



✦ FREE BOTAROT GUIDE

Retrograde *Survival* Guide

What Mercury and Venus retrograde really mean, what to do, what to skip and two spreads to work with the slowdown.

What is a *retrograde*?

A retrograde is when a planet looks like it is moving backwards from Earth. It doesn't really reverse, but astrologers read it as a time to slow down and look back at that planet's themes.

Mercury *retrograde*

Communication, tech, travel, contracts.
Happens about three times a year for roughly three weeks.

- **Do** re-read messages before sending
- **Do** back up your phone and files
- **Do** finish old projects
- **Skip** signing in a rush
- **Skip** blaming Mercury for everything

Venus *retrograde*

Love, beauty, money and values. Happens about every 18 months for roughly six weeks.

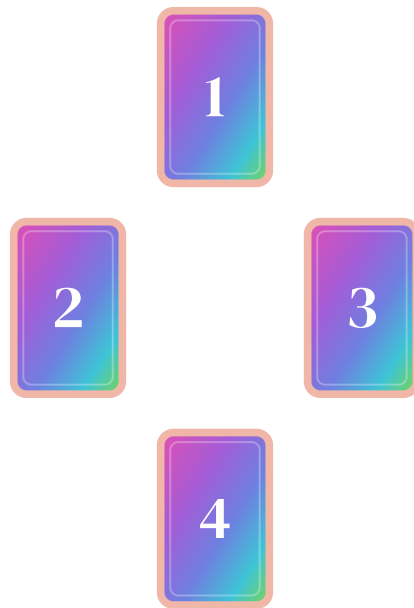
- **Do** reflect on what you truly value
- **Do** heal old relationship patterns
- **Do** look at spending habits
- **Skip** drastic hair or beauty changes
- **Skip** rushing back to an ex

LIVE DATES Check today's retrogrades on botarot.com/moon-phase-today and in your daily horoscope.

Mercury Retrograde Check-in

When to use it: The first days of any Mercury retrograde

Mercury retrograde is a time for the 're' words: review, revisit, rethink. Use this spread to work with the slowdown instead of fighting it.



- 1 What to re-read**
A message, contract or plan that needs a second look.
- 2 What to revisit**
A person, place or project asking for another visit.
- 3 What to rethink**
A decision that deserves more time.
- 4 What returns to help**
An old skill, contact or idea that comes back at the right moment.

BO'S TIP Pull this again on the day Mercury goes direct and compare the two readings.

The One Who Returns

When to use it: Venus retrograde, or when an ex reaches out

When someone from your past comes back, this spread shows why, what they really want and whether the door should open or close.



- 1** Why they are back now
The real reason behind the return.
- 2** What they want from me
Their intention, beyond the words.
- 3** What I still feel
Your honest heart, without the noise.
- 4** What has changed
In them, in you, or in the situation.
- 5** The lesson of this return
What the universe wants you to learn.
- 6** Open or close the door
The energy of each choice and where it leads.

BO'S TIP If card 6 is reversed, give yourself more time before you reply.

✦ WANT MORE SPREADS?

The Spread *Book*

These two spreads come from The Spread Book: twelve original spreads with journal pages for moon cycles, love, shadow work and the year ahead. Find it in the BOTarot shop.

✦ READ WITH BO

Want Bo to read this spread *for you?*

Send one question. Bo lays the cards on camera and your personal video arrives within 24 hours.

Vibe

10 minutes · \$26

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