th	☉		♂ ♀										
	1943	03		♄ 10th		♂ ☽	♂ ♀										
	1944	04		♄ 11th			♂ ♀										
	1945	05		♄ 12th	☉		♂ ♀										
	1946	06		♄ 1st		♂ ☽	♂ ♀										
	1947	07		♄ 2nd			♂ ♀										
	1948	08		♄ in 3rd House			♂ ♀										
1950	1949	09		♄ 4th			♂ ♀										
	1950	10		♄ 5th			♂ ♀										
	1951	11		♄ 6th			♂ ♀										
	1952	12		♄ 7th			♂ ♀										
	1953	13		♄ 8th			♂ ♀										
	1954	14		♄ 9th			♂ ♀										
	1955	15		♄ 10th			♂ ♀										
	1956	16		♄ 11th			♂ ♀										
	1957	17		♄ 12th			♂ ♀										
1960	1958	18		♄ 1st			♂ ♀										
	1959	19		♄ 2nd			♂ ♀										
	1960	20		♄ 3rd			♂ ♀										
	1961	21		♄ 4th			♂ ♀										
	1962	22		♄ 5th			♂ ♀										
	1963	23		♄ 6th			♂ ♀										
	1964	24		♄ 7th			♂ ♀										
	1965	25		♄ 8th			♂ ♀										
	1966	26		♄ 9th			♂ ♀										
1967	27		♄ 10th			♂ ♀											
1968	28		♄ 11th			♂ ♀											
1969	29		♄ 12th			♂ ♀											

		Age	♄ - ♄	♄	♄ - ☉	♄ - ☽	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♂	♄ - ♃	♄ - ♁	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀
1970	1970	29	♄ ♄														
	1971	30		♄ 8th													
	1972	31															
	1973	32															
	1974	33		♄ 9th													
	1975	34															
	1976	35	♄ ♄														
	1977	36	♄ ♄	10th													
	1978	37															
	1979	38		11th													
1980	1980	39															
	1981	40		12th													
	1982	41															
	1983	42		♄ 1st													
	1984	43	♄ ♄														
	1985	44	♄ ♄	♄ 2nd													
	1986	45															
	1987	46															
	1988	47		♄ in 3rd House													
	1989	48															
1990	1990	49															
	1991	50		♄ 4th													
	1992	51	♄ ♄														
	1993	52	♄ ♄														
	1994	53		♄ 5th													
	1995	54															
	1996	55		♄ 6th													
	1997	56															
	1998	57		♄ 7th													
	1999	58	♄ ♄														

		Age	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ☉	♄ - ☽	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	♄ - ♀	
2000	2000	59	♄ ♀													
	2001	60		♄ 8th												
	2002	61														
	2003	62		♄ 9th												
	2004	63			☉											
	2005	64				♄ ☽									♄ ASC	
	2006	65	♄ ♀	♄ 10th			♄ ♀								♄ ASC	
	2007	66														
	2008	67		♄ 11th												
	2009	68														
	2010	2010	69		♄ 12th											
		2011	70			☉										
2012		71		♄ 1st											♄ ASC	
2013		72	♄ ♀													
2014		73														
2015		74		♄ 2nd												
2016		75														
2017		76		♄ in 3rd House												
2018		77														
2019		78			☉										♄ ASC	
2020		2020	79													
		2021	80	♄ ♀	♄ 4th											
	2022	81														
	2023	82		♄ 5th												
	2024	83														
	2025	84		♄ 6th												
	2026	85														
	2027	86		♄ 7th												
	2028	87			☉										♄ ASC	
	2029	88	♄ ♀													