

## The Trumps for the Lunar Months



Lunar Month 1	Lunar Month 2	Lunar Month 3	Lunar Month 4
Thoth	Min-Mut	Hathor	Osiris
Tekh	Menkhet	Het-Heru	Neheb-Kau



Lunar Month 5	Lunar Month 6	Lunar Month 7	Lunar Month 8
Nephtys	Isis	Nut	Renenetet
Shefbedet	Rekeh Wer	Rekeh Nejes	Renenetet



Lunar Month 9	Lunar Month 10	Lunar Month 11	Lunar Month 12
Ma'at	Khenty-Khard	Sekhmet	[Mesut] Ra
Khensu	Khenty-Khat	Apet-hemet	Wepet Renpet

## The Lunar Months and the Cycle of the Egyptian Year

1. Thoth as the High Priest starts the year as the Nile flood begins. He presides over the New Year celebration. Thoth designs the whole system and records how it performs.
2. The blue Min-Mut card represent the height of the Nile Inundation.
3. The Hathor month represents the retreat of the Nile and the fields ready for planting.
4. Osiris represents the planting and sprouting of the crops.
5. Nephthys represents the nurturing of the crops.
6. Isis represents the crops maturing.
7. Nut represents the grain fruiting in the crops.
8. Renenutet represents the harvest gathered in.
9. Khensu represents transporting the grain to the silos and tallying it.
10. Khenty-khat represents the sun as a child.
11. Sekhmet (Ra's Queen and his Power) represents the Eye of Ra waxing strong in the summer.
12. Mesut Ra represents Horus as the patriarch gathering his children for the New Year celebration. He will then retreat and let them play their roles.

The Egyptian New Year starts at the first New Moon after the Epagomenal Days. In this version of the calendar all days between the end of the Epagomenal Days and the New Moon are considered Thoth Days on the Lunar Calendar. This keeps the Perpetual Lunar Calendar roughly in line with the Perpetual Solar Calendar without having to insert intercalary months every three years. The annual Thoth days serve as Intercalary Days. Sometimes there are only a few Thoth Days, and sometimes they constitute an intercalary month. For example, in 2009 the Chinese add an intercalary 5<sup>th</sup> month, so the "7<sup>th</sup>" Lunar Month is actually the 8<sup>th</sup> New Moon of 2009. The month of Thoth begins on July 22, which is on the first Epagomenal Day and therefore falls before the Solar New Year. Thus, we must wait until the next New Moon on August 20 to begin the Egyptian New Year, and we end up with two Thoth months in 2009.

The Solar Calendar serves primarily as the Civil Calendar, and the Lunar Calendar serves primarily as a Festival Calendar. Civil Holidays are according to the Solar Calendar as well as the celebrations of the Solstices and Equinoxes. All others follow the Lunar Calendar.