



Ask Rose Ariadne
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Witchcraft 101

Witchcraft is a religion that is based on reverence for Nature. It is a belief system that is focused on the merging of the energies of everything that is visible and invisible in this world and in other worlds.

Beginners to this way of life will need to understand what it takes to believe in a religion that is not organized in a traditional sense. If they are used to following the words of priests or other leaders, then they will have to start thinking for themselves.

Practitioners of witchcraft usually do not have to worry about following any rules that are prevalent in other religions. So they need to first find out why they are interested in this religion and if they really understand the freedom that this way of life entails.

Many Wiccans use tools such as The Broom, The wand, Athame, Cauldron, Chalice etc. These tools are not absolutely necessary for regular practice, but they do increase the energies surrounding your space by allowing you to focus and visualize more strongly.

First you need to decide whether you want to be part of a coven or group of witches. You may also go solo. If you plan to do the latter, make sure you get the book "Wicca – A guide for the solitary practitioner" by Scott Cunningham which details everything you need to know as a solitary witch.

If you are practicing Wicca, it is good to know the names of the Gods and Goddesses and what they stand for. Also, while doing spells, it is good to be aware of the powers of your zodiac sign, your symbol, your colors and your herbs. These are specific to your birthday and will assure more success in your rituals.





Everything in nature is sacred. So we witches need to respect all plants, trees, stones, rocks, mountains, rivers, etc. It's good to join an organization such as Greenpeace that really does a lot for the environment. Even if you do not join any organization, take a vow to conserve energy (water, electricity, food, consumer goods etc) and use every chance you get to save the earth. Be meaningful in your actions and deeds as well as your thoughts and words.

Instead of buying a broom, make one with an ash staff, birch twigs and willow binding. This can be used to cleanse the area, our sacred circle, etc. For the wand, use the branch of a willow, oak, cherry or whatever is available in your neck of the woods.

Remember, everything natural is sacred. The more you use these tools, the more consecrated they will be. Your energy is that powerful!

When it comes to clothes, house decorations, gifts, etc, try to make them by hand. Our hands are powerful tools by themselves. Making crafts with natural gemstones, twigs, leaves, pine cones, acorns, pine needles, etc encourage wonderful magick in us that we may not even be aware of.

Plant a garden with all the herbs that you can get your hands on. In fall, dry them and store them or make sachets and protection bundles that will keep your house safe all winter. Make candles, soap, perfumes, incense, etc using these treasures from our garden.

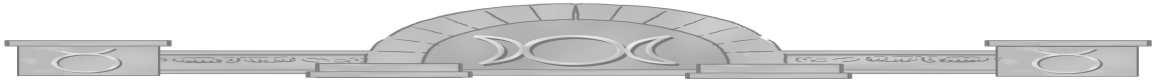
Good witches always make sure that we do not harm anyone with our spells. If we are working a spell to help another, we have to make sure that we ask their permission.

Making an altar or private space is a necessity unless you have vast land under your disposal where you can sit in peace at any time. Usually, witches in apartments or small homes will need to set aside a corner or a small room for our spell workings. If we light candles during our spells, we need to make sure that the area is safe.

A pentacle or pentagram is usually used on the altar along with figurines of the Goddess and God or candles used to represent them. When working spells, the sacred circle is drawn and marked by candles or rope. Also, the Elements and Directions are invited into the sacred circle to guide our intentions to the desired manifestation.

Every Witch needs to keep a journal of their experiences from the day they start their journey into the world of Witchcraft. Every witch's experience is different. As I mentioned earlier, we are carving our own paths instead of allowing others to define us. So our experiences will benefit ourselves and future generations to learn how to respect themselves and create their amazing journeys through life.





This journal may be a notebook, an online diary or a blog. This is usually called the Book of Shadows, a term coined after the ancient manual that held secret recipes and spells which were hidden from enemies of the Craft.

As we can see, everyone can start practicing witchcraft without “buying” a single item. Tools for our practice are all around us. Nature is the wonder that created us and gave us all the tools we need to make our life wonderful and joyous. Each of us is capable of visualizing our goals and creating it with our thoughts.

Wicca is truly a celebration of life as it was meant to be!

Mastering The Magick Of Witchcraft

<http://www.masteringmagickwitchcraft.com>

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