



Keeping it Real: Getting Practical Answers from the Tarot

Do your tarot readings always tell you you're in a period of transformation? That you need to seek balance? Do they inspire you to embrace your truth and reveal your higher self in an ongoing unfolding evolution? Sheesh. Some questions require a more mundane approach. The bulk of our life, and our questions, happens on the practical level. Sometimes we need motivational angel revelations. Sometimes we need to keep it real. Here are seven steps to bring your tarot readings down to earth.

Ground and Center

Although this can be a woo practice, we could rephrase it as: wait until you have the time, energy, and focus for a reading. If you're practiced in the metaphysical arts, you can create that opportunity any time you want by doing a grounding exercise. Mystical or not, closing the door, stretching, taking some deep breaths, and calming yourself are necessary steps.



Set the Intention

Never underestimate the power of a clear intention. Simply requesting practical information in advance helps the cards know what you need. And if nothing else, it reminds you to focus on the real. Expect usable answers. My intention? I always center every reading around Truth, Clarity, and Compassion.

Ask Practical Questions

The art of asking questions is your go-to technique if you'd like real-life answers. Forego the guides, don't unburden yourself to the universe, forget the highest good. Just ask simple, plain questions that elicit simple, plain answers. Like you're talking to a friend. Because you are.



Choose Positional Spreads

Positional spreads are top-notch for getting the most meat out of a reading. They help you pinpoint what you need. It also helps to de-clutter your spreads. 3-5 cards is best for most questions. You're not trying to unravel the rest of your life. You want a next step. If you're still not getting clarity, tell the cards to bottom line it. Pull two cards. Boom. That's your answer.



Find the Action in the Image

Ok, now we're down to the nitty gritty. If you want the above steps to pay off, interpret your cards in a practical manner. Send out the search and destroy bots to evict airy-fairy angel messages from the cards. Focus on finding the action in the card: that's your to-do. Use the keywords you've already developed for your deck. Now is not the time to meditate, explore, research, or intuit. Rely on what you already know. Practice makes practical.

Keep It Simple, Starchild

When asking practical questions, the simplest answers are right. But those just-right answers may or may not be the first thing you hit on — believe it or not, intuition works differently for different people! Jot your ideas in your journal. Refine and simplify until you get it.



Step It Down

Best trick for keeping it real? Break each card into four levels: Spiritual, Emotional, Mental, and Physical. 1) Spiritual meanings are the inspiration; the why behind it all. 2) Emotional level is the changeable part that ebbs and flows. It's how you feel. 3) Mental level helps us understand why we think what we think. It's our logical approach. 4) Physical level is practical, actionable. It's staring you in the face. Practical answers might seem curt, obvious, or simplistic. Don't overlook them.

It's Been Real

The beauty of tarot is in its intuitive insight and spiritual invocation. The power of tarot is in its practical advice and to-the-point perspective. Use these seven steps to keep your tarot readings real, and your deck will be a real friend and true guide.

