

4TH OPERATION - 36 DECANATES – OOTK in the 21st Century (Mary Brown's Shortcut)

Shuffle and cut in the manner which befits you.

Flip deck over and, **keeping cards in order**, look through cards until you find the Significator. Place the Significator on the table.

Lay out the next 36 cards in a circle with the significator in the middle. The 1st card after the significator is at the position of the 1st decanate in Aries on the Zodiac (basically at 9 o'clock). So the 1st 3 cards are the 3 decanates of Aries and cards 4,5,6 are the 3 decanates of Taurus and continue through to the end of the zodiac. So you will have 36 cards in a circle with the significator in the center. Consider the cards and the time-frame that they fall in. Look at the elements, the planets, the numbers, the dates – whatever is of significance to you.

Next, count the cards - try using the following counting values or devise your own. Just let the cards know what you're going to use. The card you begin the counting with is the first card of the count as are the cards you land on.

Aces = 5 or 11 (I always use 11 – it just feels right for me)

Kings, Knights, Queens = 4

Pages = 7

2-10 minor arcana cards = number of card

Major Arcana Trumps

0, 12, 20 = 3

1,2,3,10,16,19,21=9

4,5,6,7,8,9,11,13,14,15,17,18=12

Personally, I rarely change direction when counting and only when I get the feeling that I should. Some people change direction when hitting a court card facing in the opposite direction. I prefer to start going in the direction the significator is facing. Others may prefer to go clockwise or counter-clockwise. Do what feels right to you.

The cards you land on are the important cards to read. Don't forget to look at what's around them. Use the elements, card combos etc... do your thing. Counting ends when you land on the same card twice. **In this operation that final landing card is the most important** – check out how its surroundings influence it and how it gels with the decanate and sign it's in.

Next pair the cards as follows starting with card 1 located in the 1st decanate of Aries and pair it with card 19, then pair card 2 with card 20, and so on. Read the pairs using your favorite associations.

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I know it's a lot of cards and a lot of stuff to do. I've found a way to get to the good part quicker. *This is a great alternative if you don't have a big enough table to spread out 36 cards or are a little short on time.*

Here's my time and space saving shortcut for the 36 decanates:

Either print out a copy of the table below or write it out in a notebook or save it on your computer before you start the spread. As you go through the 36 cards, write them down in the table below. Once you have them written down you also have which cards surround them – just remember that it's a circle so Card #36 the last card would actually be the card to the next to Card #1.

Now look at the sheet – notice the pairing is already done – just read each line across. Counting can also be done from this sheet as well – I circle the landing cards and hi-light and put a big star around the final counting card. I like to lay out the landing cards with the cards surrounding them to study. I like to take my time and lay out the pairs for further examination as well.

1. Aries (1 st decan 3/21-30)	19. Libra(1 st decan 9/23-10/2)
2. Aries (2 nd decan 3/31-4/10)	20. Libra(2 nd decan 10/3-12)
3. Aries (3 rd decan 4/11-20)	21. Libra(3 rd decan 10/13-22)
4. Taurus (1 st decan 4/21-30)	22. Scorpio(1 st decan 10/23-11/2)
5. Taurus (2 nd decan 5/1-10)	23. Scorpio(2 nd decan 11/3-12)
6. Taurus (3 rd decan 5/11-20)	24. Scorpio(3 rd decan 11/13-22)
7. Gemini (1 st decan 5/21-31)	25. Sagittarius(1 st decan 11/23-12/2)
8. Gemini (2 nd decan 6/1-10)	26. Sagittarius(2 nd decan 12/3-12)
9. Gemini (3 rd decan 6/11-20)	27. Sagittarius(3 rd decan 12/13-21)
10. Cancer (1 st decan 6/21-7/1)	28. Capricorn (1 st decan 12/22-30)
11. Cancer (2 nd decan 7/2-11)	29. Capricorn (2 nd decan 12/31-1/9)
12. Cancer (3 rd decan 7/12-21)	30. Capricorn (3 rd decan 1/10-19)
13. Leo (1 st decan 7/22-8/1)	31. Aquarius (1 st decan 1/20-29)
14. Leo (2 nd decan 8/2-11)	32. Aquarius (2 nd decan 1/30-2/8)
15. Leo (3 rd decan 8/12-22)	33. Aquarius (3 rd decan 2/9-18)
16. Virgo (1 st decan 8/23-9/1)	34. Pisces (1 st decan 2/19-28)
17. Virgo (2 nd decan 9/2-11)	35. Pisces (2 nd decan 3/1-10)
18. Virgo (3 rd decan 9/12-22)	36. Pisces (3 rd decan 3/11-20)