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ASTRO-NUMEROLOGY

By Caroline Robertson

What's your number?

**Playing the numbers game is a fun way to
figure ourselves out and sum up life's lessons.**

Life is full of numbers - pin codes, prices, phone numbers, dates, addresses, ages. Numbers are the silent vibration underlying the matrix of existence according to the Indian science of Sankhya Shastra. Originally taught by sage Kapilmuni, then by Sage Vararuchi and Pythagoras, numerology recognises the resonance of each number, its symbolic significance and encrypted energetic effect.

Quantum physics show there's a unifying organising principle behind all existence rather than it being a random result of chaotic coincidence. Numerologists believe that numbers are the foundation of natural order and rhythm, the pattern holding life's tapestry together.

As Galileo said "the book of nature is written in numbers." Numbers allow us to decipher a universal code that unlocks secret messages about the meaning of life. They are inextricably connected to everything, including planets, sounds and letters. The Hebrew Kabbalah interprets each number's phonetic significance to detect one's destiny, a belief that led Madonna to change her name to Esther as her mother, also Madonna, died young. Even Jesus changed his disciple's names, such as Saul to Paul, to suit the vibration of their mission.

The sister sciences of numerology and astrology acknowledge that the universe moves in predictable cycles, each expressing a special energy. As numbers and planets represent the vibration of this energy, astro-numerology marries numbers one to nine to a planetary partner. Numerology systems vary in their celestial correlations. Here we follow the vedic numerology model as I've found it to be the most accurate.

Birthday Blueprint

Astrologers and numerologists consider one's birth date the most significant indicator of character and karma. Analysing a numeroscope allows a deep insight into a person's potential strengths, weaknesses, talents and tendencies. Your birth number, also known as fadic, destiny, future and life path number, is the simplest code to access one's life files.

The nine possible birth numbers represent archetypes in human nature. They can be analysed in more depth by considering the numbers either side of them and the numbers added together to reach them. As an introductory exercise we'll focus on understanding the birth date.

To determine a birth number add up each individual number in the date of birth. For example if the birthday is 16-8-1954 then calculate the number by adding $1+6+8+1+9+5+4=34$. Then reduce the number to a single digit by further adding $3+4=7$. Hence the birth number for the date 16-8-1954 is seven. If the date of birth is 17-9-1971 then the equation is $1+7+9+1+9+7+1=35=3+5=8$, making the birth number eight. Take note if the numbers add up to 11, 22 or 33 as these are considered master numbers, which are intensified versions of the single digit. I find it is better to consider these as an amplified version of the doubled digit rather than adding them together. For example if the birth date adds up to 11 look at the path of one and two, if they add up to 22 one can read the description for number two and four, the same applies for thirty three. Other double digits can be added together. Those

with master numbers are endowed with potential power that requires higher awareness and dedication to channel correctly.

Appreciating all numbers helps us to realise that we contain aspects of each archetype in ourselves and are simply varied expressions of the same unified one. Most people are amazed by numerology's accuracy as St. Augustine wrote, "Numbers are the Universal language offered by the deity to humans as confirmation of the truth," lets see if your number adds up for you.

Number One

"I have the same goal I've had ever since I was a girl.

I want to rule the world." - Madonna, a double one

Ruled by the Sun, around which all planets revolve; number ones often feel they're the centre of the universe. Though this may sound conceited and egotistical it actually arises from the axiom, "you must be the change you want to see in the world" as the universe is a reflection of ourselves. Numero unos seek to understand and master themselves in order to relate to everything else. They look out for number one so they can draw from inner strength to look after others, rather than depending on outside help.

Assertive, ambitious and authoritative number ones fit perfectly into the bossy boots role. Though people may feel intimidated by one's megalomaniac persona, they're often in awe of their truly exceptional abilities. Number ones make their mark in an innovative, individualistic way that often polarises people's view of them.

Their shining qualities destine them to be leaders in the limelight whether they like it or not. Though detractors may envy their charisma and capabilities, criticizing their direct approach, number one's achievements speak for themselves.

They can have a one-track mind, focusing solely on the goal whilst forgetting to enjoy the game. This blind ambition may alienate them as famous double one Rupert Murdoch said- "I'm a catalyst for change ... You can't be an outsider and be successful over 30 years without leaving a certain amount of scar tissue around the place." Other ones known for their leadership qualities include Bill Clinton, Napoleon and Alexander the Great. They can also be master manipulators like Bhagwan Rajneesh, motivators such as Anthony Robbins and instigators of positive change like ones Mother Theresa. Double ones are blessed with intuition and mediating gifts.

One's love luxuries, spending lavishly on themselves and loved ones. Their competitive drive fuelled by an innate fire can burn others or burn themselves out if they don't take time to chill out. A very astute judge of character one's can spot insincerity or incompetency immediately and don't hesitate to voice their opinion. One's improve with age as they learn to pace themselves, watching their fiery tongue and passionate temperament. They often find that serving others unleashes the true power of one.

Health watch - Eyes, heart, blood pressure, inflammation, skin, acidity and exhaustion

Lucky colours - yellow, orange and gold

Best years - 10, 19, 28, 37, 46, 55, 64 73, 82, 91 and year 2008.

Balance - Work with play, spending and saving, self-sufficiency and asking support, confidence with humility

Life lessons - Patience, perseverance, tolerance, belief in inner strength, selfless service and creative expression.

Visualisation - Sun rising over earth, radiating love to all

Number Two

"In any relationship in which two people become one, the end result is two half people."

- Wayne Dwyer, a double two

Moonlight's cooling; comforting rays reflect number two's nurturing, motherly aura. Influenced strongly by the ever-changing moon, twos are complex characters with similarly changeable moods. Just as the moon reflects sunlight, twos mirror the environment and people around them. Their supersensitive and sympathetic nature may make them prey to manipulative people. As very compromising and cooperative companions they can get entangled in co-dependant relationships which strangle their sense of self. This dynamic is created by two's tendency to put themselves last whilst

trying to be everything to everyone. Once they set boundaries and are selective about company they can gain greatly from positive people. "Two heads are better than one" is a two belief and they find greater success in harmonious partnerships than solitary efforts.

Two are by nature soft-hearted and sweet but harsh experiences can make them defensive and depressed. Their strong Cancerian influence then leads them into a shell of pessimism and misanthropy. Two's nurturing nature coaxes them out eventually as they ultimately feel one should treat others as one wishes to be treated.

Two's make decisions from instinct and emotion rather than intellect and their second sense is spot on. They live from the heart and are deeply romantic like number two, director Franco Zeffirelli whose acclaimed film of Romeo and Juliet captured the tender theme as only a two could.

Double twos are empowered visionaries who can manifest their dreams through their mastery of material energy.

Health watch – Mental stress, heart diseases, digestion, chest, reproductive system and respiratory tract.

Lucky colours – Cream, white, pale green and blue

Best years - 2, 11, 20, 29, 38, 47, 56, 65, 74, 83 and year 2009.

Balance - Dependency with self-reliance, contemplation with action, domestic bliss with travel, indecision with confidence.

Life lessons – Support others whilst asserting your needs, don't make mental mountains out of molehills.

Visualisation – Moon in third eye enlightening all

Number Three

"Part of me is a sexual exhibitionist."

- Kylie Minogue, number three

Like their enormous ruling planet Jupiter, number threes live larger than life. As famous three Mia Farrow said, "I want a big career, a big man, and a big life. You have to think big." Strongly influenced by Sagittarian's passion and Gemini's sociability, threes learn by experience and experiment. Yearning to expand their perception they can take foolhardy risks such as drug taking, which took the life of number three River Phoenix and almost destroyed fellow three John Travolta.

They enjoy aesthetic and erotic pleasures as three's Casanova, Jennifer Lopez and Rod Stewart, who likened each concert to a climax, are known for. Their exuberant and entertaining energy means they can always attract lovers, friends and fans if they want to.

Threes work hard and play hard as Jupiter's benefic energy blesses them with high energy and enthusiasm. They blossom in fields of creative expression such as art, singing or writing. Number two surrealist Salvador Dali personifies the imaginative potential of these artistic souls and number two writers Hans Christian Andersen and Grimm exemplified their rich use of language. Threes are warm and witty conversationalists graced by Jupiter who is also known as Vachaspati, lord of speech.

Though threes are often honourable and honest, material energy withdraws its support when improperly utilised through ego or ignorance. This causes problems with finances, reputation, relationships and health. Luck is likely to return though when they learn how to use it judiciously. The generous, abundant reality of threes is reciprocated to them through unexpected avenues whereas close friends or business partners are not always dependable and trustworthy. Threes ride these highs and lows with unfazed optimism and, learning from mistakes, often excel in old age.

Whilst ones focus on earthly concerns and twos have their head in the clouds, threes find a happy balance between material and spiritual priorities. The holy trinity of three has a great capacity to utilise their grace for good. Pythagoras believed three was a perfect number signifying the start, middle and end of experience and Carl Jung felt three represented merging of the will, heart and spirit. Threes can realise this harmony by curbing excesses and disciplining themselves towards long-term goals. Double threes like Albert Einstein and Steven Spielberg are innovative visionaries who transform the world's vision.

Health watch – Liver, nerves, skin, anxiety, arthritis, blood disorders, heart and diabetes.

Lucky colours – Yellow, pink and purple.

Best years – 3, 12, 21, 30, 39, 48, 57, 66, 75, 84 and year 2010.

Balance – Giving with conserving energy, idealism with realism, extravagance with moderation.

Life lessons – *"You can neither win nor lose if you don't run the race."* - David Bowie, a number three

Visualisation – Golden rain fills you with joy and abundance

Number Four

“I believe that constant effort, tireless effort, pursuing clear goals with sincere effort is the only way.”
- Dalai Lama, a number four

Fours are the karma yogis of society. Quality work is their religion and leaving an enduring, unique legacy is their reward. Not motivated by money, fours live to create a solid foundation for future generations. As number four, construction and real estate magnate Donald Trump expressed “I wasn't satisfied just to earn a good living. I was looking to make a statement.” Fours are down-to-earth builders who buckle down and persevere towards their goals despite inevitable trials and tribulations. Fellow four Oprah Winfrey typifies the successful four's perspective, “The big secret in life is that there is no big secret. Whatever your goal, you can get there if you're willing to work.”

Fours are ruled by Rahu, an unpredictable shadow planet, taking people on a roller coaster ride of ups and downs including fame and infamy, gain and loss, failure and success. Stoic fours are grounded and centred enough to survive setbacks and ultimately attain their aims, though it may take time. Rahu also tends to tempt fours off their path with tangents, which may ultimately lead to a better destination.

Though their high sex drive can invite havoc, fours cherish their loved ones for life and find great solace in a nurturing home and nature's beauty. Viewing life from all four directions they have a unique perspective, which often makes them quiet anarchists. Though they have an outward regard for rules and regulations they often harbour secret opinions and actions that defy conservative convention.

Fours believe in the philosophy- “you reap what you sow” and as they enjoy work enthusiastically they rarely retire, dedicating themselves to noble goals until their dying day. Four's steadfast, stabilizing energy can bring solace to others and inspire them. Because fours endure so many changes to their masterplan they learn to accept impermanence and to detach from results, surrendering the fruits of their work to the world. The Dalai Lama, a four exemplifies this enlightened outlook – “*When we die nothing can be taken with us but the seeds of our life's work and our spiritual knowledge.*”

Health watch – Workaholism, colds, coughs, infections and chronic conditions such as diabetes.

Lucky colours – Smokey blue, grey and khaki.

Best years - 4, 13, 22, 31, 40, 49, 58, 67, 76, 85 and year 2011.

Balance –Offering and declining help, tenacity with flexibility, work with fun

Life lessons – Discipline, perseverance, detachment.

Visualisation – A beautiful natural scene renewing your spirit.

Number Five

“I believe in living on impulse.”
- Angelina Jolie, a famous five

Fives aim to squeeze every ounce of opportunity out of life. Ripe with excitement and adventure, they never view life as a spectator sport or a dress rehearsal. Goaded on by their inspiring master, Mercury, fives have a restless, enthusiastic energy that wants to embrace and experience the whole gamut of human experience.

Though they can be party people, fives often withdraw to restore frayed nerves and depleted energy. Johnny Carson and Marlon Brando were fives who exhibited this paradoxically sociable and reclusive tendency. Their nervous nature can contribute to anxiety, worry and hypersensitivity. Number five Lauren Bacall revealed, "I've spent a great deal of my life in a state of angst. Though I confess I have a feeling that angst is a natural state with me."

They have a child-like curiosity that leads them to enquire about everything and finds them happiest with children. Five's genuine interest in the world make them eternal students, great listeners and keen travellers. “A change is as good as a holiday” could be a favourite five phrase as they thrive on the stimulation of new people and places. Though they love to interact with others fives get depressed and offended when others aren't responsive to them.

Fives prize their freedom above all as five Angelina Jolie said, “I love feeling free. So if I can't have those things then I feel like a caged animal. I'd rather be dead.” Their overactive minds will lead to an insatiable appetite for knowledge especially regarding words in the form of games such as scrabble, foreign language and books. They keep abreast of current affairs and love to discuss their progressive ideas, peppering conversation with clever puns or ironies. Brain fag may beset them after analysing and absorbing too much information, making them prone to memory loss later in life.

Five's spontaneous and hyperactive nature makes them neglect meals and sleep- too much to see and do! This can lead to insomnia, time anxiety and digestive disturbances.

Though fives often suffer momentary mental and physical frailties the influence of Mercury on fives, also known as the youthful one, blesses them with vigour and health into their golden years.

Health watch – Digestion, thyroid, nervous system, chronic fatigue, kidneys, memory, headaches and heart.

Lucky colours – Green, turquoise, brown and white.

Best years - 5, 14, 23, 32, 41, 50, 59, 68, 77, 86 and year 2012.

Balance – Company with solitude, travel with rest, speaking with silence.

Life lesson – “It's all right letting yourself go, as long as you can get yourself back”, number five Mick Jagger.

Exercise – Take five slow deep breaths whenever stressed.

Number Six

“I lead from the heart, not the head.”

- Princess Diana, a number six

These creatures of comfort feel happiest when comforting others. Just as Princess Diana earned the title of Queen of Hearts through her charities, sixes are passionate about community work.

Influenced by Venus, number sixes crave pleasant surroundings, possessions and people. Though they may not be particularly attractive they pay particular attention to their appearance, attire and accessories, even resorting to plastic surgery as number six Michael Jackson has.

Sixes place primary importance on their partner with whom they are often infatuated and expect total loyalty and attention from. They seek stability from a relationship, as sixian John Lennon confided about Yoko, “We haven't been apart for more than one hour in two years. Everything we do is together, and that's what gives us our strength.” Sixes are generally generous and understanding but they are prone to make superficial judgements about others and gossip about relationships.

More emotional and sentimental than logical and intellectual they feed off familial love. As sixian Princess Diana felt, “Family is the most important thing in the world.” Six's family and friends can always count on them for commitment, caring, sympathy and nurturing. But six's unsolicited advice, meddling, nagging, possessiveness and temperamental fits can reach the point of domestic tyranny. Those who value an independent relationship will feel suffocated by six's demands and emotional blackmail- others accept it as a fair price to pay for a devoted partner.

Venus fuels six's sensual desires which they satisfy with sex, food and material luxuries. If their needs aren't met or their love goes unappreciated they can bear spiteful grudges, brood or even feign suicide for attention. They tend to sulk in silence until revealing their feelings only to their partner.

Sixes are attracted to aesthetic delights such as design, poetry and dance rather than spiritual aspirations and Venus is known for obstructing self-realisation.

Sixes can't concentrate on one subject long enough to master it and are often so preoccupied meeting others needs they neglect their dreams. Though ready to go to any lengths to help others, sixes are lazy when it comes to helping themselves. Christopher Reeve epitomised the giving six but was forced to learn to receive after his paralyzing accident.

Health watch – Mucus, nerves, lungs, kidneys, constipation, obesity, diabetes and water retention

Lucky colours – Light blue, pink, yellow and white.

Best years – 6, 15, 24, 33, 42, 51, 63, 69, 78 and year 2013.

Balance – Giving and receiving, anger with forgiveness, loss with acceptance.

Life lesson – Love yourself as much as you love your family

Visualise – Hugging yourself as a sweet baby.

Number Seven

“Ketu is a planet which brings salvation through sorrow.”

- Astro-numerologist G. Kumar

Number seven has spiritual significance in many faiths. The seven colours, notes, days, chakras and wonders of the world illustrate the prominent use of seven. Mystical sevens are the most mysterious of all numbers. Much of their character is cloaked by deep thought and their nature varies according to the house in which their ruler Ketu is posited. Ketu is the Moon's south node and relates to secrets of the soul and spiritual reality.

Attuned to subtle energies, highly intuitive sevens keep many of their deeper perceptions to themselves. Though they may appear aloof and elusive, sevens need introspective phases to incubate ideas until they're ready to share them. Brilliant sevens such as Germaine Greer and Toni Morrison personify the incisive intellect of this number. Their original and philosophical outlook makes them wise teachers motivated by high ideals.

Neptune rules seven in western astrology explaining why so many sevens, including Ian Thorpe, love water. They also enjoy travelling on pilgrimage and exploring metaphysical matters. Sevens need to experience things themselves before accepting their validity.

Being quiet and contemplative, seven's avoid noise, crowds and confusion however their magnetic aura often attracts people to them as with Sai Baba, a number seven.

Sevens can feel lonely and like a fish out of water as they drift away in seventh heaven. Unable to understand other's exploitative motives they may experience intense anxiety and insecurity in relationships.

Seeing the limitations of material existence they yearn for spiritual sanctuary and find this in nature, with advanced souls and by accessing inner wisdom. Detached from material gain and the psychodrama of life sevens are set on attaining enlightenment.

Health watch – Addictions, anxiety, arthritis, indigestion, memory loss and paranoia.

Lucky colours – Light green, blue and white- avoid black

Best years – 7, 21, 28, 35, 42, 52, 61 and year 2014.

Balance – Company with solitude, thinking with exercise.

Life lesson – *"As you enter positions of trust and power, dream a little before you think."* ~ Toni Morrison, a seven

Exercise – Yogic candle gazing (Trataka)

Number Eight

"I've looked at life from both sides now, from win and lose and still somehow, it's life's illusions I recall, I really don't know life at all." - Joni Mitchell, a number eight

Eight's endurance outlasts other numbers, perhaps because they're given more to endure. Saturn serves them both stressful tests and the strength to overcome them. Eight is a number of karmic retribution, appropriately labelled the number of justice by ancient Greeks. Eight's never expect success on a silver platter, accepting they will only get their just rewards. Clairvoyant eight Edgar Cayce bore the curious mix of fatalism and faith common in eights, explaining, "Karma depends upon what the soul has done about what it has become aware of."

Eight's mission is to complete unfinished business so they can rest in peace. Faced with extreme highs and lows they suffer dark nights of the soul to relish the illuminating dawn. Eights ultimately transcend their mental and physical limitations through submissive surrender to divine destiny. Jesus had a strong Saturnian influence in his life and acceptance of his duty led him from extreme suffering to sublime resurrection.

Eights are prone to deep depression, addictions and self-destructive tendencies but spiritual support brings them solace. As seven Aretha Franklin said, "I'm gonna make a gospel record and tell Jesus I cannot bear these burdens alone." Following the eightfold path of yoga will prevent them from wallowing in their misery.

With patience and perseverance eights are capable of unprecedented professional success. Their dynamic drive in business makes them shrewd with money and people. Eights can delegate effectively and don't bear grudges with people who fail them. As seven Edgar Cayce advised, "he that expects nothing shall not be disappointed."

Eight's intense experiences make them feel older than they are and others often misunderstand their viewpoint.

Even after attaining fame and fortune, eights are never satisfied and strive to better themselves. They set themselves up for failure if they allow gloom and doom pervade their psyche.

Health watch – Paralysis, gout, hearing problem, insanity, asthma and anaemia.

Lucky colours – Black dark blue, grey and purple.

Best years – 8, 27, 26, 35, 44, 53, 62, 71, 80, 89 and year 2014.

Balance – Learning from the past to manifest future dreams

Life lesson – Play the cards life deals you with optimism.

Exercise – A head and foot massage every evening

Number Nine

"Inner Truth cannot be realized, unless the ego dies."

- Mata Amritanandamayi, number nine

Just as nine encompasses all other numbers, nines can embody all human potential and embrace all as equals. Nines use their strength to serve the suffering and needy. Whether for defenceless humans, animals or the environment, nines will rally to their cause and prove a force to be reckoned with. Mars governs number nines like a forceful general, inspiring them to fight for their rights and beliefs. Mahatma Gandhi exemplified nine's role as the 'champion of the underdog,' his life illustrating that though nines are faced with many adversities they eventually emerge victorious.

Nine's rebellious and naughty nature finds them in trouble with authority figures in their adventurous youth. However, later in life their kind and mischievous nature endears them to people, attracting many friends and supporters.

Nines are loath to listen but are always eager to advise others. Though when a genuine sage crosses their path they will respect and recognise them just as instantly as they spot a false prophet. Nines are benevolent beings who appreciate piety but embrace universal spirituality rather than sectarian dogma. Seeing the interconnectedness of all things, nines are free from snobbery and prejudice.

Nines can be incited to fiery rage, violence and revenge if an injustice is done to themselves or others. By channelling this anger through debating, combative exercise or primal screams their fire is extinguished and forgiveness soon arises. When nines suppress anger it manifests as acidity, deep depression and pessimism. To reignite their natural passion and positivity nines can work with like-minded souls on meaningful missions.

Nine's courage and resilience never fails to inspire others, making them unique leaders by uniting softness with strength.

Their philanthropic motives surpass any selfish aims and their unconditional love makes them the most likely to attain the cloud nine of enlightenment.

Health watch – Acidity, eyes, fever, inflammation, skin, stomach, liver and wounds.

Lucky colours – Pink, red, maroon and white

Best years – 9, 18, 27, 36, 45, 54, 63, 72, 81, 90 and year 2016.

Balance – Offering and accepting advise, Outer and inner life

Life lesson – *"Always aim at complete harmony of thought, word and deed."* - Mahatma Gandhi

Exercise – Guided relaxation, playing or listening to music