

# The Ultimate List of Archetypes

[Scott Jeffrey](#)

Archetypes are everywhere.

Archetypes guide, inspire, possess, rule, and live through us each day.

These primordial images influence virtually all of human behavior. It's not a question of whether archetypes are influencing your behavior; it's a matter of degrees.

To the extent you're aware of the archetypes operating within you is an indicator of your level of consciousness. With greater self-awareness, you can learn to navigate the emotional landscape of archetypes skillfully.

Here, we'll explore a comprehensive list of archetypes so you can get to better know your psyche.

Let's dive in ...

## What is an Archetype?

Simply put, an archetype is a *set pattern of behavior*. Plato referred to archetypes as Forms, which he saw as pre-existing ideal templates or blueprints. Archetypes are what Carl Jung called "primordial images" and the "fundamental units of the human mind."

Every character you see on television and in films represents an archetype.

Virtually every response you give to your environment—the way you behave—is an expression of an archetype too. *Almost all human behavior* is guided by archetypes.

Jung wrote in [The Structure and Dynamics of the Psyche](#), "Archetypes are the living system of reactions and aptitudes that determine the individual's life in invisible ways."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> C.G. Jung, *The Structure and Dynamics of the Psyche* (Collected Works of C.G. Jung, Volume 8), 1970.

## A Few Common Examples of Archetypes

For a quick example of archetypes, just look at any epic adventure story, often called the [Hero's Journey](#). You have ubiquitous characters like:

- The hero (protagonist),
- The villain (antagonist),
- The wise old man (mentor or sage),
- The princess (anima)
- Allies (friends)
- Magical animal (guide)

All of these characters represent common examples of archetypes.

You'll find the same character archetypes in mythologies and fairytales from around the world. These archetypal motifs are part of our collective unconscious. That is, they are universal.

## How to Create a List of Archetypes

The general belief about archetypes is that there are only a select few. For example, a list of archetypes might have only 4, 6, or 12. Or, perhaps you'll have a list of 52 or 80.

The reality is that there are *thousands* of archetypes. Each one possesses different behavioral patterns and subtleties. A list of archetypes numbering in the thousands, however, won't be very practical.

There's no need to try to memorize any of these archetype lists. As Jung explains:<sup>2</sup>

It is no use at all to learn a list of archetypes by heart. Archetypes are complexes of experiences that come upon us like fate, and their effects are felt in our most personal life.

So first, we'll run through a few archetype lists from popular models. Then, I'll present a comprehensive list of archetypes for you to review.

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<sup>2</sup> C.G. Jung, The Collected Works, Vol 9, I, *The Archetypes of the Collective Unconscious*, 1969, Para 62.

## Jungian Archetypes List

It seems appropriate to start our journey with the man who popularized the concept of archetypes. Perhaps more than anyone else, Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung provided us with a map of the human psyche.

Through his analytical psychology, Jung classified many of the driving forces that dominate human behavior. (See my [beginner's guide to Jungian psychology here](#).)

To Jung, archetypes weren't just characters or subpersonalities; they also included motifs, symbols, and images. For example, birth, marriage, and death were all considered archetypes in Jung's work.

I've noticed "Jungian archetypes lists" all over the internet. Somehow, many people seem to think that Jung had "12 archetypes." This is simply not accurate. To my knowledge, Jung never created a list of archetypes. That said, here are the primary archetype examples Jung addresses throughout *Archetypes and the Collective Unconscious*:

The Self	The Mother
The Anima	The Child
The Animus	The Wise Old Man
The Shadow	The Hero
The Persona	The Trickster
The Father	The Maiden

Jung referenced many other archetypes in his work, but the above archetypes list highlights the primary ones.

## Archetypes of the Masculine Psyche

Another model for understanding archetypes comes from neo-Jungian Robert Moore.

I reference Moore's model frequently on this website because I have found it to be incredibly practical and accurate.

In *King Warrior Magician Lover*, Moore and Gillette highlight the four primary archetypes in the masculine psyche as well as the eight bipolar shadow archetypes that go with them.

The four healthy masculine archetypes are:

King  
Warrior  
Magician  
Lover

The eight shadow archetypes are:

The Tyrant	The Weakling
The Sadist	The Masochist
The Detached Manipulator	The Denying “Innocent” One
The Addicted Lover	The Impotent Lover

The four healthy archetypes of boyhood are:

The Divine Child  
The Hero  
The Precocious Child  
The Oedipal Child

The eight shadow archetypes of boyhood are:

The High Chair Tyrant	The Weakling Prince
The Grandstander Bully	The Coward
The Know-it-all Trickster	The Dummy
The Momma’s Boy	The Dreamer

While Moore’s archetypal research focused on the masculine archetypes, his model extends to the feminine psyche as well where the King is represented by the Queen.<sup>3</sup> He does suggest, however, that other variations in the feminine psyche probably aren’t addressed in his work.

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<sup>3</sup> [https://robertmoore-phd.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.display&page\\_id=32](https://robertmoore-phd.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.display&page_id=32)

## The 12 Archetypes List

The "12 Archetypes" is a popular model from Carol Pearson's *Awakening the Heroes Within* (1991). Her 12 archetypes model—the PMAI instrument—was later popularized in books like *The Hero and the Outlaw* by Margaret Mark and Carol Pearson. Most likely, the confusion regarding "12 Jungian archetypes" comes from this source. To be clear, while Pearson's work is based on Jung's insights, these 12 archetypes are *not* singled out in Jung's work.

The 12 Archetypes in Pearson's model are:

The Innocent	The Lover
The Orphan	The Creator
The Hero	The Jester
The Caregiver	The Sage
The Explorer	The Magician
The Rebel	The Ruler

## Myss's Archetype Cards

Now, we come to Caroline Myss' *Archetype Cards*, an illustrated deck of 80 archetypes.

Myss' archetypes list includes:

Addict	Liberator
Advocate	Lover
Alchemist	Martyr
Angel	Mediator
Artist	Mentor
Athlete	Messiah
Avenger	Midas/Miser
Beggar	Monk
Bully	Mother

Child: Orphan	Mystic
Child: Wounded	Networker
Child: Magical	Nun
Child: Nature	Pioneer
Child: Eternal Boy/Girl	Poet
Child: Divine	Priest
Clown	Prince
Companion	Prostitute
Damsel	Queen
Destroyer	Rebel
Detective	Rescuer
Dilettante	Saboteur
Don Juan	Samaritan
Engineer	Scribe
Exorcist	Seeker
Father	Servant
Femme Fatale	Shape-shifter
Gambler	Slave
God	Storyteller
Goddess	Student
Guide	Teacher
Healer	Thief
Wounded Healer	Trickster
Hedonist	Vampire
Hero/Heroine	Victim
Judge	Virgin
King	Visionary
Knight	Warrior

## The Archetypes of the Enneagram

Every personality system represents a collection of archetypes. The most robust personality model, in my opinion, is the Enneagram. Within the Enneagram community, there are two versions of the model. While they are both similar, they use different names to characterize the archetypes. One model developed by Don Riso and Russ Hudson outlines the nine personality types (or archetypes) of the Enneagram as follows:

Type 1: Reformer

Type 2: Helper

Type 3: Achiever

Type 4: Individualist

Type 5: Investigator

Type 6: Loyalist

Type 7: Enthusiast

Type 8: Challenger

Type 9: Peacemaker

The other model used by the Enneagram Worldwide and highlighted by Helen Palmer in Enneagram describes the personality archetypes as:

Type 1: The Perfectionist

Type 2: The Giver

Type 3: The Performer

Type 4: The Romantic

Type 5: The Observer

Type 6: The Loyal Skeptic

Type 7: The Epicure

Type 8: The Protector

Type 9: The Mediator

Riso and Hudson's Enneagram model also includes nine variations or levels of each personality type. If we add each level as an archetype, the Enneagram contains a list of 81 archetypes. Plus, each type has "wings" and "variants," which easily quadruples the number of potential archetypes.

## Tarot Cards

Jung and the Jungians devote a lot of attention to divination systems like Tarot, the *I Ching*, and astrology. For Jung, these systems provide another access point to the unconscious. All of the 78 Tarot cards and the 64 hexagrams of the *I Ching* represent archetypes. Jung seemed to have a particular fascination with Tarot, largely because it was considered "taboo." For our purposes here, we'll highlight the Major Arcana tarot cards:

The Fool	The Magician
The High Priestess	The Empress
The Emperor	The Hierophant
The Lovers	The Chariot
Strength	The Hermit
Wheel of Fortune	Justice
The Hanged Man	Death
Temperance	The Devil
The Tower	The Star
The Moon	The Sun
Judgment	The World

## The Zodiac Signs

As mentioned above, all of the common divination systems represent archetypal forms. Astrology and the twelve signs of the Zodiac represent perhaps the oldest list of archetype examples.

Aries	Libra
Taurus	Scorpio
Gemini	Sagittarius
Cancer	Capricorn
Leo	Aquarius
Virgo	Pisces

## The Greek Gods of Olympus

One of the original archetypes lists is represented by the pantheon of gods and goddesses of Greek Mythology.

The list of Olympians includes:

Zeus	Hermes
Hera	Dionysius
Poseidon	Hades
Demeter	Hypnos
Ares	Nike
Athena	Janus
Apollo	Nemesis
Artemis	Iris
Hephaestus	Hecate
Aphrodite	Tyche

## A Comprehensive List of Archetypes

Finally, we arrive at the ultimate archetypes list. Now that you have a better sense of different archetype examples from above, let's take a look at a more complete list of archetypes:

### Archetypes A - G

Accountant  
Achiever  
Addict  
Addicted Lover  
Adonis  
Adventurer  
Advocate  
Alchemist

### Archetypes G - P

Glutton  
Go-Between  
God  
Goddess  
Godfather  
Gourmand  
Gourmet  
Grandstander Bully

### Archetypes P - Z

Priest  
Priestess  
Prince  
Princess  
Private Investigator  
Profane Prostitute  
Progenitor  
Prophet

Amateur	Guide	Prostitute
Ambassador	Gunslinger	Protector
Analyst	Guru	Protester
Anarchist	Healer	Provocateur
Anchorite	Hedonist	Psychopath
Angel	Helper	Queen
Anima	Herald	Rabbi
Animus	Hermit	Rebel
Apprentice	Hero	Redeemer
Arbitrator	Heroine	Reformer
Architect	High Chair Tyrant	Renunciate
Artisan	Ice Queen	Rescuer
Artist	Idiot	Revolutionary
Athlete	Impotent Lover	Right Arm
Attila	Indentured Servant	Robin Hood
Attorney	Indigent	Romantic
Author	Individualist	Ruler
Avenger	Innocent Child	Saboteur
Beggar	Innocent One	Sacred Prostitute
Black Widow	Innovator	Sadist
Bon Vivant	Instructor	Sage
Boss	Intellectual	Samaritan
Builder	Intuitive Healer	Samurai
Bully	Inventor	Savior
Burglar	Jester	Scapegoat
Caregiver	Journalist	Scavenger
Casanova	Judge	Schemer
Celibate	Killer	Scientist
Challenger	King	Scribe
Champion	Knight	Sculptor
Chef	Leader	Secretary
Chief	Legislator	Seducer
Child	Liberator	Seductress
Clown	Lobbyist	Seeker
Communicator	Loner	Seer
Companion	Loser	Serial Killer
Con Artist	Lover	Serpent
Consort	Loyalist	Servant

Consumer	Mad Scientist	Settler
Copyist	Magical Child	Sex Addict
Counselor	Magician	Shadow
Courier	Maiden	Shaman
Court Jester	Martyr	Shape-shifter
Coward	Masochist	Sherlock Holmes
Craftsperson	Master	Sidekick
Creator	Matriarch	Siren
Crime Fighter	Mediator	Skeptic
Critic	Meditator	Slave
Crone	Mentor	Sleuth
Damsel	Mercenary	Snoop
Dark Lord	Messenger	Sociopath
Defender	Messiah	Soldier
Derelict	Midas	Soldier of Fortune
Destroyer	Minister	Spell-caster
Detached Manipulator	Minstrel	Spiritual Master
Detective	Miser	Spoiler
Devotee	Momma's Boy	Spy
Devouring Mother	Monk	Stepmother
Dilettante	Monster	Storyteller
Diplomat	Mother	Student
Disciple	Mother Nature	Succubus
Divine Child	Muse	Swindler
Don Juan	Mystic	Sybarite
Double Agent	Narrator	Teacher
Dreamer	Nerd	Temptress
Drunk	Networker	The Self
Dummy	Ninja	Therapist
Earth Mother	Nomad	Thief
Emperor	Nonconformist	Tomboy
Empress	Novice	Trickster
Enchantress	Nun	Tyrant
Engineer	Nurse	Tutor
Enthusiast	Observer	Vagabond
Entertainer	Oedipal Child	Vampire
Environmentalist	Olympian	Victim
Epicure	Orphan	Villain

Escort	Orphan Child	Virgin
Eternal Boy/Gild	Outcast	Visionary
Evangelist	Outlaw	Wanderer
Everyman	Patriarch	Warrior
Examiner	Peacemaker	Weakling
Exorcist	Perfect Mother	Weakling Prince
Explorer	Perfectionist	Weaver
Fairy Godmother	Performer	Werewolf
Father	Persona	Wise Old Man
Femme Fatale	Philosopher	Wise Woman
Flirt	Pickpocket	Witch
Follower	Pilgrim	Wizard
Fool	Pioneer	Workaholic
Friend	Pirate	Working Mother
Gambler	Poet	Wounded Child
Gigolo	Preacher	Wounded Healer
Giver	Precocious Child	Zombie

## Where to go from here?

As you can see, our psyche is filled with a pantheon of characters and archetypal energy vying for our attention.

It's no wonder humans are such complex creatures.

Want to begin making sense of it all?

**Start with these guides:**

[How to Use Archetypes to Build Consciousness](#)

[A Beginner's Guide to Jung's Individuation Process](#)

[A Practical Guide to Joseph Campbell and the Hero's Journey](#)

[A Definitive Guide to the Hero's Archetype](#)