

Learning The Runes

According to legend, the runes were given to the Norse God Odin after proving his worth by hanging for nine days on the World Tree, Yggdrasil. In addition to serving as the Norse alphabet, the runes are a powerful tool for divination.






The Elder Futhark consists of twenty four runes, and a twenty fifth blank rune is often used, although this is a modern, rather than traditional invention. Each rune has a name and it's own unique meaning. In some cases the meaning of a rune may change when it appears inverted.












When inverted, a rune often means the opposite or a negative version of the upright rune. Fehu

inverted, for example, can mean poverty, financial hardship, or greed.

To read your runes, concentrate on a problem or question and draw three runes at random from the bag and place them face down. The first rune you turn over represents the issue at hand. The second offers guidance, and the third foretells the eventual outcome.

Many books and online resources can tell you more about the runes. As you learn more about them and practice using them, you will find your readings will grow more accurate and provide more insight.

Rune	Name	Meaning
	Fehu	Wealth or material concerns
	Uruz	A test, challenge, or rite of passage
	Thurisaz or Thorn	Defence, or taking up of arms
	Ansuz	Communication
	Raido	Motion. A journey, quest, or move
	Kenaz	Knowledge or inspiration
	Gebo	A gift, but one that comes with obligations. A contract
	Wunjo	Joy and Happiness
	Hagalaz	Disruptive forces, or a shocking surprise
	Nauthiz	Warning, need, or getting what you need, not want.
	Isa	Delay, Suspension, or inaction
	Jera	Time, represented by harvest or the wheel of the year.
	Eihwaz	Hunting or the courage of the hunt

Rune	Name	Meaning
	Pertho	New beginnings, Birth
	Algiz	Protection and shielding
	Sowulo	Victory, Energy, and rapid change
	Teiwaz	Male energy, or a fight for justice
	Berkana	Female energy, or the mother/child relationship
	Ehwaz	Cooperation, friendship, or transportation
	Mannuz	Assistance, or a warning to be objective.
	Laguz	A significant female. Intuition or precognition.
	Inguz	Completion
	Othila	Heritage, Legacy, or wealth in the form of possessions
	Dagaz	Attitude or outlook
	Wyrd	Fate, secrets, or the unknowable future.