

Spotlight on Mars in 2025

Brief Background Regarding the Expressions of Mars

Mars is the first of the outer planets, yet also holds the distinction of being a personal planet. In this regard, Mars is unique and special in the Astrological pantheon. As the ruler of Aries, the first sign of the Zodiac and in which the Sun is exalted, Mars is symbolic of action. It can be understood as the 'verb' in the sentence and can range from being proactive and assertive, to aggressive and even to violent. All cutting tools and weapons come under the heading of Mars. Professional and elite athletes in general almost always have a very prominent Mars in the Birth Chart. Mars also co-rules Scorpio along with Pluto, adding to its uniqueness and range. So, while Mars is not commonly observed as important as the far planets beginning with Jupiter, its dynamic is certainly worth observing, and more importantly, of harnessing in a conscious and deliberate manner for the sake of greater achievement in life.

Closer to Date

Mars turned retrograde on December 6, 2024, but then only enters Cancer again on January 6, 2025. Mars in Cancer is a dynamic, edgy, aggressive and potentially violent combination, and these themes are inflated and made more complex by the retrograde factor. Mars will turn direct again on February 23rd, but it will take until April 18, 2025 when it re-enters Leo. Then it will make its 3rd and final opposition with Pluto for this round on April 26, under the dark, waning light of the Moon in fiery Aries.

Due to its Retrograde, Mars is Extra Potent in 2025

2025 begins with Mars retrograde in Leo, but by January 4, it re-enters Cancer. Yet, prior to doing that, it will oppose Pluto in Aquarius on January 3rd. This opposition will kick-off the year and the build up towards it will begin to be strongly felt even sooner activated by the December 30, 2024 New Moon.

Any planet retrograde is generally more complex than when it is advancing forward. Remember, the phenomenon of retrograde is a perceptual illusion, yet it holds deep psychological implications beyond what linear logic and materialistic conclusions are prone to dismiss. Yet, observation of the synchronicities offers the proof.

When Mars re-enters Cancer, where it will transit for January 6 to April 19, it will activate an edgy, moody dynamic. Positively, it will be directed to making much needed changes. Like a mass renovation project, a process of clearing the old to make way for the new will commence.

Of course, not everyone will agree to, like and accept this process. At worst, Mars in Cancer can still deep-rooted angers and activate reactive survival instincts possibly manifesting as aggression and abuse.

While Mars will turn direct again while in Cancer on February 23rd, which will manifest as yet another significant phase of the overall process while in the sign of, ancestral roots, homes and families, it will take until April 19 before it re-enters Leo.

It is especially noteworthy that Canada and the United States both have their Nation's Sun's in Cancer... Thus, we living here can expect some major activity starting early in 2025 that will be described as assertive, edgy and perhaps even aggressive and harsh.

Summary Overview of Mars in Cancer

2025 begins with a close opposition between proud and fiery Mars in Leo opposing Pluto, still at the first degree of Aquarius, exact on January 3rd, with the waxing Moon in the later degrees of sparky, reactive Aries. This is the second opposition exchange between the planet of action-power and transformation and this time with Mars retrograde in dramatic Leo – a charged aspect indeed.

Mars retrograde generally lowers energy levels, producing a more introverted cycle than its usual, assertive and straightforward style. Yet, Mars can be understood as a Cardinal, or action and initiative-oriented planet and the same is true of the sign of Cancer. Since Mars is in its 'fall' in Cancer, or among its most difficult sign transits, it adds to the complexity and challenge. As ever, generic forecasts should never be deemed pat, as in everyone experiences it the same. Even horoscopes reveal the relativity of any transit, and this fact is even more refined regarding one's actual Birth Chart.

Since the conjunction that started the cycle, (which is how all cycles begin, when any two planets form a conjunction or align at the same degree from our geo-centric perspective), took place at 0 Aquarius on February 14, 2024, it carries the revolutionary charge of Aquarius with it. Although there will be at least a dozen more of those cycles over the course of Pluto's transit through Aquarius (2024 – 2044), this one was the first and consequently can be understood to carry an additional charge. So, 2025 will get off with a bang alright!

This will prove especially true when Saturn and Neptune are in Aries, because as the ruling planet for Aries, Mars is the 'dispositor'. This means that because these planets will be in the sign that Mars rules, the 'energy' transfers directly to Mars amplifying its power, impact and importance. This happens all the time when the Moon or any other planet is in Aries, but it will be especially noticeable when Saturn is in Aries, because Mars is 'exalted' in Capricorn, which

Saturn rules. While you are not expected to fully understand this 'logic', just know that it is soundly based on core astrological principles.

Mars will then remain in Leo until June 17, 2025! Yes, 9 weeks in fiery, bold, brave, heroic if dramatic Leo. Mars has these very long term cycles sometimes in single but often in two neighboring signs due to its retrograde cycle which occurs about every 1.5 years. Then it will continue through hard-working and industrious Virgo taking 7 weeks, then another 7 in Libra where it tends to be combative, especially in inter-personal relationships of any kind, then less than 6 weeks in its co-ruling sign of Scorpio where ambitions can turn obsessive and ruthless. And in early Scorpio, Mars will form a hard upper square to Pluto prompting some to rise to their destiny by might or fight. Mars will accelerate yet in Sagittarius invariably evoking enthusiasm and excitement and achieve its highest speed in Capricorn, where it is deemed very strong and with Saturn in Aries by this time, it will be supported by added initiative and fire power.

So, when Mars re-enters Leo in later April, it will march proudly through Leo until June 15 when it enters hard-working and industrious Virgo. By April 26, under the late waning light of the Moon in feisty Aries it will again oppose Pluto for the second and last time for this round with Pluto 3 Aquarius 49. While this degree indicates a softening, Pisces influence, it will likely have the affect of disintegration processes due to Saturn still lingering in the late degrees of Pisces, as well. Yet, with Neptune at 0 Aries meanwhile, the process will include a major push of some kind as well, probably associated with factors associated with the rapidly-changing economy, the revolution of which is associated with digital currencies and which should be very evident to everyone by this time, supported by a decisive and action-oriented square from Mars in the late degrees of Leo square Uranus in bull-market Taurus, which by this time will most likely prove to be a raging bull.

Mars in Virgo will form an opportunistic Sextile of Jupiter in Cancer by this time on the heels of Summer Solstice (June 20, 2025, 10:42 pm EDT) all the while the apex point of Neptune in Aries Sextile Pluto in Aquarius. Its effect will synchronize with people about their business and hustling at that. A trine from Venus in Taurus by mid-July, preceded by a square to it from Mercury in Leo just prior to it turning retrograde, so moving slowly and deliberately and with plenty of additional gravity, will prove popular coinciding with summer festivities, save for the fact that Mercury in Leo can manifest as inflated ego assertion, and it will be there until early September.

By August 6, Mars will enter dynamic, fairness and justice-oriented Libra where it can prove to be akin to the tenor of iron fisted with a velvet glove. It will transit through the sign of the ideals and processes of achieving relationship harmony before entering Scorpio just hours

before Autumn Equinox (Sept 22, 2024, 2:19 pm EDT), all under the now waxing New Moon at the critical 29th degree of Virgo.

Mars will transit through passionate, resourceful and determined Scorpio where it is extra potent until November 4, 2025. While in Scorpio, it will make a hard square to Pluto retrograde in Aquarius on September 24 kicking autumn into high gear. Then prior to entering Sagittarius in early November, it will make harmonious and inspiring trine aspects to Jupiter on October 29 and Saturn on the 30th, constituting the 3rd leg of a Grand Trine, all in time for Halloween, which occurs on a Friday night and under a dynamic Waxing Moon in the First Quarter where it is extra forceful, as opposed to it in 2024 on Thursday and under a damp and lack-lustre late Waning Moon. Then just prior to entering Sagittarius it will make a final harmonious trine to Neptune in the late degree of Pisces, adding color and imagination to the season.

Mars enters Sagittarius on November 4, 2025, by this time moving at top speed, and just several hours later makes a potent and explosive opposition aspect to Uranus now at critical and raw 0 Gemini. Fortunately, by November 6, Mars will form a socially opportunistic Sextile to Pluto also still at the early degrees of Aquarius.

On December 15, Mars will enter practical, pragmatic, ambitious, industrious Capricorn where it is deemed exalted, yet while it will not make any significant aspects, it can be said to end 2025 on a high note.

***Note:**

The aspects Mars will make to other planets will be highlighted in the monthly and weekly Horoscopes. As is true of Mars in Cancer, it tends to be complicated when in Libra as well, and that period coincides with the late summer period that is likely to be extra aggressive.

Michael O'Connor
Life Coach Astrologer

Guiding Your Future Probabilities & Possibilities.

www.sunstarastrology.com sunstarastrology@gmail.com

Call Toll Free: 1.800.836.0648