ASTRO

The Program For
Astrological Analysis

WINDOWS LITE VERSION

Windows 95, 98, NT 4.0, ME, 2000 & XP

For Windows Computers Running Intel Processors

User Manual

Effective Date: July 1, 2006

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New Features in This Version

A number of new features and major changes have been introduced in this version of ASTRO For Windows including the following:

- All of the databases have been switched to tables in an Microsoft Access database, though owning Microsoft Access is not required.
- Transit Info has it's own database table and those records are tied to the birth info record. There can be multiple transit info records for each birth
- Rectification information has its own table also linked to the birth info record.
- Utility Importtool imports existing Astro for Windows Databases.
- Quick Daily transit information takes its data from the database, the entries used are configured in the options screen.
- No need for reindex or make popups.
- New births are automatically added and updated.
- Reports and texts are also stored in Access database tables.
- You can use one database for locations and one for text allowing the use of multiple texts and languages.
- New House systems: Tropocentric, Median House, Porphryx Houses
- New Higher resolution planetary routines.
- Declination can now be displayed and calculated.
- In polar latitudes there are now options to keep the natural house or swap the house to keep the MC in the upper half of the carthwheel.
- A New Grid report format, showing only the numberic data in a grid type format is calculated.
- A New Files Window is now used for the Grid Reports.
- Reports can now be done using an interpreted style or a numeric style report.
- There are separate report formats for Grid, internpreted and non-interpreted styles
- New Grid Viewer displays data in tabular format.
- HTML conversion and Grid Viewer make use of new codes to support generation of HTML table codes
- HTML export uses Word Processor Conversion Settings.
- Charts can be organized by file folder, which can be assigned as a default, for viewing etc., and when reports are created they can be sent to various folders that are available, and facilities to create, rename and select working folder.
- Paste Information from the ACS Atlas Programs
- Lookup Longitude and Latitude based on a zip code
- Backup and Compress databases
- Reference Maps
- Support for the new Scroll Wheel mousse
- Select All Charts in Chart Windows
- Easier Configuaration for Daily Transit feature
- New Toolbar and File Open dialog
- New Chart Wizard

LICENSE FOR USE

You have the right to use this package on any one computer at a given time. You may copy this package for installation, archival or for backup purposes only. This is copyrighted software, you may not give copies of it to anyone without my written permission. You may, though, provide other people with copies of the shareware trial package, that you probably used before you bought this software.

This does not give you the right to market charts produced with this program without my permission. If you use these charts as a part of a professional Astrology consulting service, there are no restrictions in charging for services.

If this is a shareware download you may use this program for up to 30 days without paying for it, after which you must purchase or remove it.

Thanks

Christopher J. Noyes

WARRANTY

If I cannot to resolve any problems you have with ASTRO I will refund your money. You must return this manual and all disks and this manual that I shipped you when you registered.

While I have made every attempt to assure that ASTRO works properly, I am not responsible for any damage, loss of profit, or other losses caused by ASTRO.

SUPPORT

For technical support on ASTRO:

- Visit the Christopher J. Noyes Software Web Site at www.cjnoyessw.com
- Contact me on America On-Line using the ID CJNoyesSW.
- Contact me on the Internet using the E-Mail address support@cjnoyessw.com.
- Call me at (212) 662-4596. If I am not available, please leave a message, I will call you back as soon as I can.
- Contact me by Mail at the address below.

Christopher J. Noyes Software
244 West 103rd St., Apt 10
New York, NY 10025.

NEW TO ASTROLOGY?

To get the most out of this program you will need some understanding of astrology. ASTRO does provide some help in this area via the Astrology Help found in the Help menu, and the "Astrological Glossary" in the back of this manual. You will be more able to make use of this program if you do some background reading. I suggest the following reading material:

Instant Astrology. By Mort Gale. Published by Warner Books, New York, 1980.

Compendium of Astrology. By Rose Lineman and Jan Popelka. Published by Para Research, West Chester PA, 1984.

Parker's Astrology: The Essential Guide To Using Astrology in Your Daily Life. By Derek and Julia Parker. Published by Dorling Kindersley. First American Edition 1991.

The New A To Z Horoscope Maker and Delineator. By Llewellyn George. Revised and Expanded, Revised and Edited by Marylee Bytheriver. Published by Llewellyn Publications, St. Paul, Minnesota, Current version Copyright 1981.

These Are a few more books that may be good for users with any degree of experience with astrology or with ASTRO.

The Houses: Power Places of the Horoscope. Edited by Joan McEvers. Published by Llewellyn Publications, St. Paul, Minnesota, Copyright 1989.

Planets in Combination. By Lynne Burmyn. Published by ACS Publications, San Diego CA, Copyright 1985.

Progressions Directions and Rectification, or the Great Guessing Game...What Time Where You Born? By Zipporah Pottenger Dobyns. Published by T.I.A. Publications, Copyright 1975.

The Rising Sign--Your Astrological Mask. By Jeanne Avery. A Dolphin Book, Published by Doubleday, New York, Copyright 1982.

Astrological Assistance. By Saul P. Larner. Published By Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, Copyright 1972.

The International Atlas, Second Edtion, World latitude, Longitudes and Time Changes. Compiled and Programmed by Thomas G. Shanks. Published by ACS Publications, San Diego, CA, Copyright 1985, 1988.

The American Atlas, Revised, US Latitudes and Longitudes. Time Changes and Time Zones. Compiled and Programmed by Thomas G. Shanks. Published by ACS Publications, San Diego, CA, Copyright 1978, 1987

INTRODUCTION TO ASTRO:

Background.

ASTRO was conceived of in 1985, when I was programming on a Commodore 128 computer. I started working on ASTRO out of curiosity mostly, and soon got deeply involved. I soon ported it over to the IBM PC when I discovered I couldn't get ASTRO to do what I wanted on the Commodore. The Commodore 128 had limited capabilities and limited tools available to develop programs.

The original Version of ASTRO that appeared on the IBM PC in early 1987 was good at some things, particularly its simplicity, speed, and ease of use. It did have some problems though. It particularly had problems for advanced astrologers and those people who were very new to computers. The original program also had problems, primarily in lack of accuracy and problems due to not following common astrological standards. It was good though for people who were really only casually interested in astrology.

I got so many reactions from more advanced astrologers that I decided to rebuild ASTRO from scratch and resolve most of their problems. This version of ASTRO is for all intensive purposes a brand new program. The only things that I kept were the text that ASTRO generated, the Astrology Help text, and some modes used.

This release is the Fifth major release of ASTRO. It breaks major ground and makes many improvements over earlier versions. I have introduced many new features and ironed out many other fine spots.

Why Use ASTRO?

ASTRO, The Program for Astrological Analysis, or ASTRO for short, is a powerful computer program. Where many astrological computer programs produce accurate results, they mostly produce just the numbers and the facts. They tell you very little about yourself or others. To find the information, you have to do much research into the 'delineation' or interpretation of the numbers and the signs.

ASTRO is different. I designed ASTRO to produce a textual type of output, consisting of the numbers, text interpreting the results into significant terms. ASTRO also provides a graphics cartwheel printout as well that helps in understanding the individual's
chart.

ASTRO is excellent for the new astrologer who really doesn't understand all the details in interpretation, and is seeking to learn more: more about others, more about themselves. ASTRO provides an excellent learning aid in the Astrology Help. I am not suggesting though that ASTRO can totally replace an excellent astrologer's delineation of a highly accurate chart. It can, though, provide an excellent starting point.

ASTRO is also excellent for the experienced astrologer. It can provide charts that rival those provided by hand or other computer systems.

Basic Capabilities.

ASTRO has an easy-to-use intuitive user interface. It is easy to use, and is much more powerful.

ASTRO has several built in databases. One for people's birth dates, times and places. The other is a database of locations, giving all the necessary data for approximately 1000 U.S. and Canadian cities and approximately 200 foreign cities.

All versions of ASTRO uses highly accurate routines to generate the planet positions, house cusps, and aspects. Planetary positions are accurate to within 1 minute of arc.

ASTRO can generate the following chart types:

- Natal charts.
- Compatibility charts.
- Transits charts.

ASTRO supports all the major house cusp systems including:

- Equal house.
- Placidus.
- Koch.
- Companus.
- Regiomontanus.
- M-house.
- Morinus.
- Tropocentric Houses
- Meridian Houses
- Porphryx Houses

ASTRO also provides the following:

- Decans.
- Midheaven.
- Moon's nodes.
- Part of fortune.
- Vertex.
- East-point.

ASTRO also provides other important calculations and determinations. ASTRO also provides birth rectification, by which you can figure out basic houses, even if you don't know a person's exact time of birth.deluxe

With ASTRO you can convert your reports to word processing files that you can import into your favorite word processor. File formats supported include:

- Plain ASCII text file.
- "Smart" or formatted ASCII.
- WordStar™ 3.x.
- WordStar™ 4.x.
- WordPerfect™ 4.x.
- WordPerfect™ 5.x.
- XYWrite™
- Microsoft Word™ RTF.
- Lotus AMI Pro™.
- WWW Html files.

When Html files are created, tabbed sections are converted into tables.

Many word processors are compatible with at least one of these file formats. Word processing formats retain all formatting information.

When Html

ASTRO creates reports that use bold and underscore capabilities of your printer, and screen, along with a numeric only report format, in case you only want the numbers.

The names of the files generated to the disk are kept in a file list stored on disk and in memory. You can select from many different charts that you may have calculated and kept on disk. You can mark these charts with comments when compiling, that can aid you in figuring out which chart to look at, print, convert, or view as a graphics-cartwheel.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS TO RUN ASTRO FOR WINDOWS:

Though ASTRO is a flexible system and can be run on many different type of system setups, it does have some requirements for hardware.

Computer and Windows.

ASTRO for Windows requires a computer with at least an Intel Pentium, computer with 64 megabytes of memory, Windows 95, 98, ME, NT4.0,2000 or XP.

Video.

ASTRO for Windows requires at least a VGA graphics adapters. ASTRO for Windows supports all graphics adapters which support Windows and provide at least 480 x 640 pixel 16 colors, 600x800 using 256 colors or better is recommended.

Printer.

ASTRO directly supports all printers that Microsoft Windows supports. graphics printing requires a printer with graphics capability supported buy Windows. Most 9-pin, 24-pin, ink-jet and laser printers are compatible with Windows. Either use a driver supplied with your printer or use one that is compatible supplied with Windows.

CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS MANUAL:

This section describes the conventions that are used in this manual.

`ALL CAPS`	System command, or command line to type at the DOS command line.
A:	Disk drive letter, or other device.
A:\<*Directory Name*>\<*File*>	Path name.
..	Previous directory
.	Current directory
\<*Directory Name*>\<*File*>	Path name, beginning at root directory, or start of current disk drive.
FILENAME.EXT	A file name can consist of up to eight letters, a '.' and a three letter extension.
'Key Name'	A key on the keyboard to press.
{ALT}	Hold down the ALT key on your keyboard.
{CNTL}	Hold down the CNTL or Control key on your keyboard.
{SHIFT}	Hold down the Shift key on your keyboard.
{F*n***}**	A function key for example {F1} means press the F1 key at the top or left of your keyboard.
{ALT}+'A'	Hold down the ALT key, and press the 'A' key on your keyboard.

INSTALLING ASTRO FOR WINDOWS:

Most people will probably can run the installation program and go. If you wish to, you can easily change the setup using the setup function found under the option menu.

UPGRADING

Upgrading from an Earlier Version of ASTRO.

The Text and databases are completely different from earlier versions of ASTRO for Windows. If you wish to use existing text sources that you have modified, you should use the new Text Builder Toolkit and import those sources into the database. If you have made changes to the birth and location databases, use the importtool utility program to import those databases in to the new database.

There is a special program called Import Tool that imports from Astrow's Old system into the new system. If you want to import your charts into the new system, you need to manually copy the chart files (.OUT and .GRA) from your old Astro For Windows directory (usually C:\astrow) to your new directory (usually My Documents\Astro For Windows). You also need to completely re-configure the program because it cannot use the older program's configuruation

STARTING UP ASTRO FOR WINDOWS:

You are ready to start using ASTRO For Windows.

Starting ASTRO.

To Start ASTRO from the Program Manager, click on the ASTRO for Windows Program group and restore it if it is not open. Then click on the ASTRO for Windows icon.

Finding Startup Files.

ASTRO then reads the file **ASTRODAT.HIS** (if it exists). This is the History file, data that was in the Data dialog boxes at the time that ASTRO quit last.

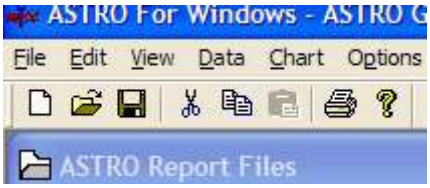
Then ASTRO reads the file **ASTRODAT.DEF** (if it exists). This is the default data, and the program loads the file every time it starts. If you want certain chart information loaded every time ASTRO starts up save that information to the file **ASTRODAT.DEF**, using the Save or Save As menu commands in the File menu.

ASTRO expects to find its database in the database directory, (usually MyDocuments\Astro For Windows, usually named astrow.mdb).

NEW USER INTERFACE FEATURES:

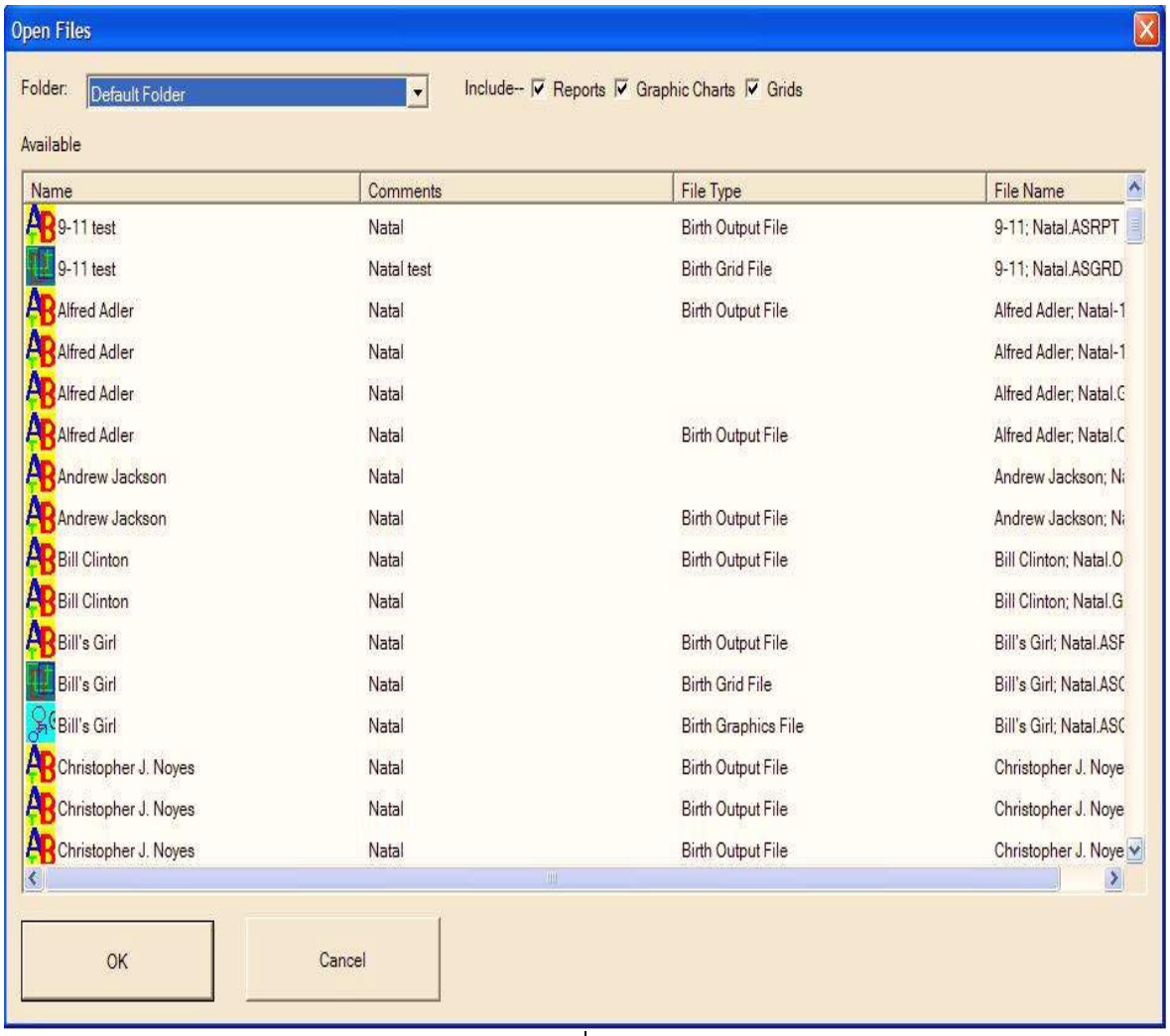
New user interface features were added to make ASTRO for Windows easier to learn and easier to use.

Toolbar.



ASTRO for Windows has at the top left of its main window a toolbar. The left button (new file or blank document) starts a new chart using the new chart wizard described below. The File Open button uses the new file open dialog below. The save button exports a chart and the cut, copy, paste and print act as they do in other applications

File Open Dialog.

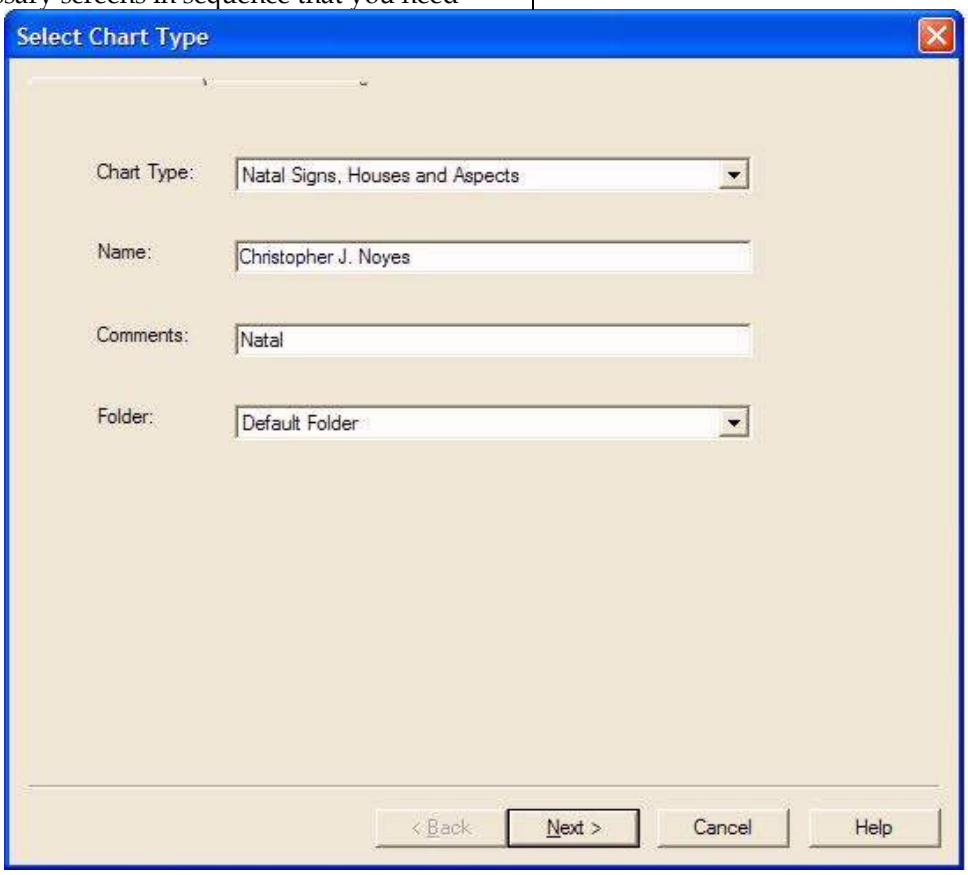


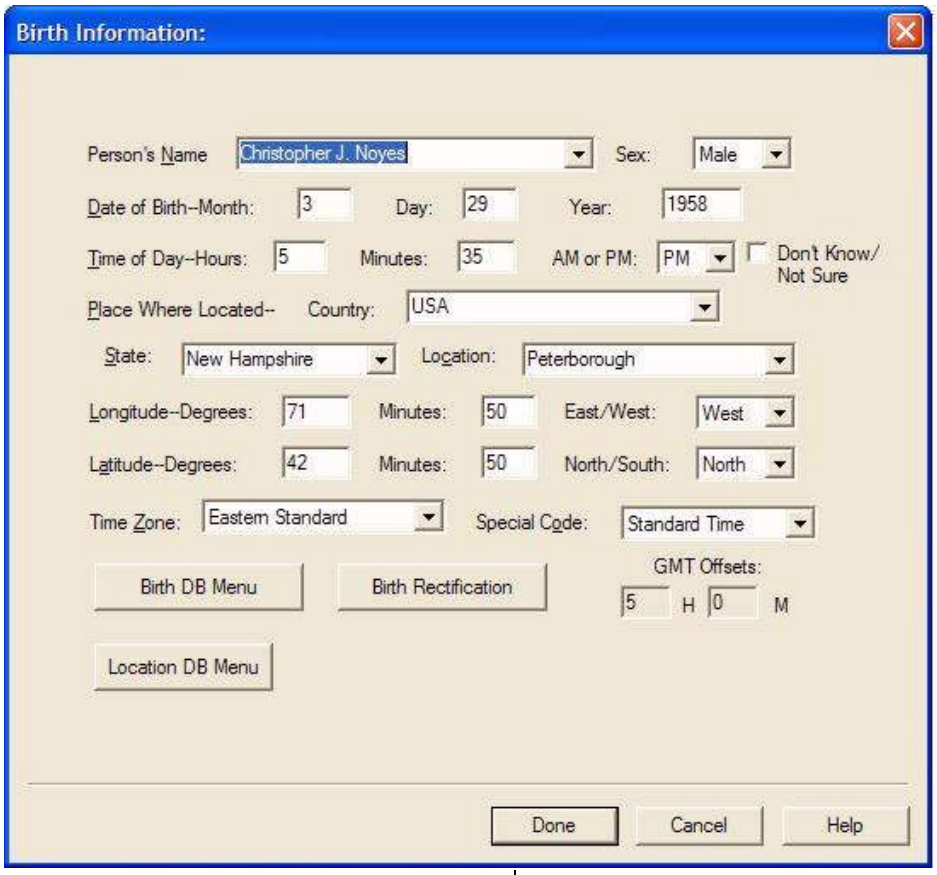
ASTRO for Windows has a new file open dialog that comes up with the file open button on the toolbar which will be easier to use than the traditional file management screens. This screen shows all the applicable files in your system of the applicable types. To open files, just click on the items in the left column and hit the OK button. If you want to select multiple files, hold down the control key and click on any that you want. You can sort the list by clicking on the column headers of the column you

wish to have the files sorted by, for example to sort by comments, click on the comments header where it says Comments. If you have multiple folders setup, you can choose a folder to show. The checkboxes at the top allow you to filter by the type of file. If you wish to only Open reports, uncheck the grid and graphics files.

Chart Wizard.

ASTRO for windows has a new chart wizard, which can make it far easier for new users to compile new charts. Traditionally one had to go into the data menu and edit various data screens and then go to the compile menu and then open the charts to see them. This new wizard allows you to do all in one step. Choose the type of chart to do, enter person's name and comments for the file list, and select a folder and hit the next button. The wizard will show all the necessary screens in sequence that you need to fill in and then compile the charts and opens them so you can view them. At the bottom of the screen are a set of buttons. If you can go back to a prior button, the back button will be enabled, if there is a next page that you need to go to you will see the next button enabled. When you are ready to compile your chart, the done button will be enabled. To compile the charts, hit the done button, to move forward and back use the Next and Back buttons





If you don't know a person's birth and don't understand the ideas around Birth Rectification, you can just check the Don't Know/Not sure checkbox and it will compile the chart with the default rectification for the chart type, which can be either Solar chart, or Ascendant equal to your sun, or Flat chart which makes the ascendant zero degrees Aries. You can configure this option in Options/Chart Options/(Your chart type) .

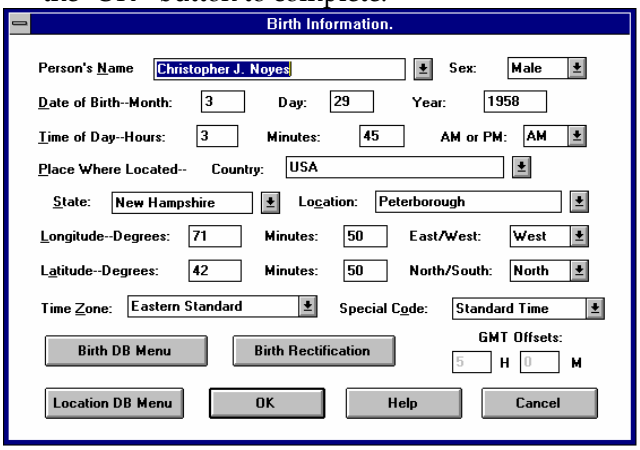
QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

This is a quick step-by-step guide on how to use ASTRO for Windows for most of it's basic features.

How to Create a Birth (Natal) Chart.

How to create a Birth (Natal) Chart.

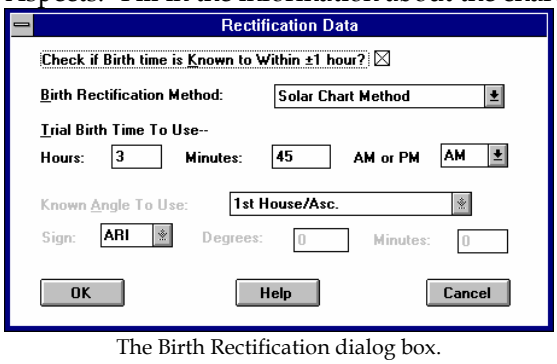
1. Choose the Data menu.
2. Choose the menu choice "Birth Info".
3. Fill in the information on the dialog box, using the location or birth database as applicable. See below for information. When finished, click on the "OK" button to complete.



The Birth Information dialog box.

4. Choose the menu choice "Birth Rectification". If you know the person's birth, check the first question check box, then click on the "OK" button.
5. If you don't know the birth time, complete the dialog box, depending on how you want deal with the chart.

   The rest of this dialog box is applicable only if you don't know the birth time.
   Move over to the Compile menu. Choose a chart. For example, choose "Birth Signs, Houses & Aspects." Fill in the information about the chart.



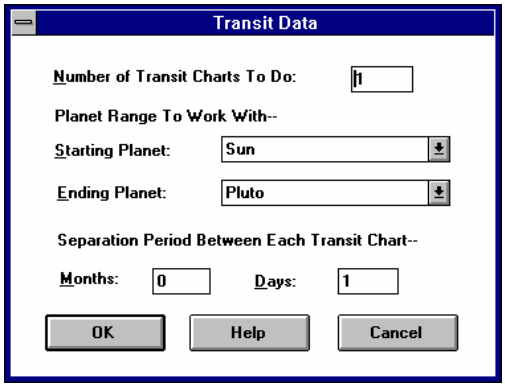
The Birth Rectification dialog box.

6. Move to the Compile menu. Choose a chart. For example, choose "Birth Signs, Houses & Aspects."
7. Fill in the information about the chart.
8. The chart is compiled.

How to create Transits Charts.

Use a transit chart to compare the planet locations during a given point of time, compared to an individual's birth. A transit chart is also referred to as a day-to-day chart.

1. Choose the Data menu.
2. Choose the menu choice "Birth Info".
3. Fill in the information on the dialog box, using the location or birth database as applicable. See below for information. When finished, click on the "OK" button to complete.
4. Choose the menu choice "Birth Rectification". If you know the person's birth time, check the first check box, then click on the "OK" button.
5. If you don't know the birth time fill in the rest of the information on this dialog box.
6. Choose the menu choice "Transits Info".
7. Fill in the information about the first date you wish to analyze. Rough location and time of day help to localize the chart and make it more exact. For this example we enter Monday's date and our present location.

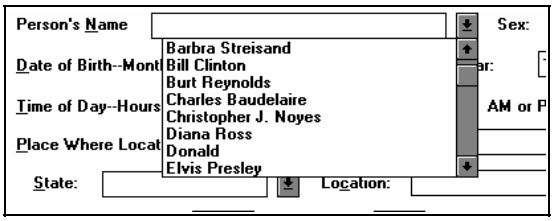


The Transits Data dialog box.

8. Choose the menu choice "Transits Data".
9. Fill in the number of charts to do. For this example we want to do seven charts, one for each day of this week.
10. Choose the starting planet to include. I suggest selecting the Sun. Choose the ending planet to include, since the outer planets don't move very often, don't include them. I suggest using Venus or Mars as the ending planet. The first chart will show all planets.

11. Enter the period between charts. In this example, we would enter zero months and one day, which will do seven charts, each one-day apart.
12. Move over to the Compile menu.
13. Choose "Transits." Fill in the information about chart and hit ok

How to Get a Person's Information from the database.



Birth Pop-up dialog box.

Combo Box (down arrow) Icon.

When in the Birth Info, Compatibility Info or Transits Info dialog box, and on the "Name" field, click on the combo box (down arrow) button at the right of the field, select the name you want from the list and click to select it.

How to Get Information From an Earlier Compiled Chart.

1. Select a file from the "ASTRO Reports" file list.
2. Go to the Utilities menu.
3. Choose "Read File Into Data".
3. Select the file you want to read.
4. The information will be put back into the dialog box that the information came from originally.

How to Copy Birth Info to Compatibility Birth Info or Compatibility to Birth Info.

While in the Birth Info or Compatibility Info dialog box, click on the "Birth DB Menu" button and select "Copy" from the menu. Go to the dialog box you wish to copy the data to, click on the "Birth DB Menu" button and select "Paste" from the menu.

How to Copy the Location Data to Another Dialog Box.

While in the Birth Info, Compatibility Info, Transits info or Relocation Data dialog box, click on the "Location DB Menu" button and select "Copy" from the menu. Go to the dialog box you wish to copy the data to, click on the "Location DB Menu" button and select "Paste" from the menu.

How to Find Longitude and Latitude in the US or Puerto Rico and you know the zip code

When in the birth information, compatibility information or transits information screen, click on the Location menu button and hit Lookup Zip Code and enter the zip code

How to Use the Computer ACS Atlas System with ASTROW

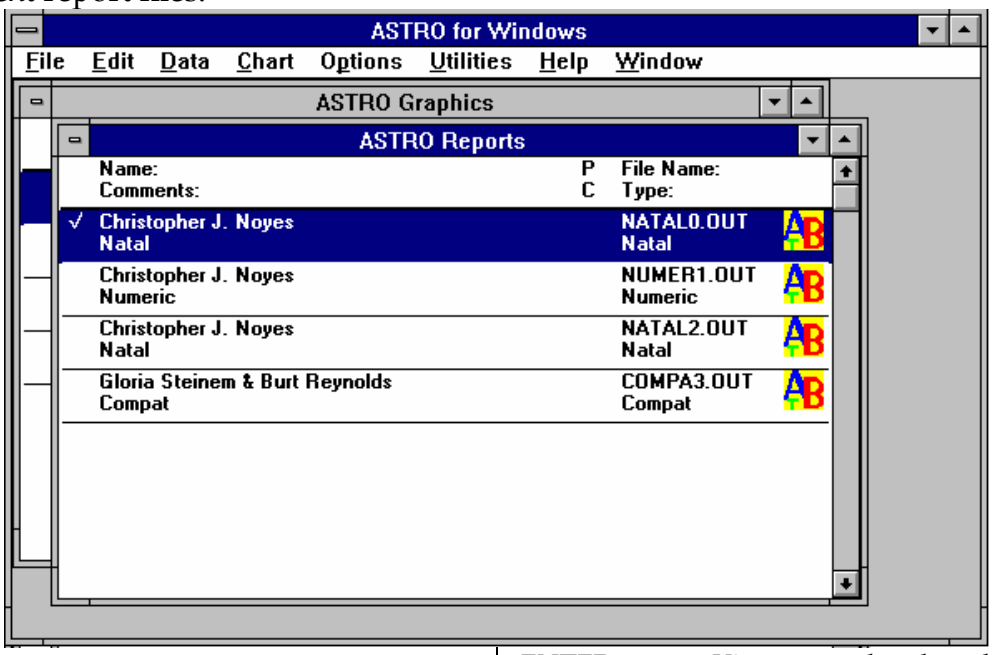
In the ACS Atlas program, lookup the information, and copy the information to the clipboard. When in the birth information, compatibility information or transits information screen, click on the Location menu button and hit Paste from ACS Atlas.

What do I do if I can't find the longitude or latitude or know about the time zone

If you have access to the internet, leave the data entry screens and go to the utilities menu and choose Reference Maps, there you will find world maps., a time zone reference and a link to a lookup page. You can also pick a nearby location or estimate it.

THE FILE LIST VIEWER

This is a list of all the files that you have created. There are two file lists, one of graphic files, and one of text report files.

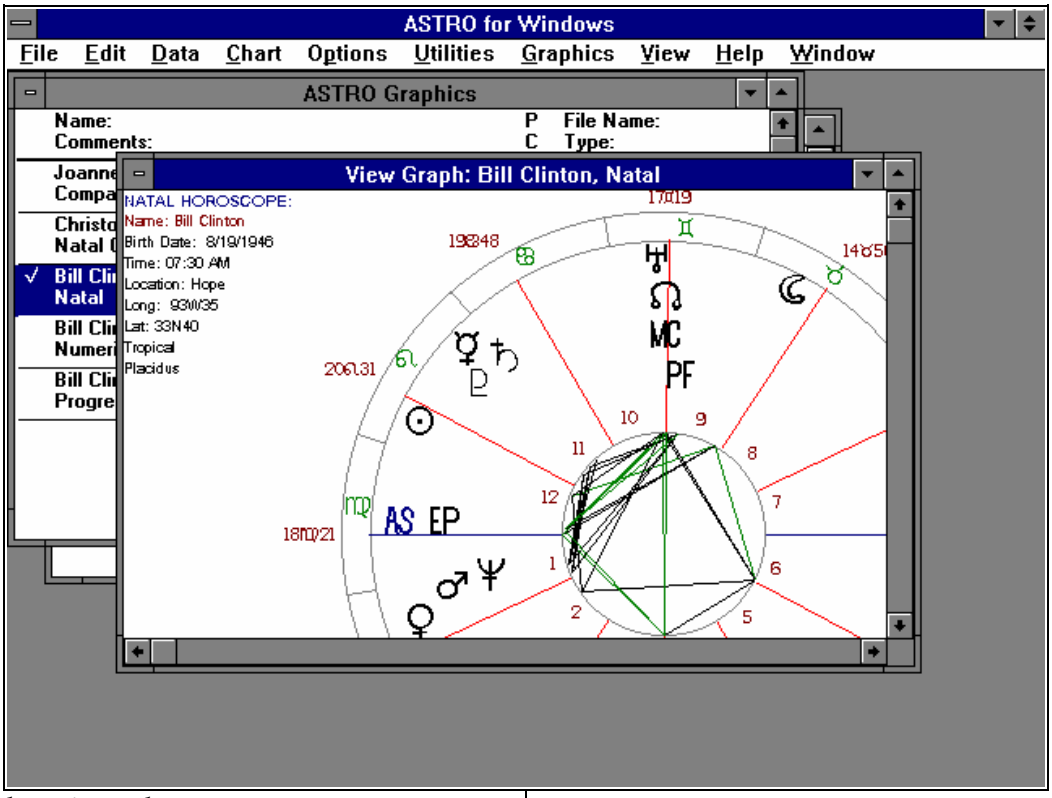


KEYS:

PAGEUP .....Go up one screen.
PAGE DOWN ..Go down one screen
DOWN .....Move the selection bar down one line.
UP .....Move the selection bar up one line.
HOME .....Go to the beginning of file list.
END .....Go to the end of file list.

ENTER ..... View currently selected file.
or double click with mouse. If selected file is a text report file, the text file viewer is started. If the selected file is a graphics file the graphics file viewer is started. Same as File menu **View.**
DELETE ..... Erase a file. Same as Files menu **KILL.**
SPACE BAR .... Select a file for multiple file operation. All files which are checked are selected.
or mouse click

VIEWING GRAPHIC FILES



* Professional version only.

Use the **Graphics menu** to change the ways the information is displayed on the screen.

Go to the **View menu** to Zoom In, Zoom Out or have the wheel scaled to the size of the window.

KEYS:

PAGEUP .....Go up one screen.
PAGE DOWN .Go down one Screen
DOWN .....Go down one line.
UP.....Go up one line.
HOME .....Go to the left of image.
END .....Go to the right edge of the image.
CTRL+HOME..Go to the top image.
CTRL+END .....Go to the bottom of the image.
LEFT .....Scroll left.
RIGHT .....Scroll right.
CTRL+P .....Print. Same as Files menu command *Print*

The Following keyboard combinations have equivalents in the Graphics and View menus.

Transit chart operations

[.....Go to **Previous** transit chart

].....Go to **Next** transit chart.

=.....Go back to **First** transit chart.

House cusps operations:

<.....**Decrease** house cusps by one degree

>.....**Increase** house cusps by one degree.

@.....Go back to basic house cusps.

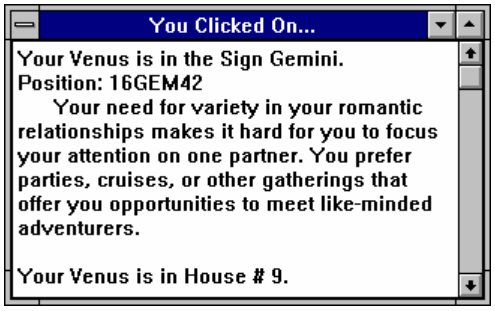
View operations:

Num + ... **Zoom In**. Same as View menu command *Zoom In*.

Num - ..... **Zoom Out.** Same as View menu command *Zoom Out*.

Num *..... **Zoom In.** Same as View menu command *Fit Window.*

You can copy the image to the clipboard by Selecting the Edit menu and the Copy menu item.

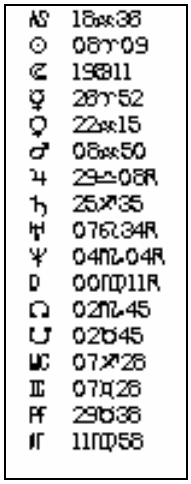


Graphics Popup

Double clicking on any planet, house or aspect glyph will bring up text telling you about that element of the chart. The same text is used that is used for the printed reports.

When working with compatibility charts, you may need to reverse the house cusps using Inner House Cusps to get the appropriate text.

When working with other two-wheel graphics and the house cusps are the natal house cusps, clicking on the birth planetary positions bring up natal text, and the other wheel the other text.



Planet Listing

On all Single wheel graphics, at the top right of the screen, a list of the planet positions is displayed.

Key With Address

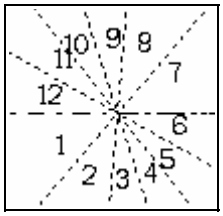
To set this up, go to the Options menu, advanced Optios choice.

Graphics Menu Commands.

Show Sign Names.

This menu command turns on or off the display of sign names in the graphics screen around the outside. If glyphs are being used, then glyphs will be used, otherwise the names will be used.

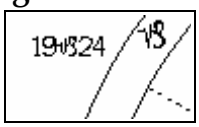
Show House Numbers.



Inside house numbers.

This menu command turns on or off the display of house numbers in the graphics screen around the outside or in the middle.

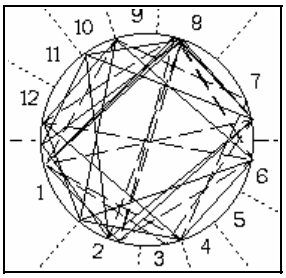
Show House Degrees.



House degrees.

This menu command turns on or off the display of house degrees in the graphics screen around the outside of the cartwheel.

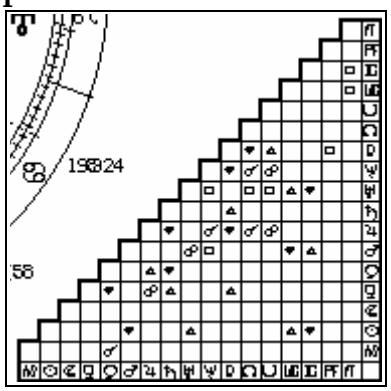
Show Aspects.



Aspect circle

This menu command turns on or off the display of aspect lines in the graphics screen in the middle of the wheel. Aspect lines are only shown in natal or relocated charts, where the charts are compiled with aspects.

Show Aspect Grid.



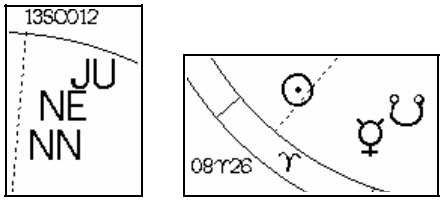
Aspect Grid.

This menu command turns on or off the display of an aspect grid. in the bottom right of the screen. An aspect grid are shown on any chart compiled with aspects which was compiled with this or a later version of ASTRO for Windows.

Use Next Chart.
Use Previous Chart.
Use First Chart.

Add when compiled with aspects, an aspect grid for each chart is displayed.

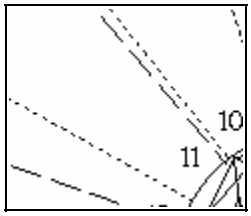
Use Glyphs.



No glyphs. Use glyphs.

This menu command turns on or off the use of glyphs in the graphics cartwheel.

Show Sign Lines.



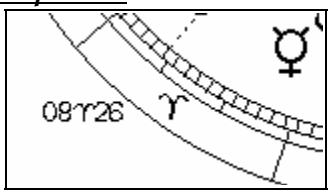
Dashed lines are sign lines,
dotted lines are house lines

This menu command turns on or off the display of sign lines in the graphics cartwheel.

Use Inner House Cusps.
Use Inner House Cusps.

This menu command selects which house cusps to display when displaying compatibility, or progressions cartwheels. When they are compiled with aspects, this menu command will also switch between multiple aspect grids.

Tick Wheel Options



Sign Tick Wheel.

This menu command turns on of off the display of sign tick wheels. A sign tick wheel is an outer circle showing the signs, and uses the glyphs.

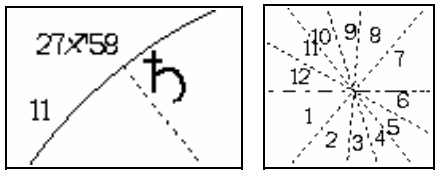
Decan Tick Wheel.

This menu command turns on of off the display of decan tick 2heels. A decan tick wheel is an outer circle, but inside the sign tick wheel, showing the decans of the signs.

Degree Tick Wheel.

This menu command turns on of off the display of degree tick wheels. A degree tick wheel is an outer circle, but inside the decan or sign tick wheel, showing the degrees.

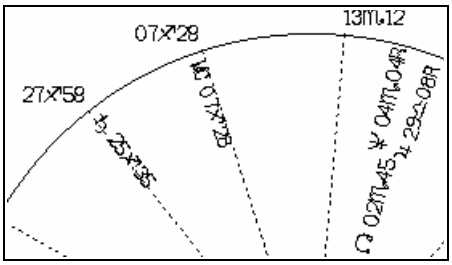
House Numbers Outside.



Plot outside. Plot inside.

This menu command selects whether to display the House Cusp Numbers outside the wheel or at the center of the wheel.

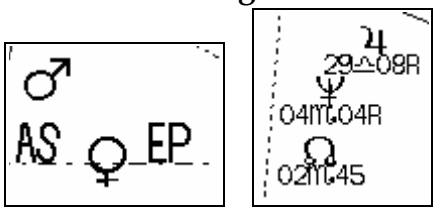
Plot Classic.



Plot classically.

his menu command selects whether to display the planets and sign degrees horizontally plotted approximately where they should be or display them on angles into the wheel.

Show Planet Degrees.



Don't show degrees. Show planet degrees.

This menu command turns on of off the display of planet degrees which will be plotted below the glyph, otherwise they are not plotted and the glyphs are plotted larger.

Use Next Chart.

When displaying transits charts, this menu command displays the next transit chart. If there are no more charts, the first is displayed. When compiled with aspects, an aspect grid for each chart is displayed.

Use Previous Chart.

When displaying transits charts, this menu command displays the previous transit chart. If the first chart is being displayed, the last is displayed. When compiled with aspects, an aspect grid for each chart is displayed.

Use First Chart.

When displaying transits charts, this menu command displays the first transit chart. When compiled with aspects, an aspect grid for each chart is displayed.

Decrease House Cusps.

This menu command decreases house cusps by one degree. This is useful for rectification.

Increase House Cusps.

This menu command increases house cusps by one degree. This is useful for rectification.

Use Regular House Cusps.

This menu command reverts the house cusps to the ones that are stored in the graphics file. This is useful for rectification.

View Menu Commands

Zoom In.

When the graphics screen is not in fit window mode, this menu command zooms the graphics screen in and enlarges the graphics screen.

Zoom Out.

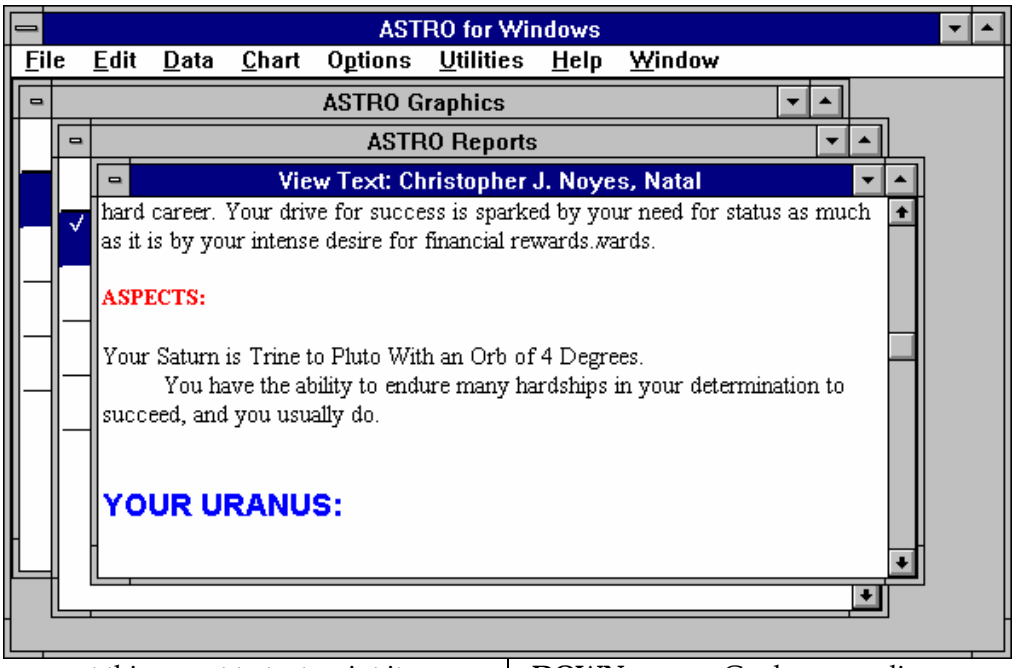
When the graphics screen is not in fit window mode, this menu command zooms the graphics screen out and reduces the graphics screen.

Fit Window.

This menu command turns on of off fit window mode. In fit window mode, the graphics screen is scaled to fit the window.

VIEWING TEXT REPORTS

Use this to view the text report files that ASTRO produces. If you wish to you can customize the colors and fonts that are used in the viewer.



You can convert this report to text, print it, create a comment file or create a cover page from the Files menu**.**

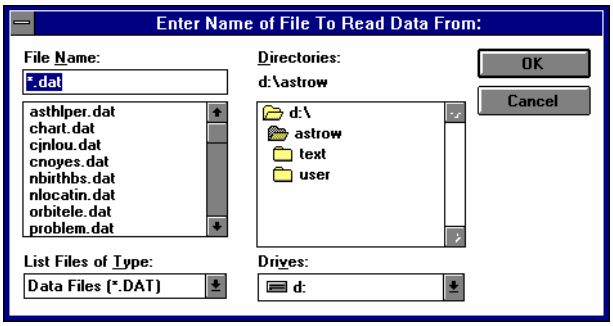
KEYS:

PAGEUP .....Go up one screen.
PAGE DOWN ..Go down one screen
DOWN .....Go down one line.
UP .....Go up one line.
HOME .....Go to the beginning of report.
END .....Go to the end of report.
LEFT .....Move cursor left.
RIGHT .....Move cursor right.
CTRL+P.....Print. Same as Files menu command *Print*.

FILES MENU

Open

Birth Data



File Open dialog box.

This menu item opens an existing birth data file. You are prompted for a file name of a file to open.

NOTE: Don't attempt to load any file that you did not save with Files/ Save Birth Data. You may also load the file ASTRODAT.DEF or the file ASTRODAT.HIS.

Close

This menu comand closes the current screen and the attached files. If the file has been changed and needs to be saved, you will be asked if you want to save them.

Save

Birth Data

This menu item saves the birth data in the dialog boxes to a file. This prompts you for a file name.

NOTE: If you want to have a set of data loaded into your system every time that ASTRO starts up, save it as ASTRODAT.DEF. You should save this to your user disk and directory, so don't use a path or disk. ASTRO saves the chart you were working on last in to the history file ASTRODAT .HIS, also in the user disk and directory.

File List

If you open an existing user file list, this menu item this saves the file list, otherwise ASTRO prompts you for a name for the file list.

Comment

If you are in a comment editor file, this menu item saves the file. Choose "Close" from the system menu.

Save As

Birth Data

This menu item saves the birth data in the dialog boxes to a file. This prompts you for a file name.

File List

If you have a User file list, this menu item prompts you for the name of a file list.

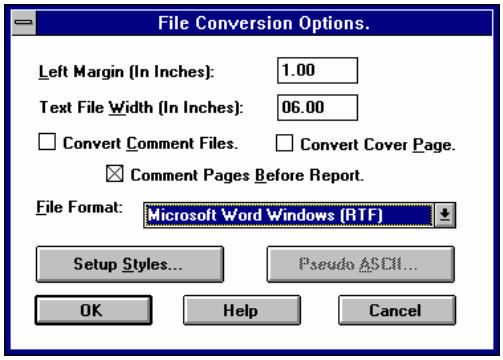
Export

This menu item exports the file in the file list you have selected. If you have selected a graphics file, a graphics file is exported. If you have selected a text file a text file is exported.

If you are in a graphics file viewer or in a text file viewer, the file that you are viewing is printed.

If you have checked multiple files and have the option in the Options menu "Print/Convert All Checked" checked this menu item converts all the files you selected.

This menu item prompts you for specific data about the file and prompts you for the file to write to.



Text File Export dialog box.

To convert files to text, you can setup different file formats. If you are using Microsoft Word for Windows, use RTF which you can setup the fonts to use using the setup styles button.

You can convert a file to either ASCII, WordStar™ 3.x or 4.x, WordPerfect™ 4.x or 5.x, XYWrite™, Microsoft Word™ RTF (Rich Text) or Lotus AMI Pro™ format. You can also save ASCII and XYWrite files without any soft line breaks. You can rebreak the file easier when you read it into your word processor, since soft and hard line breaks are the same. These files are saved with all attributes intact.

NOTE: When you save files saved in WordPerfect format, document default information such as printer, default font, or styles will not be saved to the file. This Information is written to the file when you save it from WordPerfect.

If you want font, printer and margin information saved to the file:

1. convert a file to WordPerfect format.

2. Edit the File in WordPerfect. format the file in WordPerfect so it is exactly the way you want it.
3. Insert at the start of the text the phrase ##START##.
4. Save the file.
5. Run the utility program, WP5TOHED, using the file you created and the file name **ASTRODEF.WP5**, using the command line **WP5TOHED file ASTRODEF.WP5** {ENTER} (where file is your file name).

If ASTRO finds a file called ASTRODEF.WP5, this file is used as a header for your file. WP5TOHED takes a formatted WordPerfect 5.0 document and turns it into a header file. Your report will start where you inserted **##START##** in the document. Everything after that is deleted.

Files saved in WordStar format do not have any font or printer setup information encoded in them. This information is added when the file is saved to the file when you save from WordStar.

You can setup fonts for files saved in Microsoft Word RTF or Lotus Ami Pro formats.

Files saved in XYWrite format have no printer, font, or setup information encoded in them. You may need to read and Insert a file into your default document to use it in XYWrite.

The files saved using this function are entirely unformatted without page breaks or headers. This file is, though, wrapped to whatever text width you wish, and has a left margin, making it easier for your word processing program to work with.

If you are converting to ASCII you can select between two different approaches. One is a plain ASCII, another is "smart" pseudo formatted ASCII. Most people prefer the plain ASCII. Plain ASCII has no formatting information. In "smart ASCII", the text Attributes are translated into strings that your can change from the "Word Processing Conversion dialog box".

The WWW HTML text converter also supports inserting files of text in HTML format into your reports at the head of the web page. If you are using style sheets and want to pick up the style for the standard text style surround your text with <DIV> and </DIV> tags. Add the following entry to your astrow.ini file where the directory and file name are the file that you want included. You can set this up in the Options/Advanced Options dialog

The WWW HTML text converter also supports inserting files of text in HTML format into your reports at the end of the web page. If you are using style sheets and want to pick up the style for the standard text style surround your text with <DIV> and </DIV> tags. Add the following entry to your astrow.ini file where the directory and file name are the file that you want included. You can set this up in the Options/Advanced Options Dialog.

View

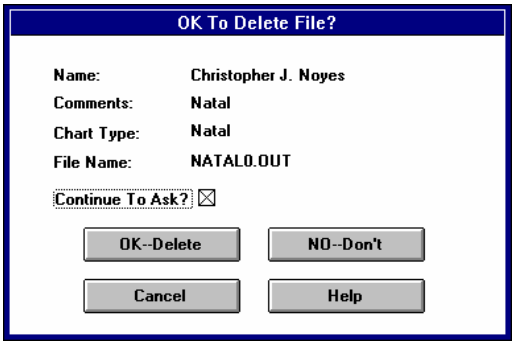
This menu item opens the viewer screen that corresponds to the type of the file in the file list you have selected.

Pressing {ENTER} in the file list screen or double clicking the mouse on the selected item has the same effect as selecting this menu item.

Edit

If you have selected a text file, when you chose this menu item, the file is exported to a text file and your selected editing program is opened with the file you selected.

Kill



Kill File dialog box.

Selecting this menu item kills the file from the file list and deletes the file from your disk. The above dialog box asks you if you want to delete the files.

If you have checked multiple files and have the option in the Options menu "Print/Convert All Checked" checked this menu item kills all the files you selected.

If you are killing multiple file and uncheck "Continue To Ask" and press the "OK" button, all the files will be deleted. If you press the "No" or "Cancel" button, no files will be killed.

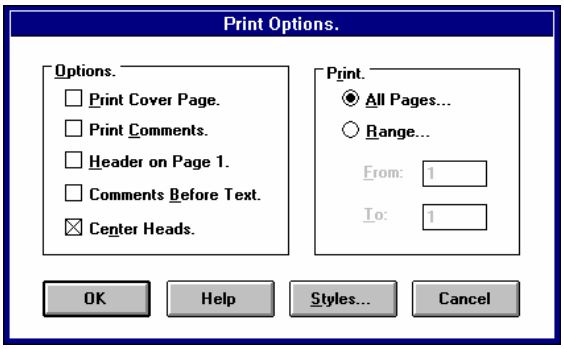
If you are killing multiple file and leave "Continue To Ask" checked, you will be prompted for each file.

Print

This menu item prints the file in the file list you have selected. If you have selected a graphics file, a graphics file is printed. If you have selected a text file a text file is printed.

If you are in a graphics file viewer or in a text file viewer, the file that you are viewing is printed.

If you have checked multiple files and have the option in the Options menu "Print/Convert All Checked" checked this menu item prints all the files you selected.

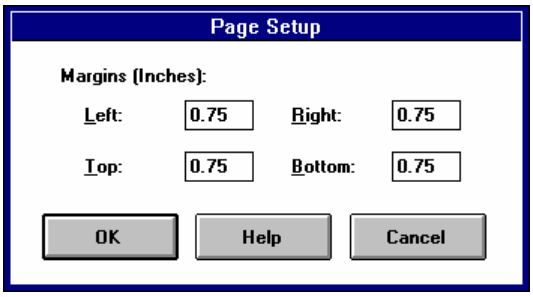


Print Options dialog box.

This menu item prompts you for specific data and options about the file.

You can select to print any range of pages

Page Setup



Page Setup dialog box.

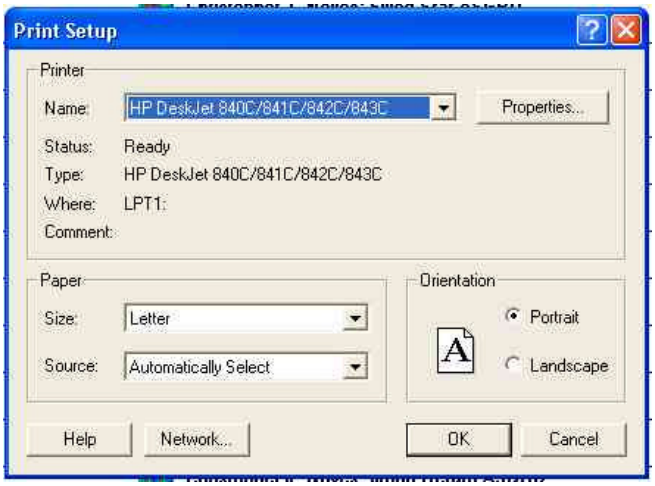
Graphics

This menu item sets up the margins for printing of graphics.

Text

This menu item sets up the margins for printing of the text reports, comment files and cover pages.

Print Setup

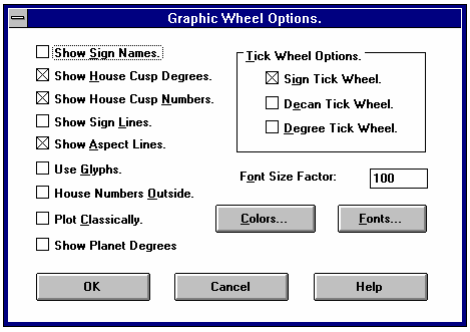


Printer Setup dialog box.

Graphics

This menu item lets you pick the printer that you use for printing graphics cartwheels. This can be a different printer or entirely different setup from the text.

Pressing the "Setup" button, opens your printer driver's setup dialog box which varies with printers.



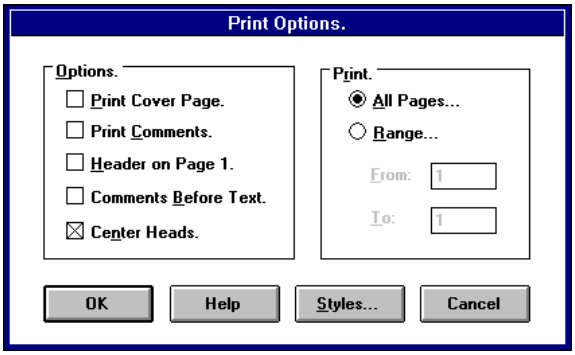
Graphics Options dialog box.

Pressing "Options" button, opens the Graphics Options dialog box which lets you customize the graphics printout.

Pressing the "Colors" button applies only to color printers and allows you to change the colors used. Clicking on the "Fonts" button, allows you to change the font used for the graphics cartwheels.

Text

This menu item lets you pick the printer that you use for printing text reports. This can be a different printer or entirely different setup from the graphics.



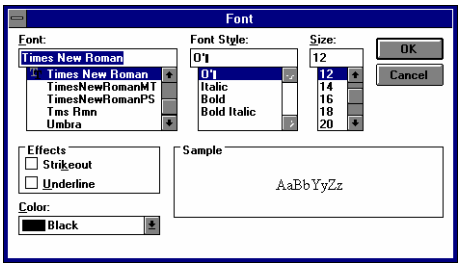
Print Options dialog box.

Pressing "Options" button, opens the Report Print dialog box which lets you customize the text printout.

Clicking on the "Styles" button, allows you to change the fonts for text printouts.

Report Styles dialog box.

Each button you press corresponds to a different font you can customize.



EDIT MENU

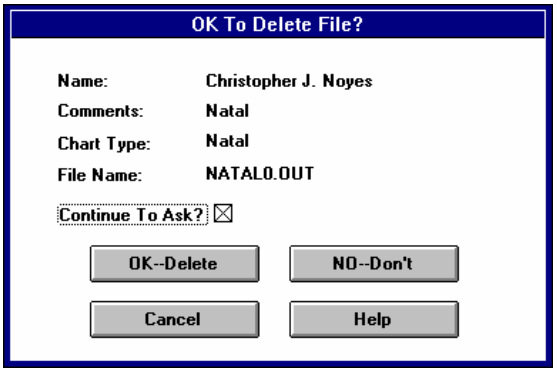
When you are in the file list viewer, comment file editor, text viewer or the graphic viewer, you can use the Edit menu to copy items and data to the clipboard or find text or items.

Undo

If you were in the file list viewer and chose cut or paste, the Undo menu item undoes the previous action.

Cut

In the file list viewer, you can delete a file from the file list or just delete the reference to it in this screen by selecting this menu item. You will be asked if you want to kill this file. If you do choose to delete the file, you will not be able to Undo this action.



Kill File dialog box.

Delete

In the file list viewer, you can delete a file from the file list or just delete the reference to it in this screen by selecting this menu item. You will be asked if you want to kill this file. If you do choose to delete the file, you will not be able to Undo this action.

ENTERING DATA:

You will use the "**Data**" menu choices to enter information on the dates in question and other data for transits, progressions, returns, etc. Most of the questions asked and information you will need to enter are really self-explanatory. You can get information for each field by pressing **{F1}** or clicking the mouse or pressing on the Help button This is how to use these dialog boxes:

Important Information.

Should you have trouble at any time with ASTRO, there are several things that you should remember. The following table describes some useful information.

{F1} ..... Get Help in any menu or data dialog box.
{ESC} *or* **{ESCAPE}** ..... Back out of any dialog box or series of screens to the main menu. Also cancel any entry choice.
{ENTER} ..... Close the screen as you had pressed the OK button.
{TAB} ..... Move Down through fields.
{SHIFT}+{TAB} ..... Move Up through fields

Database Fields.

In the "Info" type of field such as "Birth Info", several fields have databases attached. The first field (Person's Name) has a database of birth dates attached to that field.

Through that database, you can save the entire contents of this dialog box, by name, for whomever you wish to enter. The birth location (Country, State or Region, and Location) fields also have a database attached to them. This database has only the location data such as longitude, latitude, and time zone. You can instantly make use of these databases by using the combo box control while in the Name, Country, State, or Location fields.

In the case of the location fields, ASTRO will only read the data from the database once you have used the combo box on the location field itself. The location fields are "hierarchical". This means that first you select a country. Then ASTRO shows you all the states or regions available from that country. After you select that state or region, ASTRO displays all the locations in that region.

Finding Information in the Database.

The easiest way to find information in the database is with the combo box controls in the dialog boxes. You can select from any available choices with these controls.

You can also find partial data in the database by entering just part of it. If you were looking for a person's birth data and didn't quite remember the spelling of their last name you could enter what you remembered of the last name. Suppose you had "John MacNeil" in your database and wanted to find his data you could enter "John", "John M", or "John Mac" and might find the information. This depends on how many other entries are in the database that are similar.

NOTE: These databases do not allow more than one identical entry with the same key field.

Database Menus.

The Birth Menu.

In this version, the database menus are only existing for compatibility, the program will insert and update the database automatically when you hit the OK button.

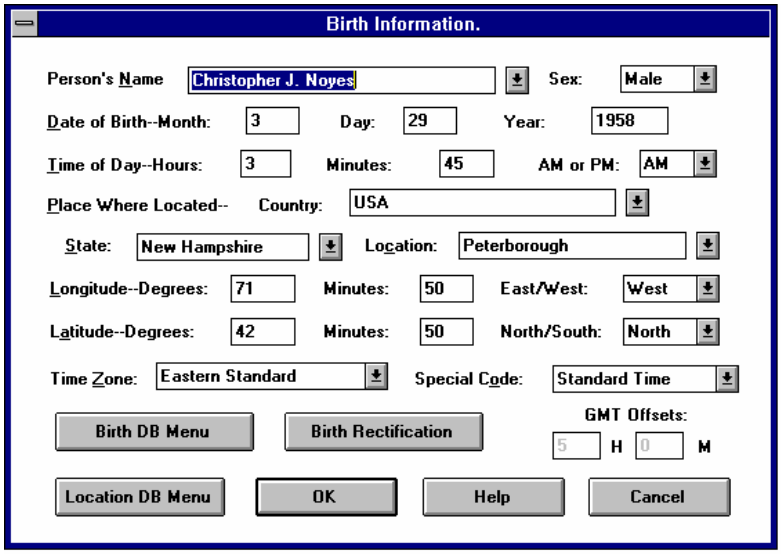
The databases have menus that you can use to get information, add records, update records, and delete records. There is a database menu for the birth database and there is a menu for the location database.

To get to the birth database, click on the "Birth DB Menu" button. This database uses the person's name field as the key to the database. ASTRO uses this field to find the information you want.

If you indicate in the Birth Rectification dialog box, which you don't know the birth time, ASTRO saves the birth rectification information to the database as well. You can get to the appropriate rectification dialog box, by selecting the "Birth Rectification" button at the bottom of the dialog box.

To get to the location database, press on the "Location DB Menu" button. This database uses a combined key made up of the country, state and location fields. You will also notice at the bottom of the dialog box. A button marked "Location DB Menu". Pressing this button will select the database as well.

NOTE: You can get access the ACS Atlas from the Location Menu if you have the computerized ACS Atlas installed. You can also get longitude or latitude from a Zip code. There is also in the utilities menu a ;page of reference Maps.

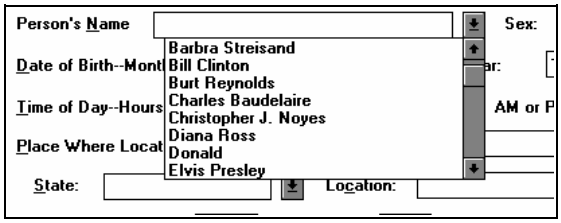


The Birth Info dialog box.

Birth Info.

Use this dialog box to enter the main birth data needed for doing a birth or Natal horoscope. Enter the data on this dialog box that gives the person's name, sex, birth date and time, place of birth and geographic latitude and longitude as well as time zone and adjustment.

Combo box selection button.



Selecting a birth.

This field has two powerful databases attached to the Name, Country, State or Region, and Location fields. If you click on the down arrow key at the right side of the Name, Country, State, or Location fields, you will call up a list of available choices in the database. If you wish to add information to the databases, fill in the information on the dialog box. Then click on the "Birth DB Menu" button for the birth database menu or click on the "Location DB Menu" button for the location database menu.

This will bring up a menu. You can use these menus to add, delete and replace information in the databases. In order to update the lists that you see when you access them, you need to run "Make Pop-ups" in the Utilities menu.

If you are adding to the Birth Database, you can find "Make Popups" for the birth database brought up by clicking the "Birth DB Menu" button.

You can clear this dialog box so you can begin with a blank dialog box by clicking the "Birth DB Menu" button and choose the "Clear" menu choice.

It is important to know as much information about the person that you are going to analyze. You need to know birth time, date and place of birth. You also need to know the prevailing time zones being used at the time.

NOTE: Beware entering times around Noon and Midnight! Serious users will want to consult a reference such as *The American Atlas* or *The International Atlas*. These books are published by ACS Publications of San Diego, CA. These books contain exact birth location and applicable time zone data.

Use the Time Zone field to set the proper time zone for the person in question. Try to be as certain as possible. This is crucial and some locations differ from one year to another. In some locations, time zones change between town and county lines. If you don't know the time zone but do know the offset from GMT select "Other".

Use the Special Code field to set the proper special time code field. Try to be certain as daylight time changes from year to year, and is different

between towns, counties and states. If you don't know this zone but you know how the GMT offset, choose "Other".

You can't alter the GMT offset unless Time Zone and Special Code fields are set to "Other".

If you did not select "Other" in the Time Zone and Special Code fields, ASTRO will fill in the GMT field for you. You won't be able to override this field unless you had set the Time Zone or Special Code fields to "Other". The adjustment for War Time, Daylight Saving Time, etc. is added to the basic GMT offset. Locations West of Greenwich are have positive GMT offsets, East, negative GMT offsets.

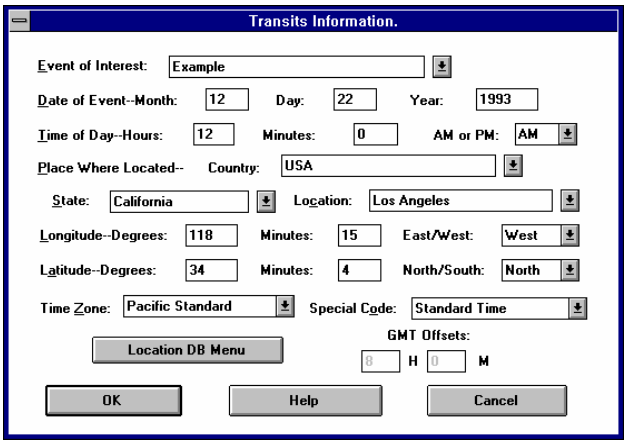
NOTE: Enter only the normal clock offset from GMT, such as Eastern Standard time is five hours from GMT. ASTRO makes the minor fine adjustments to GMT for you

Compatibility Info.

Use this dialog box to enter the data for your partner. The compatibility operation uses the birth info dialog box as well as this dialog box to get the information needed to do your compatibility chart. Enter the data on this dialog box to indicate the person's name, sex, birth date and time, place and geographic latitude of birth (of the partner) and longitude. You also need the time zone and adjustment. It is important to know as much information about the couple you are going to analyze. You need to know birth time, date and place of birth as well as the prevailing time zones being used at the time. See the Birth Info dialog box for more information.

You can clear this dialog box so you can begin with a blank dialog box by clicking the "Birth DB Menu" button and choose the "Clear" menu choice.

Transits Info.



The Transits Info dialog box.

Transit charts compare the planet positions for a series of future dates to your birth planet positions, and tell you about the events at hand. The transit information is now stored in the database and can be retrieved and is tied to the person's birth information by the person's name, and the event name provides a way to select from multiple transit records.

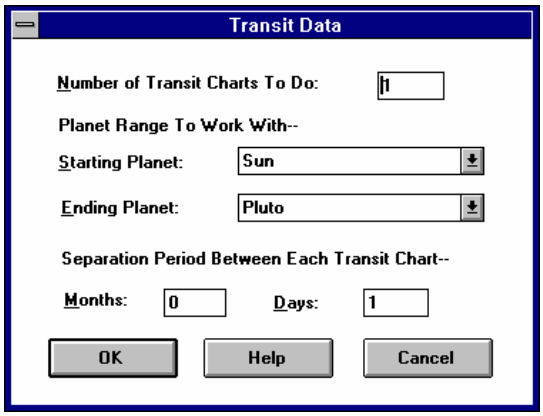
Use this dialog box to enter the description for the event, the starting date and location for your transit computation. This operation uses your birth info and this dialog box to do the transits along with the Transits Data dialog box. Enter the data on this dialog box that shows place, date and time, place and geographic latitude and longitude, where you anticipate being, as well as time zone and adjustment. The information entered into this dialog box does not need to be as exact as for the above dialog boxes.

You can clear the location section of this dialog box by clicking on the "Location DB Menu" and selecting "Clear".

See the Birth Info dialog box for more information on this screen.

NOTE: This dialog box indicates a starting point for a series of transits. ASTRO calculates transits as a series of charts, a certain period apart.

Transits Data.



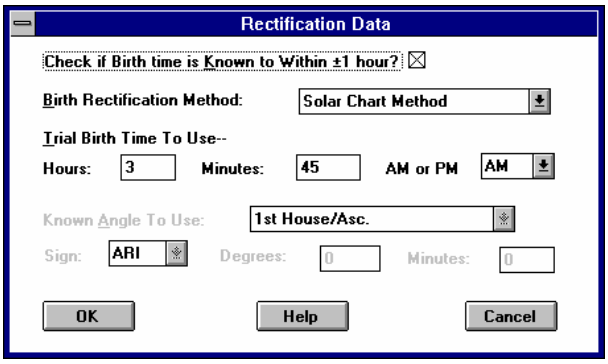
The Transits Data dialog box.

This dialog box is used with the Transits Info dialog box and the Birth Info dialog box to do transit chart. This dialog box allows the program to calculate a series of transit charts at one time for a specific period of time and a specific interval period. This will allow ASTRO to work with only a specific range of planets. The first chart though prints all planets.

The Sun, Moon, Mercury and Mars are personal planets and effect mostly your moods. Jupiter and Saturn are less personal and produce mostly long term inner urges. The Outer planets Uranus, Neptune and Pluto have global effects on the entire world. Pluto for example has been used to predict Earthquakes.

If you are doing transits one day apart, you will want to narrow your planet selection to Sun - Mars. If you are doing transits one week apart, you will want your planet range to be Sun – Mars.

Birth Rectification.



The Birth Rectification dialog box.

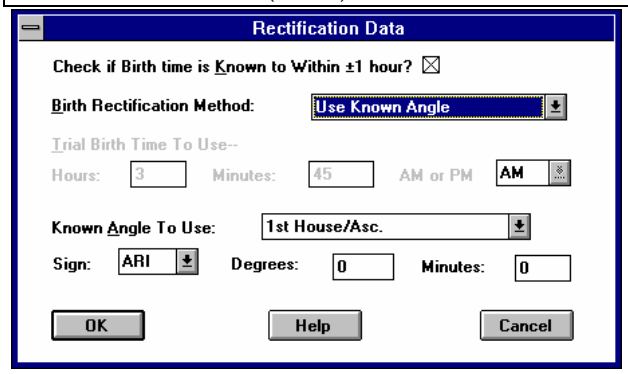
Use this dialog box if you do not know the exact birth time of the person you are using for primary birth data. Enter what you do know, or select how to calculate the chart to get the best results, even though you don't have the exact information. If you know the exact birth time, you don't need this chart, so check the first check box and exit the dialog box by clicking the "OK" button.

If you don't know the exact birth time, you have several different choices. You can choose "Trial and Error". This means you try a given time and see how it fits the individual. Then you try it again till you get the result you want.

You can choose "Solar Chart" that sets your Ascendant and first house cusp to be the same as your sun sign.

You can choose "Flat Chart" which sets your Ascendant and first house cusp to be zero degrees of Aries. You can also try "Sunrise Birth time", and enter the best guess of the appropriate sunrise time. This is similar to "Trial and Error". This frequently works since many people are born near sunrise.

NOTE: If you are using Flat Chart or Solar Chart, you should use 12:00 AM (Noon) for the Trial Birth time.



ASTRO supports a powerful rectification option. If you can figure out accurately the subject's Ascendant, Med. Coeli, Descendant or any house cusp, fill in the blanks and ASTRO will arrive at a close approximation of the birth time. The accuracy seems to be ±5 minutes of time. You may have to tweak the resulting time and retry it. You can find out the time ASTRO arrived at by looking at the trial field after ASTRO compiles the chart.

Compatibility Birth Rectification.

If you do not know the exact birth time of the person you are using for compatibility birth data, use this dialog box to enter what you do know or how to calculate the chart. This will help you get the best results even though you don't have the exact information. See the above material for more information.

COMPILING CHARTS

Now that you have entered your data into the data dialog boxes are ready to compile a horoscope. With exception of the first choice, (default chart) they are grouped from simpler to more difficult in terms of data. The later charts produce more data and more text (with exception of the compatibility, transits, and progressions, returns, relocations or composite choices). The simpler ones may be better for a person with less experience in understanding astrology. With some practice and learning, most of the information on the charts will be useful.

The progressions, returns, relocations, and composite charts may be more useful for users who have more astrological background.

Certain aspects of these charts will be based on the Options dialog boxes in the Options sub menu. There is an option dialog box for each of the major chart types, though most of the information will be adequate without changing the data in these dialog boxes.

Filling in Information for a File.

With this version of ASTRO, the program also generates a grid report file, which can display the chart in a numeric grid form with the aspects and midpoints in a grid format. In the Professional program, you can choose whether to use an interpretive text style for displaying the chart data, which is more wordy, or a non-interpretive style which is much more terse which only gives the facts. Some reports may have facilities for text added that can be included in the report when turning on the interpretive style`.

With all these options, ASTRO asks you to fill in information to mark the file entry with for this chart. This information will help you identify this chart in the file listing. You may edit or change this information as you wish, with exception for the Type field, which is for your information only, and may not be changed.

Once you have compiled a chart, you can change the name and comment lines as well. This information will help you keep track of what you have on file.

You will notice that in most of these menu items, each menu item adds one or more options to it. One or more of the items that were options in the previous menu item, are now standard in the next menu item.

There are two choices that will produce a file that is more manageable in length. One produces a chart using Basic Midpoints. This gives you the most important midpoints. Second, in the option dialog box, you can select Half Midpoints Only and half as much information will be presented. For each pair of planets there is two midpoints, 180 degrees apart.

Default Chart.

This menu item produces a chart that directly reflects the contents of the options data. The chart that this menu item produces is a complete one, and I suggest that only advanced astrologers use it. You can customize this menu item by changing the options dialog box. The most powerful aspect of this menu item is that you can practically create a custom horoscope setup as your default treatment and use it as a default all the time if you wish.

NOTE: For this type of chart, you need to fill in the Birth Info dialog box and the Birth Rectification dialog box.

Birth Signs Only.

This provides the least complex chart available. It provides only information on the individual planets locations in the zodiac at a given point in time. ASTRO also provides descriptive text about this information (you can turn this off from the options dialog box). You will also find a summary that you can turn off from the options dialog box as well.

NOTE: For this type of chart, you need to fill in the Birth Info dialog box and the Birth Rectification dialog box.

Birth Signs & Houses.

This menu item provides all the information as does the previous one does, but adds the house information. This menu item provides the houses that each planet falls into, and descriptive text about each one. ASTRO also provides the coordinates of each house cusp. Also provided is information on which signs the various house cusps fall in, and text describing what each means to you.

NOTE: For this type of chart, you need to fill in both the Birth Info dialog box and the Birth Rectification dialog box.

Birth Signs, Houses & Aspects.

Use this menu item if you want to add aspects to your chart. This will produce aspects between all major points and produce text about each. You can also add other miscellaneous calculations into this type of printout from the options dialog box. This information is on top of all the information provided by the other two options.

When you choose to compile this chart, you will see a dialog box from which you can customize a chart. You can change the options, progress it, relocate it, and control the type of chart that ASTRO produces for it.

NOTE: For this type of chart, you need to fill in both the Birth Info dialog box and the Birth Rectification dialog box.

Numeric Chart.

This is like the Default Chart above with the exception that it displays only the numeric facts without any text. ASTRO displays this data in a more concise, exact notation. Some users may find this cryptic, though others may find useful. You can configure the output generated by this function from The Numeric Birth Options dialog box.

When you choose to compile this chart, you will see a dialog box with which you can customize this chart. You can change the options, progress it, relocate it, and control the type of chart that ASTRO produces for it.

NOTE: For this type of chart, you need to fill in both the Birth Info dialog box and the Birth Rectification dialog box.

Other Charts

Compatibility.

This menu item calculates a compatibility chart. ASTRO calculates the compatibility chart by comparing two full charts. This menu item calculates which house of one partner, the other's planets are located in, and vice versa. ASTRO also can generate aspects for compatibility charts.

It also calculates a special summary comparing the two individuals based on the summary. As with all the other menu items, ASTRO produces text describing the influences of all the information described.

When you choose to compile this chart, you will see a dialog box from which you can customize this chart. You can change the options, progress it, relocate it, and control the type of chart that ASTRO produces for it.

NOTE: For this type of chart, you need to fill in the Birth Info dialog box and the Birth Rectification dialog box for the main subject and Compatibility Info dialog box and Compatibility Rectification dialog box for the subject's partner.

Transits.

This menu item calculates a series of transit charts. ASTRO calculates the transit charts from the comparison of a birth chart and a transit chart. ASTRO calculates a series of charts based on a starting date and a date interval between that date and the next date. The dates and times in the Transit Info dialog box don't have to be as exact as the birth dialog boxes require. The time and exact latitude and longitude are optional, but they do help refine the data.

When you choose to compile this chart, you will see a dialog box with which you can customize this chart. You can change the options, progress it, relocate it, and control the type of chart that ASTRO produces for it.

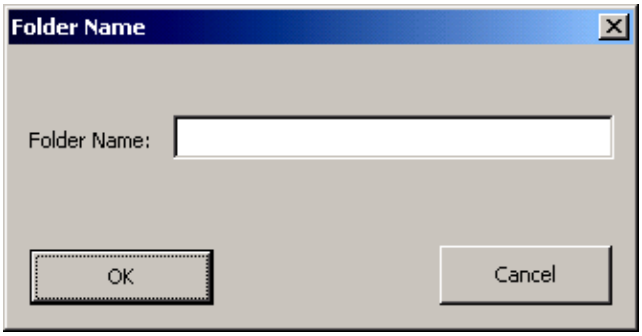
NOTE: For this type of chart, you need to fill in the Birth Info dialog box and the Birth Rectification dialog box for the subject along with the Transits Info dialog box for the first date and Transits Data dialog box.

Folders

Astro For Windows now organizes charts under folders. You can compile charts to specific folders and be able to choose which folder you wish to view. Folders are managed in terms of directories or file folders within your user directory. If you change the current folder, all charts by default will be compiled there and only those charts in that folder will be displayed, printed etc.

Create Folder

In this screen type the name of the Folder that you want to create

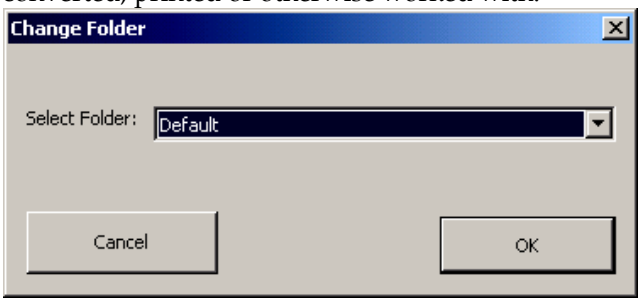


Rename Folder

In this screen, you select the folder you type in a new name for the folder, it must be a name that does not already exist under the user directory

Change Current Folder

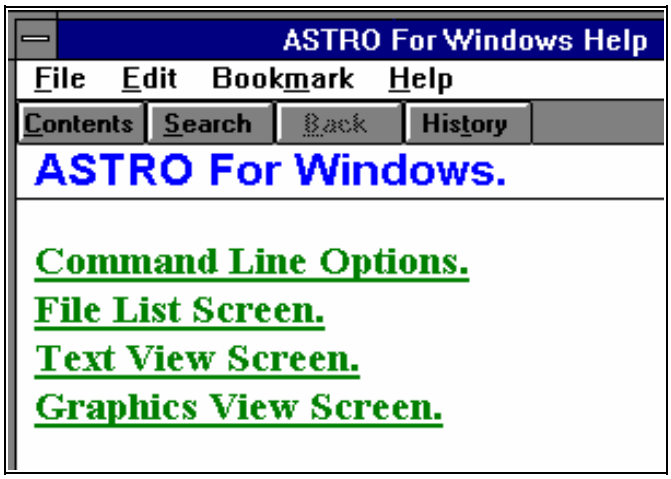
This screen allows you to change the folder which all the charts are displayed fromm and saved to and converted, printed or otherwise worked with.



GETTING HELP

You can get help in any screen, dialog box, or menu item by pressing {**F1**} or clicking on the Help button in any dialog box. To get help on a menu item, select a menu item with the mouse and press {**F1**}.

Contents



Help Contents

This menu item opens the ASTRO help file and selects the contents page.

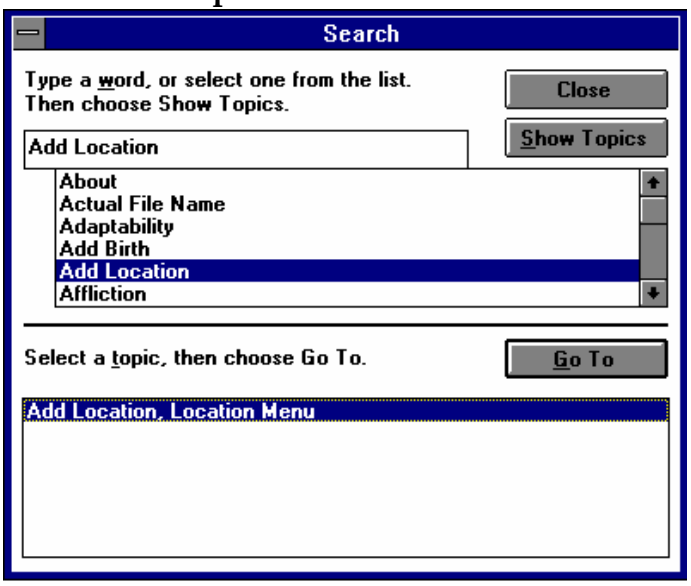
To view the help, click the mouse on the underlined topic to view that text.

While in the help system, clicking the "Contents" button above will cause this screen to be displayed.

Clicking "History" allow you to view topics you viewed previously.

Clicking "Search" will bring up the dialog box on the right side of this page.

Search for Help on



Search For Help on Dialog Box.

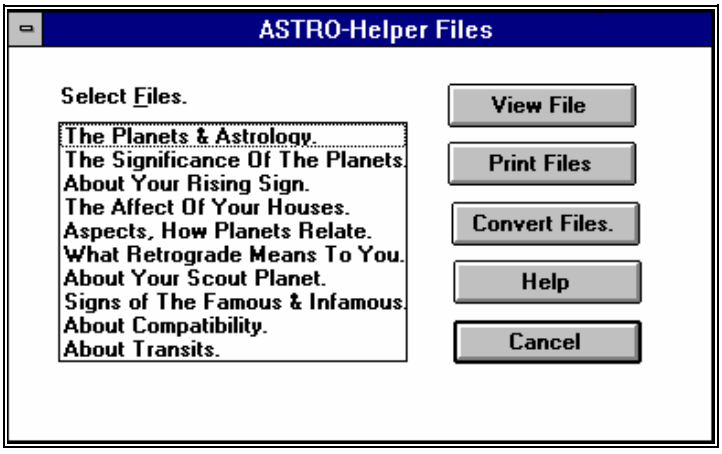
This menu item opens the ASTRO help file and opens the Search dialog box.

To use this dialog box, select a topic from the list, click "Show Topics", select the topic you wanted, press the button, "Go To".

How to Use Help

This menu item opens the help for WINHELP.EXE, the Windows Help program.

Astrology Help



ASTRO-Helper Dialog Box

Astrology Help or ASTRO-Helper is a system of astrology topics that you can view, print or convert to text.

View File.

The Astro-Helper files are reference files on disk that you can use to learn basic astrological ideas.

This button will view the file that is selected or surrounded by a dotted line.

Print Files.

This allows you to print out the Astro-Helper files to your printer. This will allow you to print copies of these files to give to people you create charts for.

This button will print all the files that you select.

Convert Files.

This allows you to convert the Astro-Helper files to a file format you can use with your word processor. This will allow you to modify it or extend this file before printing copies of these files to give to people you create charts for.

This button will convert all the files that you select.

ASTRO UTILITIES

These are functions and utilities, which you can use to help you with ASTRO.

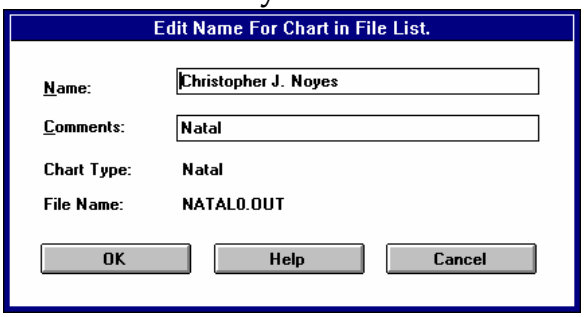
Read File Into Data.

This function allows you to read one of ASTRO's compiled files and get the original birth information back into the data dialog boxes. This function brings the information back into the dialog boxes that they were earlier associated with. It will not read natal birth data back into the compatibility dialog box.

Clear File List Selection.

This menu item clears the check marks in the file list. You can print, convert or kill all the files that are checked.

Edit File List Entry.



Edit File List Entry dialog box.

This menu item allows you to edit the name and comments in the file list. Select a file from the list, choose this menu item and you will edit the file name and comments and save it.

Rebuild File List.

If you have archived files off to other disks and now wish to use them again, this menu item will help. Copy your files to your user directory. Use this menu item to add the files to the file list. This menu item will scan for ASTRO For Windows and ASTRO DOS version 2.25+ file headers in all files in the User directory.

Sort File Listing.

If You have deleted files from the file list and wish to keep it around after you quit ASTRO and want it to be in order, use this function. This menu item sorts the file on the person's name on the chart, and places them in alphabetical order. Just select this menu item to run it.

Compress Database

This menu item compacts the database files and removes free and deleted records from it.

Backup Database

This menu item compacts the database files to a new name your original database i.e. astrow.mdb would besaved to astrowbackup.mdb. If you need restore the database, go into the astro for windows user/database directory, usually My Documents\Astro For Windows, rename astrow.mdb, something else, and rename, astrowbackup.mdb astrow.mdb

Reference Maps

If you have access to the internet, this option will bring you to some internet reference maps for longitude, latitude and time zone. It can also bring you to an internet longitude, latitiude, time zone lookup facility.

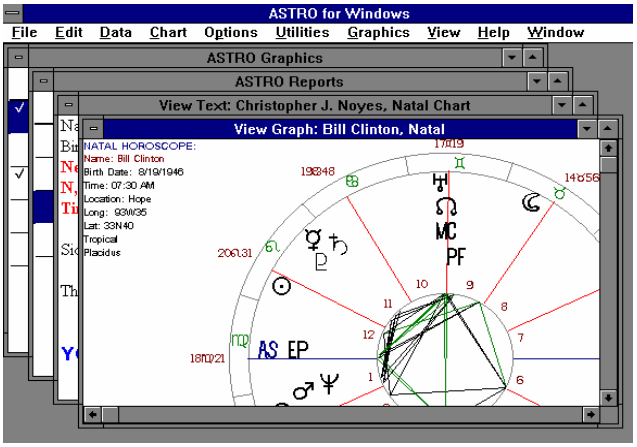
MANAGING WINDOWS

The Windows menu lets you manage ASTRO's windows.

Arrange.

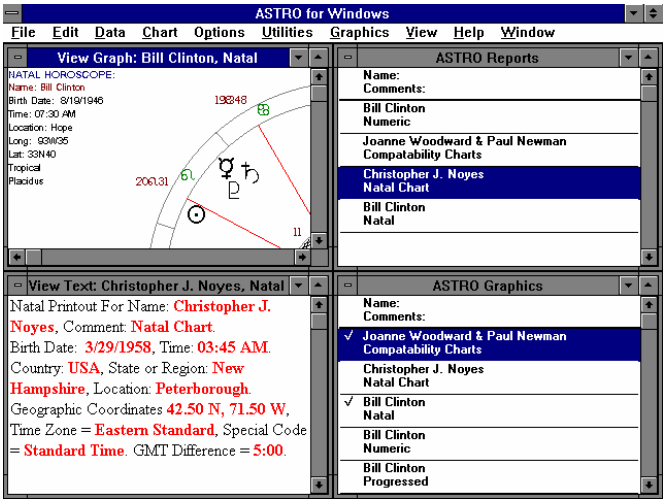
This menu command rearranges the icons for the minimized windows in ASTRO For Windows

Cascade



This menu command cascades all the windows on the screen overlapped.

Tile



This menu command Tiles all the windows on the screen. Tiling windows makes them all visible, but smaller so they all can fit on the screen at the same time.

Graphic Files

You won't see this menu command unless you have closed the "ASTRO Graphics" file list viewer. This menu item reopens the "ASTRO Graphics" file list viewer.

Text Reports

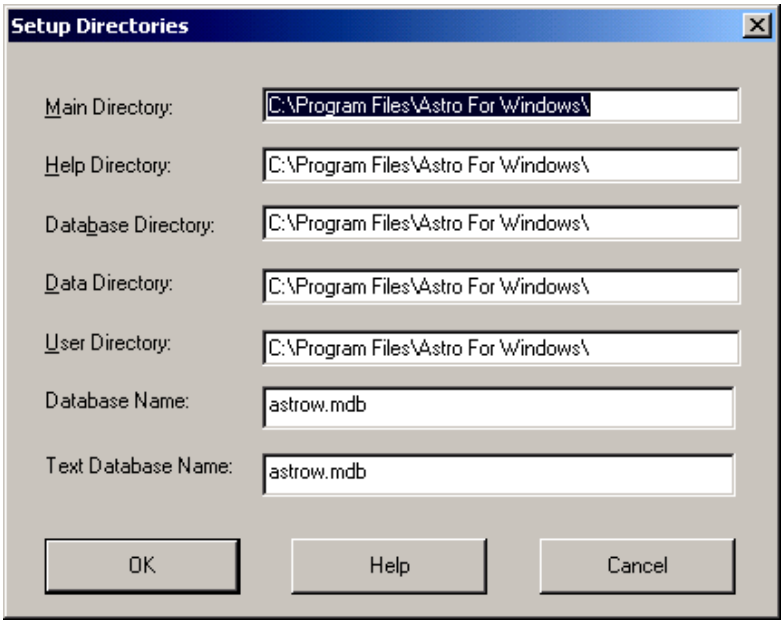
You won't see this menu command unless you have closed the "ASTRO Reports" file list viewer. This menu item reopens the "ASTRO Reports" file list viewer.

USING OPTIONS

Use these dialog boxes to change the setup and defaults that ASTRO uses when horoscopes are created. You can also use the Options menu items to change disk and directory choices, and other options.

You can setup options for each major type of horoscope independently. You can setup many different types of characteristics to customize or setup a default type of setup.

Setup.



The Setup dialog box.

This dialog box allows you to customize disk and directory usages.

The Program Directory is where ASTRO itself, and the utility programs are found. These files end with .EXE and .DLL.

The Help Directory is where the help file and the Astro-Helper files are found. These files end with .HLP.

The Database directory is where the database files are located. These are files for the Birth and Location database. These files end with .DAT, .NDX and .LST.

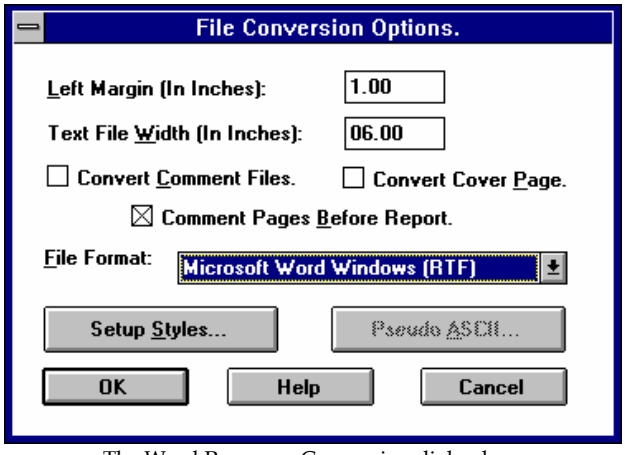
The Data Directory is where the files that produce ASTRO's text is found. These files end with .TXT, .NDX, .TBL, .ORB or .DAT. Note there is one .NDX file for every .TXT file of the same main name.

The User Directory is where the charts that ASTRO compiles are written. If you convert a file to a text file, or print to a disk file, ASTRO writes that file to the user directory unless you say otherwise. When You save and load the birth data, you save and load from this directory unless you say otherwise.

The Database Name is the Access Database that is used for text sources and the birth and location database.

Text Database Name is the Access Database that is used for generating the reports, this can be different to support alternate texts.

Word Processor Conversion Setup.



The Word Processor Conversion dialog box.

This dialog box allows you to customize the way ASTRO converts files to word processing and ASCII. The following strings don't have any effect on word processing conversion other than ASCII conversions.

Conversion. This is your default standard word processing conversion. Pick one that your favorite word processor supports. This will most likely either be one of the two WordStar types, one of the two WordPerfect Choices, Microsoft Word, or several types of ASCII. Many Windows Based word Processors will accept .RTF
type files as well.

If you are using ASCII, you can eliminate the soft line breaks and only have the paragraph/hard line breaks in the file. Using this setting, may make reformatting easier, once it gets into your word processor.

Column Width. This is the width, in inches and hundredths of an inch. You would enter a 6-1/2 inch width as 6.50. When converting to certain word processors, this will be based on 10 pitch or 10 characters per inch. Setting the column width to 6.50, the column width would be 65 columns.

NOTE: The file conversion does not concern itself with fonts. If You are using a laser printer you should set the font, provide settings and reformat the document once you are in your word processing program.

Left Indent. This is the width, in inches and hundredths of the left margin. You would enter a 1 inch left margin as 1.00. When converting to certain word processors, this will be based on 10 pitch or 10 characters per inch.

If you have 8-1/2" wide paper, and want a one inch margin and the text to be 6-1/2 inch wide, you would set these two fields as suggested here. This will give you a one inch right margin.

Print Cover Page. If you check this check box, cover pages are printed if they exist.

Print Comment Page. If you check this check box, comment pages are printed if they exist.

Print Comment before Text Page. This sets the default that the printing dialog box is set to when you select files to print. If you check this check box, ASTRO prints the comments before the chart and after a cover page.

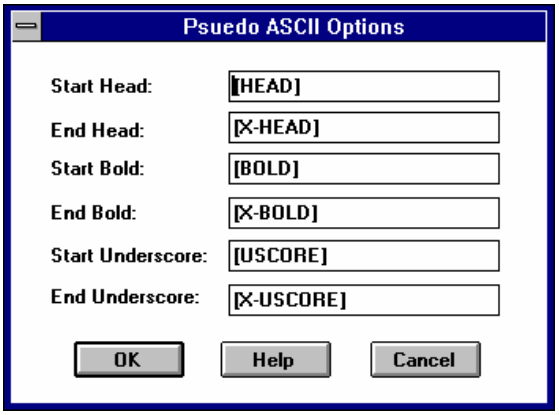
Setup Styles.

Report Styles dialog box.

If you choose this button and you are using Microsoft RTF as your conversion for Word For Windows for example, you can customize the fonts that are used. Each button corresponds to a font you can change.

Pseudo ASCII.

Most people will choose to use the Plain ASCII conversion. The Pseudo ASCII conversion converts the Bold, underline codes to specific strings that you can specify.



The Pseudo ASCII dialog box.

Start String. This string marks the start of main heads in the file.

End Head String. This string marks the end of main heads in the file. This must turn off what the previous command turned on.

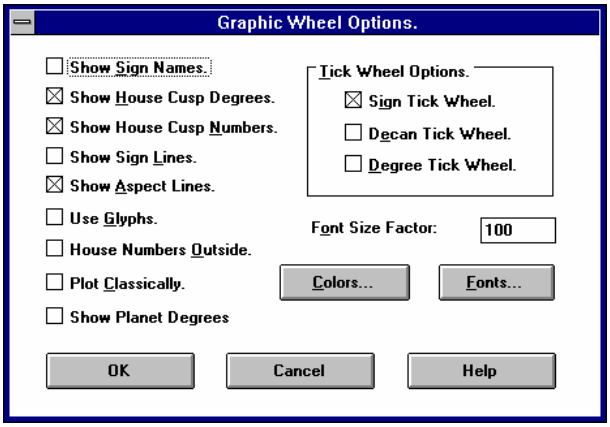
Start Bold String. This string marks the start of bold face in the file.

End Bold String. This string marks the end of bold face in the file. This must turn off what the previous command turned on.

Start Underscore String. This string marks the beginning of underscore or italics.

End Underscore String. This string marks the end of underscore or italic started above function.

Graphic Options



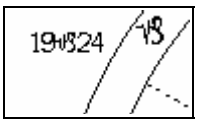
The Graphics Options dialog box.

This dialog box sets up how a default cartwheel is displayed. It also sets up how a cartwheel is printed

In these fields, check a box to turn on an option, depending on how you want these options dealt with.

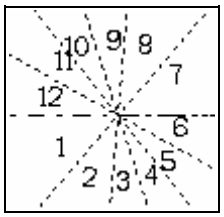
Show Sign Names. This turns on or off display of the sign Names around the dialog box. When glyphs are used, these symbols are displayed as glyphs. This is more useful for beginners, particularly if only the signs are displayed.

This option may also not want to be used because it clutters up the dialog box when combined with the house cusp number and house cusp degrees.



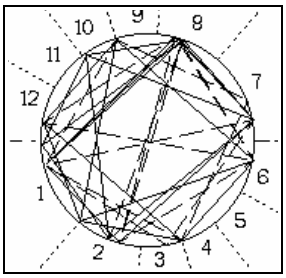
House degrees**.**

Show House Cusp Degrees. This turns on or off display of the degrees of each house cusp. These are placed at each house cusp. This will be useful for most people knowledgeable about astrology.



Inside house numbers.

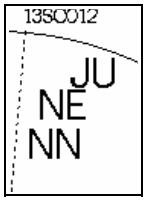
Show House Cusp Numbers. This turns on or off display of the house numbers. These are placed midway between each pair of house cusp. This is useful and one of the more used options.



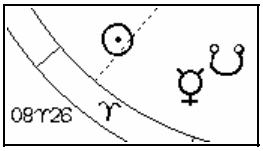
Aspect circle.

Show Aspect Lines. In a natal or numeric chart which was compiled using compile natal chart signs, houses and aspects or greater, or you compiled default chart with aspects turned on, lines showing the aspects will be drawn in the middle of the dialog box. These are useful for seeing the types of aspects involved.

If the chart does not have any aspects, the inner aspect circle won't be drawn and no aspects will be drawn.

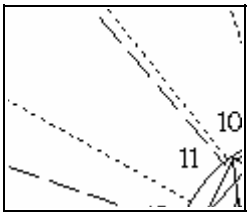


No glyphs.



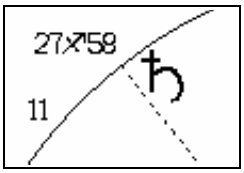
Use glyphs.

Use Glyphs. This switches between the use of the classical astrological glyphs and two and three letter abbreviations for the signs and planets. The glyphs display more neatly and cleanly, and once you know all the signs, this is the way to display charts. A novice can use the abbreviations until they are comfortable and switch over to the glyphs.

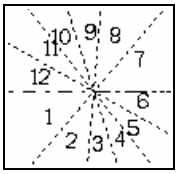


Dashed lines are sign lines, dotted lines are house lines.

Show Sign Lines. Shows or hides the display of the sign divisions on the dialog box. If a novice and you are only displaying the planets in the signs you will want this option.

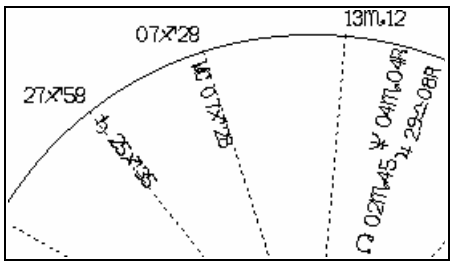


Plot outside.



Plot inside.

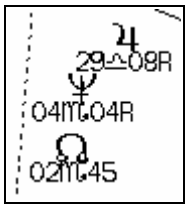
House Numbers Outside. Checking this option will place the House numbers outside the circles. In multiple wheel charts, you may want to choose this option. You may also want this option to produce charts that match earlier charts produced by ASTRO.



Plot classically.

Plot Classically. Checking this option causes the planets glyphs, and degrees to be plotted on a diagonal the same as the degrees.

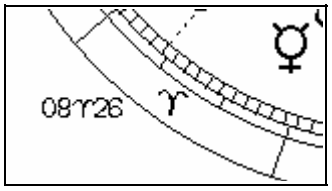
Don't show degrees.



Show planet degrees

Show Planet Degrees. If you check this option the plane degrees will be plotted below the glyph, otherwise they are not plotted and the glyphs are plotted larger.

Tick Wheel Options.

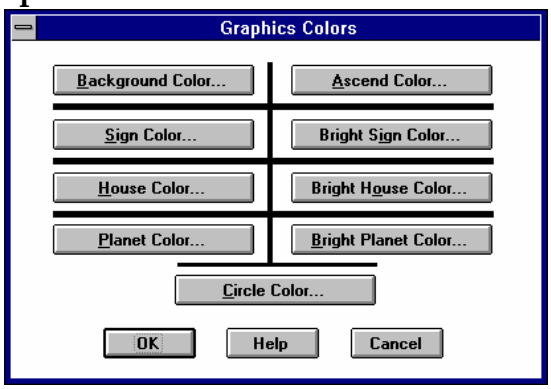


Sign Tick Wheel. If you check this option, an outside wheel is drawn with the sign glyphs.

Decan Tick Wheel. If you check this option, an outside wheel is drawn with ticks marked for the sign decans, inside the sign tick wheel if shown and outside the degree tick wheel is shown. A decan is 10 degrees.

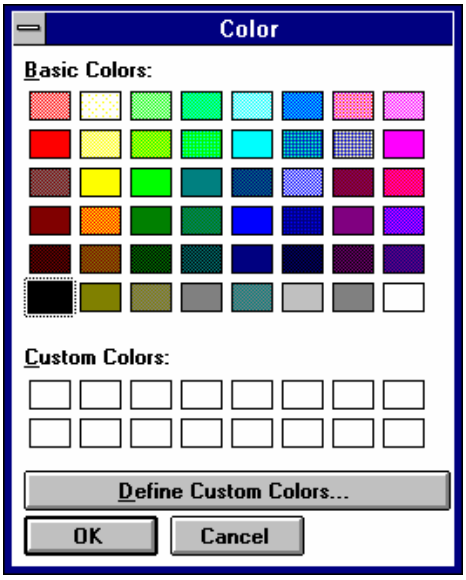
Degree Tick Wheel. If you check this option, an outside wheel is drawn with ticks every degree depending on resolution. On the dialog box ticks are shown every 3 degrees.

Graphic Colors.

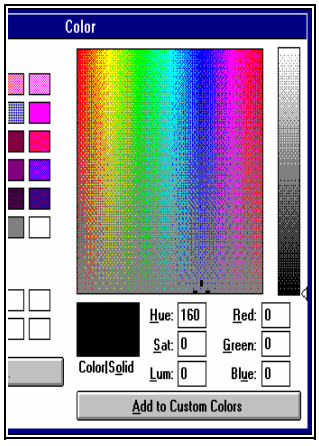


The Graphic Colors dialog box.

To use this dialog box, click on a button corresponding to the color you wish to customize. click on the "OK" or cancel button once finished.



Colors dialog box.



Custom Color Section of Colors dialog box.

Background Color. Black. This is for the general background color .

Signs Color. Green or Dashed. This is the color that the actual sign division lines are drawn in.

Houses Color. Red or Dotted. This is the color that the house division lines, are drawn in.

Planets Color. Light Grey. This is the darker color for the planets. This is not used at this time.

Circles Color. Dark Grey. This is the color used for the circles themselves.

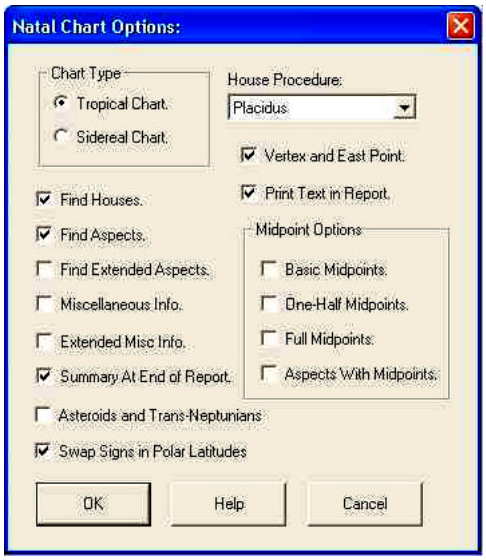
Ascend Color. Bright Yellow or dot-dashed. This is the color used for the Ascendant line and glyph.

Bright Signs Color. Bright Green. This is the bright color for the sign division lines. This is the color that the sign names are printed in.

Bright Houses. Bright Red. This is the color that house numbers and house data when displayed are printed in.

Bright Planets. White. This is the color that the individual planet glyphs and their accompanying positions are displayed with.

Chart Options



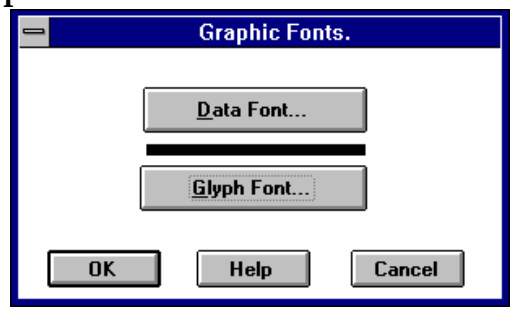
The Options dialog box.

Natal.

Use this dialog box to setup the options used by the Compile menu default birth chart selection. This selection also affects various aspects of other birth charts. For the most part, though, you won't have to change any of these options except to setup a default chart.

You may wish to change some of these once you have experience with ASTRO to customize it to your personal preferences. These are a few of the more important options and what they mean to you.

Graphic Fonts.



Graphic Fonts dialog box.

The Graphic Fonts dialog box allows you to customize the fonts that are used for the graphics. Just select the font. The size is scaled to fit.

Click on the button corresponding to the font you wish to change.

You can in all cases customize the data font which is used for the name, data, and chart labels.

If you provide your own glyph font or you don't wish to use glyphs, you can provide a font for glyphs.

You will have the option often when running the program to change the options on the fly as you work when at the compile menu.

ASTRO handles these dialog boxes using two layers. The top layer deals with the more basic issues. These are more likely to change when you compile charts. The lower layer represents things that you probably won't change so often.

Options.

Tropical or Sidereal Zodiac. You will probably not change this option. Most western astrologers work with Tropical charts. Some european or eastern astrologers use a Sidereal zodiac. In a Sidereal chart, the first degree of Aries corresponds to the star constellation Aries. In a Tropical chart, the first degree of Aries corresponds to the vernal equinox, or the first point of spring. Over time, the relationship between the star constellation Aries and the vernal equinox has changed. Currently these two systems are off about 24 degrees and it is always changing. ASTRO uses "Fagan's Ayanasma" in making this calculation.

NOTE: This option is for experts only. Don't select the Sidereal option unless you know that you want it.

House Procedure. There are many different ways of calculating your house cusps. This option allows you to select one of the more popular systems. ASTRO supports Equal House, Placidus, Koch, Regiomontanus, Campanus, Morinus, and M-House systems. Placidus is the most popular for general purpose astrology, but fails at high latitudes, where you may want to use another. The Equal House system is the simplest, and often used, but may not produce

accurate results. See an astrology text for more information on house division techniques.

Find Houses. Self explanatory. Determines if ASTRO will find house cusps.

Find Aspects. Self explanatory. Determines if ASTRO will find planetary aspects.

Find Extended Aspects. If This options is not checked then the Customize Aspect Orbs dialog box is used to find if a certain aspect is checked. If this options is checked, all possible aspects are considered. Using the Customize Aspect Orbs dialog box will probably be the first dialog box to work with if you want to change aspects.

Summary at End of Report. If this options is checked, a report is placed at the end of the report, summarizing numbers of different trends and tells you what they mean.

Miscellaneous Calcs. If this options is checked, ASTRO will calculate several different miscellaneous values such as decanates of signs, critical degrees, and anaretic degrees.

Extended Misc. Calcs. If this options is checked, ASTRO will display more miscellaneous information about a position including duad, navasma, Whether a planet is in 'fall', it's 'home' sign, decan and duad rulers, etc.

Vertex and East Point. If this option is checked, ASTRO will calculate the Vertex and East Point for the chart in question. These angles are highly theoretical in nature. No text on these is available.

Midpoint Options.

These are advanced options for which there is no text available.

Basic Midpoints Only. This option produces midpoints between the Ascendant/Coeli, North Node/ South Node and Coeli/ Immum Coeli pairs.

Half Midpoints Only. With each pair of bodies or angles, there are two midpoints, each 180 degrees apart. This option does the equivalent of Full Midpoints below, but only does the main half of the midpoint pair.

Full Midpoints. This option produces midpoints between all major angles in the chart you are compiling. This option produces a lot of text.

Aspects With Midpoints. This Option produces aspects between the midpoints produced by both selections above and the planets. Note that there may be no aspects or very few since only conjunctions, and squares are considered, and only a one degree 30 minute maximum orb is allowed.

Generate Graphics Data. If this options is checked, this option produces graphics data to run using the graphics cartwheel option.

For more Information about these options. See the section "Compiling a Chart". You can get more information on each option from the help system.

Polar Swap. You can use this option to move the Swap the sign of the MC and IC in polar latitudes. Turning on this option, keeps the MC in the upper half of a cartwheel.

Asteroids. This version of ASTRO adds the capability to include the major asteroids in the chart.

Compatibility.

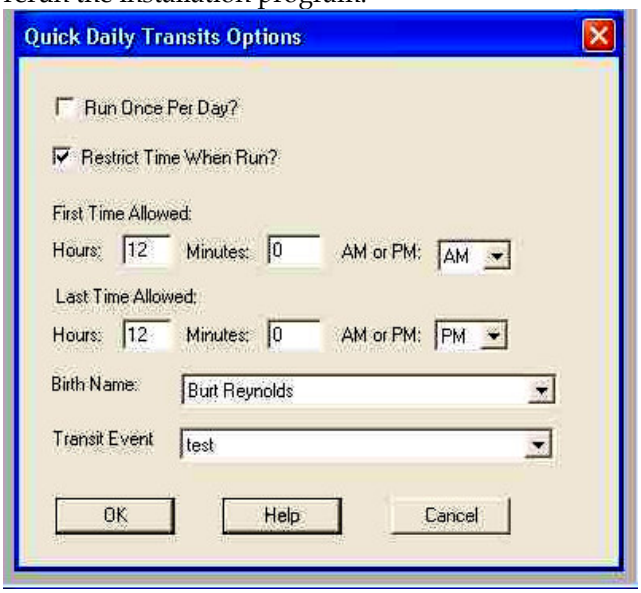
Use this menu item to setup the options used by the Compile menu compatibility chart selection. The options operate as they do in the birth options menu item but you won't get midpoints as this operation doesn't support midpoints.

Numeric.

Use this menu item to setup the options used by the Compile menu numeric chart selection. The options are identical to the ones that you use for the birth options menu item.

Quick Daily Transits

ASTRO For Windows has the ability to do a transits chart for Up-to 2 persons each day when your computer starts up each day. For this to happen there needs to be an icon in your Startup Group. This is handled when you install the program. If you choose not to do it you can run this option manually as an icon is placed in your program group labeled Quick Daily Transits. If for some reason, you did not choose this option, and want it now, you should rerun the installation program.



The program then automatically calculates a transits file generating a graphics file and a text file. This file is Not saved in your file list so you don't have to delete it. These files are kept until you close them.

In this version, in the Quick Daily Transits Options, you configure the name that you want and the transit event as found in the birth info and transits info database. The file no longer has to be saved to support this.

If for some reasons you need to limit when The Quick Daily Transits might start up use the Quick Daily Options Dialog Box. You can find this in Options Menu, Quick Daily Options
Checking on **Run Once Per Day** only starts up Quick Daily Transits once per day or 24 hour period, no matter how many times your computer is restarted. This can help to minize the nuisance value of Quick daily transits starting multiple times a day if you just have to reboot your computer for some reason. If you check on **Restrict Time when Run** you can use the **First time Allowed** and **Last Time Allowed** to specify a time range when Quick Daily Transits Can start up. This does not specify When it Does start up, only when it Can start up. If for some reason ASTRO in Quick Daily Transits mode does start up when it should not, it will promptly shut down before calculating a chart.

HANDLING ERRORS

There are several different levels of errors that may occur when using ASTRO. There are several internal errors, such as 'Screen Errors' that may occur. If these occur, you will be asked to report them to 'Technical Support'.

Minor Data Entry Errors.

If you make an error when entering data, the system will beep and you will see a message in the prompt area which will tell you about the error.

Other Errors and Warnings.

If a minor error occurs while you are using ASTRO, a box will popup on the screen and will describe it for you. You will be asked to press any key to continue. You will see at the top left of that box a title saying either 'A Note From ASTRO...' which is an extremely minor situation, 'Warning!' is a minor situation that you may need to be warned about, and 'Error!!' is an error situation of a more serious nature.
the program or rebooting your system.

System Errors.

File or Directory Does Not Exist! Check to make sure that the directories and files that this message concerns exist, copy them from your master diskette, or verify that the information on the setup screen is accurate. Check the setup screen.

No Space Left on Drive! Delete files on that drive to make room, or switch to a new disk or drive.

Not Enough Files in CONFIG.SYS, need at least 12! Check the Installation information. This program requires a minimum of 12 files in the CONFIG.SYS, but 20 is suggested. You can find this file on your boot disk in the root or '\' directory. This file can be edited with a word processor that can work with ASCII files.

GLOSSARY OF ASTROLOGICAL TERMS

Affliction. An outdated term that describes either a difficult aspect (i.e. Squared or Opposition), or a placement of a planet or angle in a sign that does not suit it, (i.e. Mars in Pisces). Also describes a relationship with a "Malefic", such as Saturn.

Air Signs. Aquarius, Gemini, or Libra. These signs are generally associated with air. The air signs are usually connected with communication and the intellect.

Angles. Refers to the Major angles in a chart. Includes: the Ascendant or Rising Sign, the Descendant, which is opposite the Ascendant, the Coeli or Midheaven, and Immum Coeli, which is opposite the Coeli.

Angular Houses. The first, fourth, seventh, and tenth houses. These houses are generally connected with the Cardinal signs and Cardinal Qualities.

Ascendant. The point of the zodiac that falls on the eastern horizon at the time of your birth. This is the same as the first house cusp and describes your personality and character and how you relate to your world.

Aspect. An angular relationship between two planets, angles, etc. These relationships are based on harmonics or multiples. The major aspects are Conjunct, Trine, Sextile Squared, and Opposition, though there are many intermediate minor aspects. The first three aspects are generally considered to be beneficial and the last two considered to be difficult, though the more difficult aspects can act as teachers and help you to learn and grow.

Astrologer. A professional who practices astrology.

Benefic. Planets and aspects that were thought to give positive influences. Traditionally Jupiter and Venus are the two Major Benefics in that order, though Mercury and the Moon are also considered Benefic. Conjunct, Sextile, and Trine aspects are also considered Benefic.

Cadent. The third, sixth, ninth and twelfth houses. These are ruled by Mutable Signs, and are generally associated with the Mutable Qualities.

Campanus. Thirteenth century mathematician and astrologer who devised the Campanus House System.

Cardinal Signs. The signs Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn. These fall at the Cardinal Points of the Zodiac, with Aries beginning at the "Vernal Equinox" or first point of Spring, or the beginning of the Zodiac. These signs are generally associated with action and beginnings. They are also associated with initiatory and dynamic actions.

Composite Chart. A Chart for two people which is created by taking their planet positions and taking the midpoints between. Represents the relationship.

Conjunction. An aspect formed when two angles or planets are at roughly the same angle (usually within 8 degrees).

Critical degrees. 13, and 26 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn. 9, and 21 degrees in Taurus, Leo, Scorpio and Aquarius. Also 4 and 17 degrees in Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces. Comes from the Hindus. Thought to be a sensitive point that strengthens the power of the sign.

Cusp. A line dividing the houses or signs. When dealing with signs it represents a gray area where the individual may be affected by both signs.

Decan, Decanates. A division of the signs into 10 degrees each of which is subtly different from one another due to the different rulers involved.

Descendant. The angle that is exactly across from the Ascendant. It is the cusp of the seventh house. Your descendant relates to your marriage and partnership and interaction with others.

Earth Signs. The signs Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn. These signs represent "Earthly" qualities such as stability, responsibility, and practicality.

East Point. The angle which is rising over the eastern horizon at the earth's equator at any time. Occasionally used for Compatibility analysis.

Easy Aspect. A harmonious aspect such as Conjunct, Trine, or Sextile.

Ecliptic. The apparent path that the sun would take if it actually rotated around the earth.

Elements. Air, Water, Earth and Fire.

Equal House System. The system that takes the first house being the Ascendant and dividing the remaining 11 houses into equal 30 degree slices. The M-House system starts with the Coeli or Midheaven being the cusp of the 10th house and dividing the other 11 houses as equal 30 degree slices.

Feminine Signs. Earth and water signs. Feminine refers to receptivity, not gender.

Fire Signs. Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius. These signs are considered fiery, passionate, and spontaneous.

Fixed Signs. Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, and Aquarius. These signs are associated with fixed and stable emotional characteristics.

Flat Chart. A chart in which the first house is set at degrees Aries. Frequently used when the birth time and therefore the Ascendant is not known.

Greater Benefic. Jupiter. Assumed to bring your major blessings.

Greater Malefic. Saturn. Assumed to be the cause of evil in your life.

Hard Aspects. Inharmonious aspects. Generally considered to be Squared, and Opposition, and others. Aspects when the energies do not always help.

Harmonious Aspects. Conjunct, Sextile, and Trine. Also referred to as Easy aspects.

House. A section of the zodiac, mathematically defined, which represents a particular area of life.

Immum Coeli. The bottom of the heavens. The fourth house cusp in non-equal or Quadrant house system. Represents The family relations and home life.

Intercepted Sign. A sign that falls between two adjacent house cusps, but neither of those house cusps are in that sign.

Koch. Dr. Walter Koch, a German astrologer who founded the Koch House System or Birthplace House System.

Locality Chart. See *Relocation Chart*.

Malefic. An old term used to refer to planets or aspects thought to cause harm. It usually refers to the planet Saturn and Mars. Minor Malefics are also Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

Masculine Signs. Air and Fire Signs. Those signs are suggested to manifest aggressiveness, sometimes referred to as Positive signs.

Medium Coeli, . Coeli, MC. The Midheaven. Taken to be the point directly overhead in the chart. In an unequal chart it is the cusp of the tenth house. This describes your career and public ambitions and your relations with superiors.

Mutable Signs. The Signs Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces. Signs associated with adaptability and flexibility.

Node. The point of interception between a planet's orbit and the ecliptic.

Opposition. An aspect representing an angular difference of 180 degrees or a situation where two planets are directly across a chart from each other. Generally causes difficulty and discord.

Orb. The difference between an exact aspect and the actual aspect. It also describes the maximum difference where an aspect still takes place.

Part of Fortune. Arabian part most commonly used by astrologers. Found by subtracting Sun's position from the sum of Ascendant and Moon positions in degrees. Suggests fortunate circumstances.

Placidus. Spanish Monk, Placidus de Tito, 17th century. Creator of the Placidus House System. Most commonly used house system today.

Planet. From Greek "Planetes" or the wanderer. Describes any body that appears, from the Earth, to move.

Progressions. Term used for advancing planets and house cusps from birth to a second point in time. Usually 1 day for each year of life.

Rectification. Correction for inexact birth-time.

Regiomontanus. German Astrologer 15th century who devised the Regiomontanus House System.

Relative Houses. Houses 3, 7, and 11. Associated with the Air Signs.

Relocation Chart. A Chart for which the house cusps have been changed to be where they would be if the individual had been born in another location. See *Locality Chart*.

Retrograde Motion. Apparent Backward Motion, thought to cause difficulty in a person's chart.

Return Chart. A Chart Which shows the time that a particular body returns to the position where it was when you were born.

Rising Sign. Another word for Ascendant.

Sextile. An aspect with a difference of 60 degrees. A generally helpful and 'Positive' aspect.

Sidereal Time. Time in relation to the fixed stars, rather than clock time.

Sidereal Zodiac. A zodiac based on the placement of the stars, not the Vernal Equinox. It is used in Easter, Hindu or Verdic Astrology.

Signs. Division of the zodiac into twelve equal divisions, related to the constellations.

Square. Aspect with a difference of 90 degrees. Generally causes difficulty and discord.

Succedent Houses. Houses 2, 5, 8 and 11. Associated with the Fixed Signs.

Temporal Houses. Houses 2, 6, 10. Usually associated with the Earth Signs.

Terminal Houses. Houses 4, 8, and 12. Associated with the Water Signs.

Transit. Aspects or angles between, the position on any given day and the positions on a person's birth chart.

Trine. An aspect with a difference of 120 degrees. A generally helpful and positive aspect.

Tropical Zodiac. Zodiac that follows the path of the Sun. The First point of Aries corresponds to the Vernal Equinox, not an actual star position. Also called a Philosophical zodiac

Vertex. A point in the Western section of the Zodiac that indicates the intersection of the Prime Vertical and the Ecliptic. Sometimes associated with fate and wish fulfillment.

Water Signs. Signs Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces. Signs which represent receptivity, sensitivity, and the emotions.

Zodiac. From the Greek *Zodiakos*, meaning circle of animals, or *zoo*.

GLOSSARY OF COMPUTER TERMS

ASCII. An anacronym representing a Standard of defining which codes represent what characters. ASCII code number 64 represents 'A'.

ASCII FILE. A File containing only characters from the ASCII character set. Also referred to as "Generic" and "Text Only". A text file containing no control characters.

BIOS. A Set of ROM chips in your computer storing instructions on how to do basic operations. Means literally "Basic Input Output System".

Bit. Smallest Unit of storage in a computer. Capable of recording only 1 or 0.

Byte. Unit of Storage in a computer. Generally 8 bits wide. Capable of recording a character, or a number from 0 to 255, or -128 to 128.

Directory. An area of a disk that stores information about the files that are stored on that disk.

Escape Key. Key on your keyboard used to back out or "Escape" out of a section of a program. Usually marked "ESC".

Extended Memory. Memory above the 640k limit of DOS, available only on AT and compatible computers in a special mode that is accessed by special software such as RAM-Disks and Windows.

File. A collection of bytes stored on your disk.

Function Key. The keys on your keyboard marked "F1" to "F10" or "F12". The F1 key is used for help, F10 for completing screens, and F2 calls up popu

ROM. Read Only Memory. The chips used in your computer used for the BIOS. Information in these chips is permanent and can't be reprogrammed.

VGA, Video Gate Array. A video adapter for IBM compatible computers.

screens where available. Keys F3 and F4 are used for databases in the birth screens.

Hard Disk. An extremely high density disk that may be permanently located in your computer. Stores from 1 billiion or (Giga) bytes up to 300 gigabytes in most commonly used computers.

Key. A Field used by a database to find information.

Kilobyte, Kbyte or K. 1024 bytes. The closest measurement used to one thousand bytes. From Kilo meaning thousand.

Megabyte or MB. 1024 Kilobytes. Approximately one million bytes. From Mega meaning million.

Memory. The chips in your computer used to store this program and the data that is uses when in operation..Windows should have at least 64 MB of memory

Path. Your disk may be setup with different levels of directories. The path is the direction that the disk takes to find your file in a given directory. Different levels of directories are separated with '\' marks.

Path Environment Variable. The DOS environment variable used by DOS to find an executable program. You can set this one by entering the command line PATH C:\DIR; C:\DIR\PATH, using whatever directories you were using separating different directory paths using the ';' mark.

RAM. Rapid Access Memory. The chips in your computer used to store this program while it operates.

Able to show 640x480 and better graphics in 256 of approximately 100,000 available colors. Usually attached to an Analog Monitor that is capable of displaying these colors.

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