

The Name Spread

Questioner shuffles the cards while asking his question aloud.

The diviner spreads cards face up from left to right in three rows according to the number of letters in the questioner's name

Sample name: Robert Edwin Southworth

If the questioner does not have a middle name, the number of cards in the first row is repeated in the middle row. If the questioner's first or middle name does not contain a minimum of three letters, or the last name a minimum of five letters, the rows are spread with three, three and five cards representing the first, middle and last names, respectively. The center card in each row (or two cards if the row is even numbered) is the key card.

The top row represents the past influences and experiences the questioner has experienced. To the left of the center key card are those influences from the distant past that represent the previous broad background of the questioner. To the right of the key card are those influences the questioner has passed through during the relatively recent past, possibly during the past days, weeks or months. The key card represents those influences that are the most recent, either just past or just being completed.

The middle row of cards represents the period of present influences. To the left of the key card are those influences the questioner exerts upon other people with whom he comes into contact. The cards also may show the impressions and opinions held by others about the questioner. To the right of the key card are those influences and pressures that other people exert upon the questioner. The center key card represents the foundation and environment in which the questioner is presently living and working.

The bottom row of cards relates to the future and ultimate outcome. To the left of the key card are the inner emotions and specific goals of the questioner. To the immediate right of the key card are the broad influences or spheres of influence that are coming into being in the near future. To the extreme right are the ultimate outcome and final results that will be brought about from all of the influences as revealed by the other cards. The key card represents the questioner's immediate future. This card may represent obstacles that will have to be met and overcome, or it could represent opportunity, good fortune or progress toward a goal the questioner is seeking to attain.

The name spread has one additional interesting feature, the *age card*. The age of the questioner is used to determine the *age card*, which has strong meaning. For example, if the questioner, Robert Edwin Southworth, is eighteen years of age, then the diviner counts eighteen cards from left to right beginning at the top row, and the *age card* is found on the bottom row, seventh card from the left. If the questioner is twenty-nine years of age, then the *age card* is the second card in the second row (see name spread illustration). The *age card* is usually a very strong and influential card. Its meaning is generally very important and a significant key to the past, present or future of the questioner.

