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THE CURRENT CYCLE OF MERCURY – October 26, 2020 to February 8, 2021

Mercury Cycle <i>from 26/10/20 to 8/02/2021</i>	2020/21 Dates	Times AEST	Mercury Degree	Solar Degree	Sun/ Mercury Separation	Comment
Inferior Conjunction; <i>Sun conjunct Mercury Retrograde</i>	Oct 26	4.23 am	2♁48R	2♁48	0°00'	Mercury guides the spirits of the last cycle out of the underworld so their essence may be brought to light and serve in the reformation of a new cycle. Old projects may be resurrected; new programmes may be imagined.
Morning Rise; Mercury as <i>Morning 'star' Apollo</i>	Oct 31	11.24 pm	26♁52R	8♁34	11°42'	
Mercury Stations Direct	Nov 4	3.49 am	25♁54	11♁45	15°51'	Instinctive and remembered intentions, initiatives and ideas are at a crossroads with new ways of thinking that are brightening and developing into new and renewed projects and plans.
Mercury Reaches Greatest Elongation Morning (GEW)	Nov 11	3.03 am	29♁47	18♁45	18°58'	New ideas and insight inspire the Geminian spirit to find a way forward with new strategies. The
Morning Set	Dec 3	7.51 pm	2♁728	11♁741	8°13'	Virgo attitude of discrimination, focus, and craft can later be applied to bring the ideas to manifestation through application and work.
Superior Conjunction: <i>Sun conjunct Mercury Direct</i>	Dec 20	1.25 pm	28♁742	28♁742	0°00'	This is the time to reflect and harvest insights and initiatives that have been applied towards the goal. It is time to disseminate the design, share the products of your creative process, and articulate your process.
Evening Rise; <i>Mercury as Evening 'star' Hermes</i>	Jan 4 2021	11.34am	22♁643	13♁654	8°39'	
Mercury Reaches Greatest Elongation Evening (GEE)	Jan 24	11.57 am	22♁51	4♁17	18°34'	Thinking becomes more introspective and philosophical. A review of the processes and output of the past cycle is underway – how can these ideas improve and be implemented?
Mercury Stations Retrograde	Jan 31	1.51 am	26♁29R	10♁58	15°31'	It is time to gather in ideas and, in the privacy of personal space, reflect on what has taken place for future reference. Time to complete the project for this round. A new chapter will emerge.
Evening Set	Feb 3	4.09 am	25♁37R	14♁07	11°30'	
Inferior Conjunction; <i>Sun conjunct Mercury Retrograde</i>	Feb 8	11.48 pm	20♁01R	20♁01	0°00'	

REFLECTING ON THE CYCLE OF MERCURY

One of the ways to contemplate the phases of the Mercury cycle is to use the prototype of the eight phases of the lunation cycle to get a feel for the evolving round of the Sun/ Mercury cycle. The following table traces eight phases of Mercury inspired by the Lunation Cycle. I have put the dates of the current cycle in italics:

Phases of the Mercury Cycle	Corresponding Lunation Phases	Average length - 116 days <i>(this cycle is 105 days)</i>	Mercury Time
Inferior Conjunction to Stationary Direct	New Moon	Approximately 11 days <i>Oct 26 - Nov 4</i> <i>(this cycle is 9 days)</i>	A new phase begins, born from the seeds of previous cycles. Mercury in the morning is forward-thinking and progressive in planning and scheming. New ideas, projects, ways of thinking and patterns of interaction come to light to be developed throughout the course of the new cycle.
Stationary Direct to Greatest Elongation	Crescent	Approximately 10 days <i>Nov 4 - Nov 11</i> <i>(this cycle is 7 days)</i>	Instinctive and remembered ways of thinking are at a crossroads with new developments taking place. Former projects, research, ideas, or studies may return to be redeveloped. Directions and decisions are considered. What was left unattended or incomplete from the last cycle is reviewed and integrated or discarded.
Greatest Elongation to Morning Set	First Quarter	Approx. 5 weeks from greatest elongation to morning set (<i>Nov 11 - Dec 3</i>) to the superior conjunction (<i>Dec 3 - 20</i>) <i>(this cycle is 38 days)</i>	At Mercury's greatest distance from the Sun, a critical change occurs. Ideas and insight release the mercurial spirit to forge a way forward with new plans. Application and attention to working on and managing the project is heightened. Discrimination, focus, and craft bring the emergent and creative ideas into the public domain.
Morning Set to Superior Conjunction	Gibbous		
Superior Conjunction to Evening Rise	Full Moon	Approx. 5 weeks from superior conjunction to evening rise (<i>Dec 20 - Jan 4, 2021</i>) to the greatest elongation (<i>Jan 4, 2021 - Jan 24</i>) <i>(this cycle is 35 days)</i>	At the superior conjunction initiatives, assignments and designs approach their fruition. Mercury is now in its evening, introspective and reflective. The maturing ideas can deepen; time to disseminate the design and share the produce of your creative process. Use the feedback constructively to improve the product.
Evening Rise to Greatest Elongation	Disseminating		
Greatest Elongation to Stationary Retrograde	Last Quarter	Approximately 10 days <i>Jan 24 - 31</i> <i>(this cycle is 7 days)</i>	Thinking becomes more introspective and philosophical. Time to edit, review, and articulate the process that you have been through. It is the phase when adjusting the process, fine-tuning the project and correcting the mistakes will help complete the assignment and offer insights and revelations into the process.
Stationary Retrograde to Inferior Conjunction	Balsamic	Approximately 11 days <i>Jan 31 - Feb 8</i> <i>(this cycle is 9 days)</i>	As the cycle moves towards the inferior conjunction what was brought to light can be completed, refined and analysed for future cycles. It is the time to gather in ideas and in the depth and privacy of the self, journal and contemplate what has taken place for personal development and future reference. .