

☿ The 2021-2022 Mercury Cycle

Mercury, the Messenger of the Gods, the core archetype of the mental and communicative functions, goes through many distinctive phases in its rather erratic dance with the sun (it has the most [eccentric orbit](#) of all the planets), from which it never strays very far. In the course of a year, it typically aligns with the sun six or seven times, alternating between direct and retrograde motion as it moves around on the far side of the sun and then swings back around to pass between us and the sun. It's the only planet which spends so much time lost in the sun's glare. Because of this, the Messenger of the Gods developed a reputation for immunity to the powerful, transformational, but often dangerous realm of the gods known to us moderns simply as occultation by the sun. It is a medial archetype, going between realms, transferring ideas, connecting persons and concepts and commercial transactions, while moving from phase to phase in a dynamic succession from Hermetic mage to wily Trickster to creative thinker to plodding rationalist.

Mercury's Phases:

1. Hermetic Mercury: Mercury Rx exact conjunct the Sun (start of Mercury cycle, universal knowledge, ecstatic)
2. Messenger of the Gods: Mercury Rx in morning sky
3. The Stillpoint: Mercury Sx in the morning sky (suspended in time out of time)
4. Morning Sky Mercury: Mercury Dx in morning sky (Apollo, logical, understands thought)
5. Psychopomp Mercury: Mercury Dx conjunct the Sun (transformational insight, ecstatic)
6. Evening Sky Mercury: Mercury Dx in evening sky (Hermes, creative, develops thought)
7. Trickster Mercury: Mercury Rx in evening sky (breaks the rules)
8. The Archivist: Mercury Rx conjunct the Sun 10 degrees (revisits the past)

2021-2022 Mercury Cycle (342 days)

Master Mercury Cycle (120 days)

- June 10: Exact Retrograde Conjunct Sun at 20°21' Gemini – Master start of a new Mercury cycle (conjunct North Node)
 - ☿ Hermetic Mercury – Magical access to direct transmissions about the nature of the universe, like all connections with Great Mystery (the Sun) it tends toward the ecstatic.
 - 5 degree focus window June 7-14
 - within 1 degree of solar eclipse and weirdly at 2021 degrees! I believe that new information about Mercury is emerging this year in synchronistic timing with the close alignment of the beginning of the Master Mercury cycle and the June 2021 solar eclipse in Gemini.

- June 18 – 21: Retrograde Morning Sky Mercury (conjunct North Node, within 15 degrees) – Herald, Harvest of the Hermetic phase of Mercury, articulation of the cumulative insights, things coming to consciousness of a progressive nature.
- June 21-23: Standstill Morning Sky Mercury (conjunct North Node, within 15 degrees) – The Stillpoint
- June 23 – July 23: Direct Morning Sky Mercury – Understands thought
 - June 23-July 8: Within 15 degrees of North Node – Thought and communications aligned with cultural trends and human evolution
 - July 5: Greatest elongation west – best chance to see Mercury during the week after morning elongation
 - July 8-23: Leaves 15 degrees of North Node – More “ordinary,” and personally-focused thought streams and communication patterns.
- July 23 – August 11: Direct Conjunct Sun Mercury – Psychopomp “Guide for Souls,” Transformational Insight, ecstatic
 - August 1: Exact Direct Conjunct Sun at 9°32’ Leo
 - 5 degree focus window July 28-August 6
- August 11 – September 27: Direct Evening Sky Mercury – Develops thought
 - September 15: Greatest elongation east – best chance to see Mercury during the week before evening elongation
- September 27 – October 4: Retrograde Evening Sky Mercury – Revises and re-evaluates thought and communication
- October 4 – 14: Retrograde Conjunct sun – Begins again with a new infusion of information from Great Mystery

Mercury Cycle 2 (105 days)

- October 9: Exact Retrograde Conjunct Sun at 16°35’ Libra – start of a new Mercury cycle
 - 5 degree focus window October 7-11
 - within half degree of Mars
- October 14 – 17: Retrograde Morning Sky Mercury
- October 17 – 19: Standstill Morning Sky Mercury
- October 19 – November 11: Direct Morning Sky Mercury
 - October 25: Greatest elongation west – best chance to see Mercury during the week after morning elongation
- November 11 – December 16: Direct Conjunct Sun Mercury
 - November 16-December 5: Conjunct South Node within 15 degrees
 - November 25 exact conjunct South Node at 1°42’ Sagittarius
 - November 28: Exact Direct Conjunct Sun at 7°10’ Sagittarius

- ☿ Asclepian Mercury (conjunct South Node)
 - within 3 degrees of December 4 solar eclipse at 12°22' Sagittarius
 - 5 degree focus window November 20-December 7 (Dec 5 out of orb of South Node)
- December 16 – January 13, 2022: Direct Evening sky
 - January 1, 2022: greatest elongation east – best chance to see Mercury during the week before evening elongation
- January 13 – 15, 2022: Standstill Evening sky
- January 15 – 18: Retrograde Evening sky
- January 18 – 27: Retrograde Conjunct sun

Mercury Cycle 3 (117 days)

- January 23, 2022: Exact Retrograde Conjunct Sun at 3°22' Aquarius – start of a new Mercury cycle
 - 5 degree focus window January 21-25
- January 27 – February 2: Retrograde Morning sky
- February 2 – 4: Standstill Morning sky
- February 4 – March 23: Direct Morning sky
 - February 17: Greatest elongation west – best chance to see Mercury during the week after morning elongation
- March 23 – April 12: Direct Conjunct Sun
 - April 2: exact at 13°11' Aries (5 degree focus window March 28-April 7)
- April 12 – May 14: Direct Evening sky
 - greatest elongation east – best chance to see Mercury in the week before evening elongation
- May 9 – 11: Standstill Evening sky
- May 11 – 14: Retrograde Evening sky
- May 14 – 28: Retrograde Conjunct sun (exact at May 21, 2022, 0°43' Gemini, † Conjunct North Node, Hermetic Mercury – Master start of a new Mercury cycle)