



Mastering The Magick Of Witchcraft
<http://www.masteringmagickwitchcraft.com>

Rose Ariadne Blog
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The Witches' Celebrations (And Your Strengthening Bond With Magick)

This section is based heavily on Wiccan beliefs, but if you practice some other Magick path, you can adapt some of the celebrations discussed here to your own versions, celebrating your own deities.

Esbats are celebrations of the moon and the Goddess energy, Sabbats are celebrations of the sun and the God energy.

Most people are familiar with the Lesser Sabbats, which are held on the Vernal (Ostara) and Autumnal (Mabon) Equinoxes, and the Summer (Midsummer) and Winter (Yule) Solstices.

Then there are the Greater Sabbats, held at Samhain (Halloween – October 31), Imbolc (Ground Hog's Day – February 2), Beltane (The night before May Day – April 30), and Lughnassad (August 2).

The Sabbats are the main wiccan holidays - a time for celebration and ritual, but magickal casting is not usually done during the Sabbats except in the case of emergencies. The Sabbats are a time to relax and recharge your energies, while honoring the ones you connect to in order to use those energies. The Sabbats are purely a time of celebration and for holding rituals to honor deity. As opposed to man-made rituals that often coincide with the Sabbats, the witches' holidays were specifically set up to follow the natural cycles of the Earth and the seasons.

Tuning into the energies available during the Sabbat celebrations are extremely important. First, it offers rest – and second, your energies “recharge” to prepare for the Magick work you do in the coming weeks after the Sabbat is over.

To give you a taste of a sabbat celebration, I will walk you through a simple version of the Midsummer Honoring.

A Simple Midsummer Honoring

Step 1:





Choose a bright sunny place outdoors. A grassy place is best, for comfort and connecting, but sitting on something like a bench is fine, too. Begin your meditation starting exercises to bring you to a place of inner power and peace.

Step 2:

When you are ready, cast your circle around yourself, visualizing it circling you and keeping you protected within its confines. See the glow of it closing around you, as you call in the Elements, the Guardians at the Gates, or however else you would normally cast your circle in the physical.

Step 3:

Call upon the God and Goddess to come into your circle, bringing with them the blessings of Divine Spirit.

Step 4:

Take the time now to connect with the God and Goddess. Contemplate on the meanings that Midsummer holds. It is a time for love, healing, protection, and purification. It is a time for the Earth to ripen from the seeds first sown and coming to life past the energies of Spring. See these life forms growing. Send your blessings to their form, as though an unborn child about to burst forth from the womb.

Step 5:

Take time to think about the full season, the blossoming of the Earth energies, and the power that we receive from our connection to her. Contemplate the joys and blessings of your own life, and share it with her. Send the love and warmth that you feel into the ground beneath your body.

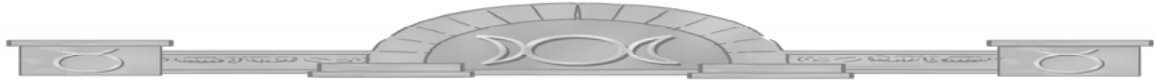
Step 6:

When you are done communing with the energy of the Earth Mother, and sharing her blessings and yours, then thank her for her patience in your growth. Send to her the love that you feel as her caretaker. Ask her if there is anything that you can do for her during this coming season that will offer enrichment to her existence. Listen carefully and follow through with anything she may ask of you.

Step 7:

When you have spoken again to the Earth Mother and have heard her words, it is time to come back to your physical state of awareness. Ground yourself and any excess energy into the Earth beneath you. If you want, have a light snack of raw fruit to help ground, and to honor the bounty of the Earth that is to come. Thank the Spirits and the deities that





you have called to your circle and ask them to depart, and then close your circle. When you leave your circle, give thanks again for connecting to the God and Goddess, and the Earth, on this honored occasion.

As you can see, the Sabbats do not have to be celebrated in full ritual format, but they can be as simple or complicated as you make them.

(In the Witchcraft Home Academy In-A-Box you will see full DVD demonstrations of most of the Sabbats, along with detailed step by steps – with pictures of every part)

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